Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) Worksheet for Licensed Compost Sites that Submit Plans of Operation to the DNR

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The SWPPP identifies potential contaminants that might enter or leave the site and specifies how the site operator will control these run-on and runoff problems so they do not pollute groundwater or surface waters. **Carefully completing this worksheet will provide the compost facility operator with a SWPPP that can be incorporated into the plan of operation.**

Like other manufacturing facilities, compost facility operators are required to control storm water to avoid polluting aquatic resources. Potential waterborne pollutants from compost facilities include sediment, organic matter (which can rob oxygen from surface water resources), nutrients including phosphorus (which can speed eutrophication of lakes), and pathogenic organisms. Wisconsin's composting regulations require compost operators to avoid creating storm water pollution.

In addition to following the composting regulations, compost facilities that need a written plan of operation in order to receive their DNR license must also prepare and follow a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). For simplicity, the SWPPP comprises part of the overall operating plan. Please check the appropriate items below to create a SWPPP for your facility, and include this completed worksheet and associated attachments (map, field inspection checklist) with your operating plan.

☐ Measures to control run-off from your site (check all that apply by double clicking boxes)

Considered	Chosen	
☐	☐	Direct flow to gently sloping vegetated area
☐	☐	Construct flow diversion structures
☐	☐	Construct sedimentation pond
☐	☐	Construct detention basin
☐	☐	Install compost berm
☐	☐	Install gravel bag barrier
☐	☐	Use compost socks
☐	☐	Use hay bales
☐	☐	Other _____.

☐ Measures to control run-on to your site (check all that apply by double clicking boxes)

Considered	Chosen	
☐	☐	Berms to divert water away from the site and limit run-on
☐	☐	Ditches to divert water away from the site and limit run-on
☐	☐	Compost socks to reduce run-on
☐	☐	Other _____.

☐ Provide a map of the property that includes the following information:

- ☐ Property boundary
- ☐ A scale and north arrow
- ☐ Adjacent land use
- ☐ Run-on and run-off measures that will be implemented
- ☐ Area where materials will be stored
- ☐ Area where piles/windrows will be located
- ☐ Area where finished compost will be stored
- ☐ Area where equipment will be stored
- ☐ Slope of ground surface
- ☐ Numbered locations where run-off will leave site (urban settings may be a pipe while rural settings will often be low points along the edge of the compost area.)
- ☐ Location of nearby receiving waters

☐ List the potential sources of storm water contamination. *(Examples include compost material, vehicle storage area, area where waste will be either piled or placed in a dumpster.)*

☐ Provide information on source area Best Management Practices (BMPs) for controlling erosion and timetable for implementing. *(Examples include preventive maintenance – keeping equipment in good working order, housekeeping – keeping the site tidy, provide training so employees know the value of storm water measures.)*

☐ Identify good housekeeping practices that help prevent storm water contamination. *(Examples include maintaining a clean, orderly facility with good material storage practices, routine cleanup schedules and well organized work areas.)*

☐ Describe the storm water treatment BMPs (Check all that apply)

- ☐ Divert flow to grassed area
- ☐ Diversion berms
- ☐ Vegetated swales
- ☐ Sedimentation basin

☐ Owners or operators of compost facilities are required to perform quarterly visual inspections of storm water discharges at their facilities to ensure pollution is not occurring. Describe the timing and what will be observed at the quarterly inspections of storm water discharge. *(Recommend beginning inspections within 30 minutes of storm starting. Recommend observing color, odor, turbidity, floating solids, and oil sheen. If pollution is visible, list probable source and possible remedies.)*

☐ Compost facility owners and operators must also inspect their facilities twice per year to prevent other pollutant discharges at their facilities. Non-storm water discharges include leakage from equipment or vehicles and may not be present at all facilities. Describe the timing and what will be observed at the twice annual inspections of non-storm water discharges. *(Recommend doing inspections during dry weather.)*

Note: To help document the visual inspections, the DNR has developed two field sheets: Compost Facility Quarterly Storm Event Visual Inspection – Field Sheet Form 4400-283A and Compost Facility Semi-Annual Non-Storm Event Visual Inspection – Field Sheet Form 4400-283B These forms are available under the "Resources" tab on the compost web pages at http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Recycling/regs.html

Example Erosion and Sediment Control Methods	
Erosion Control Methods[1]	**Sediment Control Methods[2]**
Mulch	Turbidity Curtains
Blankets	Dewatering Bags
Mats	Basins
Geotextiles	Filters
Vegetative Cover	Gravel Bag Barrier
Composting	Compost Berm
Installing Sod	Rock or Brush Filters
Soil Bioengineering Techniques (live staking, fascines, brush wattle)	Baffles or Skimmers in Basins
	Check Dams
Surface Roughening, Trackwalking, Scarifying, Sheepfoot Rolling, Imprinting	Lowering Soil Levels Near Streets and Sidewalks
	Level Spreaders
	Energy Dissipaters

1 These methods aim to protect the soil surface and prevent soil particles from being dislodged by water or wind.

2 These methods help to remove soil particles after they've been dislodged, typically through settling or filtration.

Notes:

- At a municipal site, the SWPPP should address the active compost site – including where the finished compost is stored – rather than the public works yard as a whole.
- Compost site operators are not allowed to pump ponded water from low areas under this licensing program. Such activity would require a wastewater discharge permit. Consequently, site owners need to avoid pumping contact water.
- The Waste and Materials Management program is addressing the SWPPP, instead of the Storm Water program, so that the compost facility owner does not need to work with two different programs. However, if the owner does not implement measures that are effective at preventing storm water contamination, the facility may be required to obtain a storm water permit from the Storm Water program.
- Compost site operators should properly manage the ground surface where vegetation has been disturbed – this can cause significant erosion if not addressed. These areas should be re-vegetated, mulched, or otherwise controlled to prevent erosion.
- Compost site owners should be aware of impaired water bodies that are impaired for phosphorous or other pollutants of concern because there is a potential for compost leachate to contain high levels of phosphorous or other pollutants. A total maximum daily load, or TMDL, may place additional requirements on a facility that discharges a pollutant of concern.

Contact DNRWasteMaterials@wisconsin.gov for further information.