

Comment, blog & share photos Log in | Become a member | Search people

POWERED BY YOU AND THE COURIER-POST

Compost operation on hold until renovations done

BY CAROL COMEGNO • COURIER-POST STAFF • AUGUST 23, 2008						
Post a Comment	Recommend	Print this page	E-mail this article			
SHARE THIS ARTICLE:	Del.icio.us	Facebook	Digg	Reddit	Newsvine	What's this?

MOUNT HOLLY - Burlington County shut down its compost operation this week at its Florence resource recovery complex to make \$3.8 million in improvements for the next several months.



www.creditcarecorp.com 811 Church Road - Cherry Hill, NJ 08002

Mary Pat Robbie, director of the county department of resource conservation, said municipal sewage treatment plants can continue to send sewage sludge solids to the county in the meantime.

Sludge is mixed with with wood chips inside bins and decomposes through aging and aeration to create garden compost that is marketed to landscape companies and to soil manufacturers in New Jersey and surrounding states.

While the 10-year-old plant is closed for its first renovation into November, the state Department of Environmental Protection is allowing the county to dump sludge temporarily into the adjacent county landfill in Mansfield, Robbie said.

She said repairs to the structural steel and to the roof are needed because of moisture problems caused mainly by a fire suppression system that the state originally required the county to install.

Meanwhile, a new operator will take over the composting Sept. 15 at a cost savings to the county.

The county last week awarded a 10-year, \$10 million base contract to WeCare Organics of Jordan, N.Y.

Freeholder William Haines Jr. said that will save a projected \$7.4 million over that time period because the cost is much lower than what the present operator is charging.

The operator can sell all of the compost but must give the county 20 percent of the income generated from sales, according to the new contract.

Robbie said the new management contract price is less because the new contractor expects to be able to bring sludge in from other counties and make more compost to sell.

In a request-for-proposal process, WeCare's price was \$700,000 a year cheaper than the current



Photo provided

Burlington County shut down its compost operation this week at its Florence resource recovery complex.

CourierPostOnline.Com Text Alerts



More News Headlines

number.

New Jersey delegates grasp ticket's historic significance (0)

S.J. schools seek ways to stop bullies (18)

Most N.J. teachers are highly qualified (7) Football coach charged with assault on boy, 8

(18) Musician went the extra mile for troubled kids

Latest Headlines

Forget fat cat, 'Yoda' has four ears The party's in the parking lot

Compost operation on hold until renovations done | CourierPostOnline.com | Courier-Post

A third company also bid higher.

"The freeholders and the county's project review team that reviewed the proposals are confident that WeCare is capable of efficient operation of the co-composting facility and of compliance with environmental regulations," Haines said.

Jeff LeBlanc, WeCare's president, was formerly employed by the company that designed and built the plant and was instrumental in preparing it to begin operation in 1998.

Robbie said the base contract price of \$1 million a year will increase yearly at the inflation rate of the consumer price index.

Reach Carol Comegno at (609) 267-9486 or ccomegno@courierpostonline.com

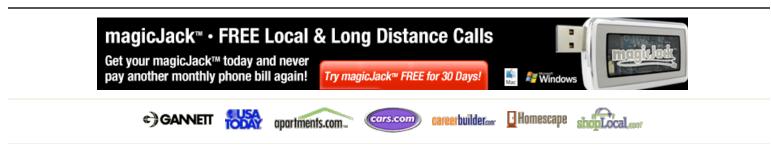
Send a letter to the editor

In Your Voice

READ REACTIONS TO THIS STORY

You must be logged in to leave a comment. Login | Register

1000 characters left Submit



Partners: Jobs: CareerBuilder.com Cars: Cars.com Apartments: Apartments.com Shopping: ShopLocal.com Real Estate: Homescape.com

HOME | NEWS | SPORTS | PHOTOS/VIDEOS | YOUR VOICES | THINGS TO DO | BUY SELL SHOP | OBITUARIES | WEATHER | CUSTOMER SERVICE | HELP | Site Map

Terms of Service | Privacy Policy | Contact Us | About Us | Work for Us | Subscribe | South Jersey Business Directory

Copyright © 2008 CourierPostOnline.com. All rights reserved. Users of this site agree to the Terms of Service and Privacy Policy/Your California Privacy Rights (Terms updated March 2007) Use of this site signifies your agreement to the Terms of Service and Privacy Policy , updated March 2007.

Your picks: Worst S.J. roads (2) Beach replenishment may mean danger for Cape May swimmers Get ready for the Democratic National Convention