



Waste Management  
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

**FACILITY COMPLIANCE INSPECTION REPORT**  
**Division of Waste Management**  
**Solid Waste Section**

UNIT TYPE:											
Lined MSWLF		LCID		YW		Transfer		Compost	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SLAS	<b>COUNTY: Watauga</b> <b>PERMIT NO.: SWC-95-04</b> <b>FILE TYPE: COMPLIANCE</b>
Closed MSWLF		HHW		White goods		Incin		T&P		FIRM	
CDLF		Tire T&P / Collection		Tire Monofill		Industrial Landfill		DEMO		SDTF	

**Date of Site Inspection:** April 14, 2016

**Date of Last Inspection:** August 23, 2013

**FACILITY NAME AND ADDRESS:**

Appalachian State University  
Physical Plant – Dale Street  
Boone, North Carolina 28608

**GPS COORDINATES:** N: 36.20597 W: 81.65582

**FACILITY CONTACT NAME AND PHONE NUMBER:**

Name: John Richards  
Telephone: (828) 262-3190 x 108  
Email address: richardsjd@appstate.edu

**FACILITY CONTACT ADDRESS:**

Post Office Box 32105  
Boone, North Carolina 32105

**PARTICIPANTS:**

John Richards, Compost Operations Coordinator – ASU  
Jennifer Maxwell, Sustainability Program Specialist - ASU  
Charles Gerstell, NCDEQ – Solid Waste Section

**STATUS OF PERMIT:**

A Permit to Operate a Small Type III Compost Facility was issued to Appalachian State University on October 13, 2011. **This permit shall expire on October 9, 2016.**

**PURPOSE OF SITE VISIT:**

Comprehensive Inspection

**STATUS OF PAST NOTED VIOLATIONS:**

N/A

**OBSERVED VIOLATIONS:**

None

The item(s) listed above were observed by Section staff and require action on behalf of the facility in order to come into or maintain compliance with the Statutes, Rules, and/or other regulatory requirements applicable to this facility. Be advised that pursuant to N.C.G.S. 130A-22, an administrative penalty of up to \$15,000 per day may be assessed for each violation of the Solid Waste Laws, Regulations, Conditions of a Permit, or Order under Article 9 of Chapter 130A of the N.C. General Statutes. Further, the facility and/or all responsible parties may also be subject to enforcement actions including penalties, injunction from operation of a solid waste management facility or a solid waste collection service and any such further relief as may be necessary to achieve compliance with the North Carolina Solid Waste Management Act and Rules.

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**ADDITIONAL COMMENTS**

1. The facility consists of a Small Type III Compost Facility approved for the composting of pre-consumer and post-consumer food waste with sawdust and wood chips used as bulking agents as detailed in the approved permit application.
2. The facility was approved for distribution of compost per letter issued by Tony Gallagher, Composting & Land Application Branch Supervisor on April 1, 2016. No distribution of compost to the public had occurred as of the date of the inspection.
3. The facility utilizes a forced aeration system. Compost is placed in four covered bins with gates. Leachate drains are provided within trenches located at the front and rear of each bin.
4. During the inspection, bins were in use as follows.
  - Bin 1: Empty
  - Bin 2: In process compost
  - Bin 3: In process compost
  - Bin 4: Empty
5. All saw dust and wood chips used as bulking agents were contained on a covered, concrete pad adjacent to the compost bins.
6. The facility utilizes a leachate collection system consisting of drains located at the front and rear of each compost bin which deposit into a 1000-gallon collection tank.
  - The lid to the leachate tank was locked upon inspection. It appeared that that tank was being properly maintained.
  - No leachate related concerns were observed.
7. No dust was observed.
8. No objectionable odors were observed.
9. The concrete pad located in front of the compost bins was free of material at the time of inspection.
10. No flies or other vectors were observed.
11. No evidence of scavenging was observed. A noise deterrent system is provided to prevent scavenging by birds. Mr. Richards stated that the system is turned on starting in June.
12. The curing area located off of Bodenheimer Drive was observed.
  - The curing area consisted of 4 concrete pads. Two concrete pads are used for curing purposes, one is used for storage of mulch, and one is used for screening operations.
  - Signs were provided to alert staff as to whether compost was in the process of curing or if curing had been completed.
  - All stockpiles of finished product appeared to be limited to 10-feet in height as required by permit.
  - This area appeared to be well managed.
13. Renewal of the permit for the facility was discussed with Ms. Maxwell and Mr. Richards. It is recommended that Mr. Tony Gallagher, Composting & Land Application Branch Supervisor be contacted to determine what information must be submitted for permit renewal. Inspection found the need to update the following:
  - All facility contact information. Some staff previously associated with the facility have changed.
  - All information pertaining to the curing area should be included with the updated operations plan for the facility. It appeared during the inspection, that the curing area had expanded to four concrete pads from two pads which was originally approved. Please ensure that all changes in the curing area are reflected.
14. A review of the Facility Annual Report for 2014-2015 found that the facility received 88.6 tons of food waste and produced 219.8 tons of compost.
15. Temperature logs were verified. Temperature data was being collected as required and it appeared that proper temperatures were being obtained.

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Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns regarding this inspection report.



Digitally signed by Charles T. Gerstell  
DN: cn=Charles T. Gerstell, o=Division of  
Waste Management, ou=Solid Waste  
Section,  
email=charles.gerstell@ncdenr.gov, c=US  
Date: 2016.04.25 15:43:03 -04'00'

Phone: (704) 235-2144

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Charles T. Gerstell  
Environmental Senior Specialist  
***Regional Representative***

Sent on: <u>4/25/16</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Email	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hand delivery	<input type="checkbox"/>	US Mail	<input type="checkbox"/>	Certified No. <input type="checkbox"/>
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Copies: Deb Aja, Western District Supervisor - Solid Waste Section  
Jessica Montie, Compliance Officer – Solid Waste Section  
Jennifer Maxwell, Sustainability Program Specialist – ASU ([maxwelljb@appstate.edu](mailto:maxwelljb@appstate.edu))