



FACILITY COMPLIANCE INSPECTION REPORT
Division of Waste Management
Solid Waste Section

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

Date of Site Inspection: 8/6/12

Date of Last Inspection: N/A

FACILITY NAME AND ADDRESS:

Appalachian State University [ASU]
 Physical Plant – Dale Street
 P.O. Box 32105
 Boone, NC 28608-2105

GPS COORDINATES: N: 36.205919 W: -81.655844

FACILITY CONTACT NAME AND PHONE NUMBER:

Eddie Hyle, Landscape Services Superintendent
 828-262-3190 x154
 hyleea@appstate.edu

FACILITY CONTACT ADDRESS:

Same as facility address.

PARTICIPANTS:

Eddie Hyle, Landscape Services Superintendant - ASU
 Kris Kuhn, Landscape Services - ASU
 Deb Aja, NCDENR 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. The permit shall expire on October 13, 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 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. A pre-operations meeting was conducted on August 25, 2011, prior to the issue of the permit. A training session was conducted and the facility first accepted waste on October 24, 2011. This was the first inspection of the active facility.
2. The facility utilizes a forced aerated bin system consisting of 4 covered bins and a covered curing area.
3. At the time of the inspection the bins were in use as follows:
 - a. Bin 1 – contained mix / cover for in process compost in Bins 2, 3, and 4.
 - b. Bin 2 – filled, covered, in process.
 - c. Bin 3 – started on July 11, 2012, in process.
 - d. Bin 4 – started on August 1, 2012, in process.



View of Bin 1.



View of Bin 4, Control Room, and Curing Area.

4. The compost operations area and pad were operated and maintained with sufficient dust control measures to minimize airborne emissions and to prevent dust from becoming a nuisance or safety hazards.
5. Odors were not detected in the areas immediately surrounding the facility.
6. There were no flies or other vectors observed. The facility appears to be operated in a manner that reduces the potential for vectors. It was stated that scavenging had occurred (raccoons) and that animals had been trapped and removed.
7. The trenches at the entrance of the bins appeared to have been cleaned as required. There was no indication that leachate left the confines of the bins or trenches. Leachate appeared to be effectively controlled at the site.
8. The leachate tank was inspected. The tank appeared to be maintained and functioning as designed. The leachate is stored and aerated to be used as the primary source of moisture during the composting process.



View of Leachate Storage Tank.

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9. The retaining wall behind the facility was wet in places (see top of wall in upper right of photograph below). It was stated that during recent rain events that surface water seeped from behind the wall, and collected and flowed around the leachate storage tank cover but did not flow into the tank. The facility took immediate measures to redirect the flow to a storm drain downgradient of the tank. Additional measures are planned to prevent surface water from collecting behind the wall.



**View behind the building with covered Bins.
Note the wet areas at the top of the retaining wall.**



View of storm drain with flow of surface water, apparently originating from behind the retaining wall.

10. Facility records and the Facility Annual Report for FY 2011-2012 were submitted via email and reviewed post onsite inspection. A total of 62.34 tons of food waste were received at the facility during the fiscal year.
11. Temperature records from November 2011 through June 2012 were reviewed. Temperature data collection was conducted as required and the required temperatures were reached.
12. The waste analysis report of April 2012 showed that samples of cured material contained high levels of fecal coliform (3 samples: 3,604, 3,874, and 5,212 MPN/g). In response to the results the facility reviewed operations to ensure that there was no cross contamination between material in process and the curing area. Wildlife was identified as the most probable source of contamination (see comment #6). The material was not distributed and was being re-introduced into the process bins.
13. The facility staff dedicated to operating the site (Kris Kuhn) maintains a detailed daily log of all aspects of the composting operations. This is excellent documentation and record of events at the facility.
14. The facility appears to be well maintained and operated.
15. The facility requested that an additional curing area on-campus, located off of Bodenheimer Drive near the baseball stadium. This area was inspected. Two large concrete pads are proposed (adjacent to the Landscape Services mulch storage). The curing would take place on one pad and when finished be moved to the second pad for distribution. To pursue adding this location as a curing area to the permit, please provide in writing to Tony Gallagher, Composting and Land Application Branch Supervisor (tony.gallagher@ncdenr.gov), the following information: the location and map, setbacks, proposed volumes, storage times, feedstocks, and operations. Additional information may be required.

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Views of the proposed additional curing area adjacent to mulch storage area.

16. Digital photographs included in this report were taken by Deb Aja on the date of the inspection.

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

Deborah Aja
 Environmental Senior Specialist
Regional Representative
deborah.aja@ncdenr.gov

Phone: 828-296-4702
 Asheville Regional Office
 2090 US Hwy 70
 Swannanoa, NC 28778

Sent on: August 22, 2012, to: Eddie Hyle, Appalachian State University by;	X	Email		Hand Delivery		US Mail		Certified Mail.
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Copies: Jason Watkins, Western District Supervisor
 Tony Gallagher, Composting and Land Application Branch Manager
 Becky Whetstone, Composting and Land Application Branch
 Jessica Montie, Compliance Officer