



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
LANSING



STEVEN E. CHESTER
DIRECTOR

February 26, 2008

Dear Composting Facility Manager:

As you may know, legislation enacted in December 2007 will go into effect on Wednesday, March 26, 2008, that determines options for managing yard clippings. This letter is being sent to composting operations so you can determine if you may be affected by the new legislation. Depending on your circumstances, you may need to register your site with the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) or Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA) and comply with new reporting, location, and operating requirements.

Please find enclosed PA 212 of 2007 that amends Part 115, Solid Waste Management, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended. Under these new provisions yard clippings must be managed by one of the following options:

- Composted on the property where the yard clippings are generated.
- Temporarily accumulated under specific conditions.
- Composted at a composting facility containing not more than 200 cubic yards of yard clippings if decomposition occurs without nuisance.
- Composted on a farm registered with the MDA under certain circumstances.
- Decomposed in a controlled manner using a closed container to create and maintain anaerobic conditions.
- Composted and used as part of normal operations by a municipal solid waste landfill under certain conditions.
- Processed at a processing plant.
- Disposed of in a landfill or an incinerator but only if the yard clippings are diseased, infested, or are composed of invasive plants that were collected through an eradication or control program, include no more than a *de minimis* amount of other yard clippings, and are inappropriate to compost.
- Composted at a site that qualifies as a (MDEQ) registered composting facility.

The enclosed flow chart was developed to assist in determining the regulatory requirements for each yard clippings management option.

To qualify as a registered composting facility with MDEQ and continue to accept yard clippings, you must complete the enclosed form and return it to the address listed on the second page, along with a check payable to the state of Michigan for the registration fee of \$600, and comply with the requirements of Section 11521(4) of Part 115. The registration form and registration fee must be postmarked by March 26, 2008. The registration is valid for three years.

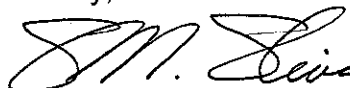
Completed registration forms and registration fees should be sent to the following address:

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT
REVENUE CONTROL/CASHIER'S OFFICE
P.O. BOX 30657
LANSING, Michigan 48909-8157

Please note that farms may be required to register with the MDEQ or the MDA to manage yard clippings. If a farm has more than 5,000 cubic yards of material, accepts yard clippings generated off-site in order to assist in management of waste material generated on the farm, and does not charge a fee to accept yard clippings generated off-site, the farm will be required to register with the MDA. To register with the MDA, please contact the Environmental Stewardship Division at 517-241-0236 or visit their Web site at <http://www.michigan.gov/mda> (Click on "Consumer Information," "Environment," and click on "Composting"). If the farm does charge a fee to accept yard clippings and has more than 5,000 cubic yards of yard clippings, the farm is required to register as a composting facility with the MDEQ.

You may find additional information available on our MDEQ Web site at <http://www.michigan.gov/deqrecycling>. You will find a frequently asked questions document as well as an electronic version of the registration form. If you have additional questions, please call Ms. Becky Beauregard, Solid Waste Management Unit (SWMU), Storage Tank and Solid Waste Section (STSWS), Waste and Hazardous Materials Division (WHMD), at 517-373-4738 or via e-mail at beauregardb@michigan.gov, or you may contact me.

Sincerely,



Steven R. Sliver, Chief
Storage Tank and Solid Waste Section
Waste and Hazardous Materials Division
517-373-1976

Enclosures

cc: Mr. James Johnson, MDA
Mr. Lonnie Lee, MDEQ
Ms. Rhonda Oyer Zimmerman, MDEQ
Mr. Matthew Flechter, MDEQ
Ms. Becky Beauregard, MDEQ