

## Product Description

### Rapid City Municipal Solid waste Compost (Co-compost)

Net weight: Approx. 750 lbs per cubic yard

#### **Composition of municipal solid waste compost (co-compost):**

Paper products, organics, and biosolids.

**Analysis:** Only natural processes (no chemical additives) are used in the composting. Municipal solid waste compost processing includes waste screening, size reduction, addition of a blend of Class B anaerobic and Sub-class B aerobic biosolids (sewage sludge), temperature and moisture control, aeration, watering, final screening and testing for compliance with EPA "Class A Compost 503 Regulations for Biosolids and Municipal Solid Waste Composting."

Compost regulations, all laboratory and test results and related information are on file and available at the Solid Waste office or by calling (605) 355-3496.

Since plastic does not degrade and is so very hard to remove entirely from the waste stream, the co-compost will have small fragments of harmless plastic in it. (This is another excellent reason to carry canvas reusable bags and avoid using plastic bags.)

**Application:** Co-compost is to be applied in accordance with the soil conditions of the site to which the co-compost is being applied and within standard practices of the industry. ( See suggested use guidelines in Compost from Waste).

#### **Recommended application:**

Because co-compost is neither a fertilizer nor a soil but is incorporated into the existing soil to improve its structure and moisture retention, it is recommended that co-compost be mixed at a ratio of one part co-compost to three to four parts soil and incorporated into the soil in the fall to prepare the bed for spring planting.

It is not suggested that this material be used as the primary growing medium or as a top dressing or mulch. It should be incorporated into the soil and watered well.

Many gardeners get a load of co-compost and stockpile it for a season before using it. This reduces any residual odor and allows the material more time to season.

*Compiled by Cathie Draine, edited and printed by the Solid Waste Division, Department of Public Works, City of Rapid City, March 2009.*