



cré NEWS LETTER

COMPOSTING ASSOCIATION of IRELAND

Our Mission: "To promote composting and compost utilisation in Ireland. The Association's function is to infuse best practices into the development of an industry; promote public awareness; and to promote research and the development of an information storehouse on composting and compost utilisation"



Minister for The Environment and Local Government, Noel Dempsey T.D., with Paul van der Werf, Chairman of Cré

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LAUNCH OF CRÉ – THE COMPOSTING ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND

In conjunction with International Composting Awareness Week Cré – the Composting Association of Ireland – was launched on 2nd May, with an inaugural seminar and facility tour in Dublin. Cré functions as a working group of the Republic of Ireland branch of the IWM.

The launch of Cré coincided with the Republic of Ireland branch receiving centre status. Mr. Roger Hewitt, President was on hand to confer this honour as well as to help launch the inaugural seminar.

Featured at the seminar were Irish composting success stories from Cork, Tralee and the Aran Islands.

Cré was formally launched by the Minister for the Environment and Local Government, Noel Dempsey T.D. at St Anne's Park Green Waste Composting Facility in Dublin. The Minister talked about how composting is an important contributor in helping to attain Irish waste

diversion targets. His focus on home composting reflects the young state of composting in Ireland but reiterates that "...people can take individual responsibility for their own waste and put it to beneficial re-use." He concluded by stating "The time is clearly right for the launch of Cré – The Composting Association of

Ireland."

Cré has been set up to promote good practice and awareness of composting among communities throughout Ireland. The Local Authorities, the Environmental Protection Agency, the private sector and third level institutions have all contributed to the establishment of Cré.

Cré recognises the importance of composting as a vital factor in reducing the volume of waste going to landfill. Reduction like this is one of the primary objectives of all of the Irish waste management plans of Local Authorities throughout the country and of the Republic of Ireland's Government's own policy document on waste management "Changing Our Ways".

The Association's mission statement is "to promote composting and compost utilisation" in Ireland. By its broadly based composition, it is confident that it will develop best composting practices and promote public awareness.

Cré is looking for members in the Republic of Ireland to help shape composting in Ireland. More information about Cré and about how to become a member can be found on their web-page:

www.compostireland.ie

Composting – The Benefits

- Public acceptability for composting schemes is high in comparison with other technologies such as incineration or landfilling of wastes
- Use of the compost end product offsets the requirement for other soil conditioners, such as peat, in agricultural and garden uses.
- As one of the largest fractions of household waste, diverting organic waste from landfill can also significantly contribute to meeting local recycling targets.
- Separating their own waste streams will raise the awareness of householders regarding waste generation and help develop a sense of responsibility for their waste, including kitchen waste, garden waste, some paper and cardboard.

There are a number of ways to compost:

- * Home Composting
- * On-site composting and anaerobic digestion
- * Community composting
- * Separate collection of green waste to be composted by local Authority

Home Composting – The Cork Experience

In 1995 Cork County Council in conjunction with Cork Corporation adopted a 25 year Waste Management Strategy, called '20/20 Vision'. Included in this plan was the recognised need to remove organic material at source, and to introduce home composting to a wide a population base as possible.

Home composting is a method for all people to take the recycling issue into their own hands and reduce the amount of refuse going into landfill. It offers the chance for everyone who cares for the environment to do something positive.

Approximately 30% of the average household bin is kitchen waste (peelings, tea bags, egg shells etc) can be recycled.

During 2001, a series of 1 day compost bin sales were held at various locations across Cork City and County. In total, 6,000 compost bins were sold at these highly successful sales days.

Composting system to be installed by Galway Corporation

SFL Group in Kilkenny has recently been appointed by Galway Corporation to supply a biological treatment installation for their recycling depot at Galway City. After seeking competitive bids and receiving a large number of responses from international companies, Galway City choose the VAROM system made by VAR in Holland.

Domestic refuse is composted for a period of 4 to 6 weeks in this installation, after which it is landfilled. The reasons for this approach are that the volume to be landfilled is reduced and the biological activity is lowered, resulting in less landfill gas being produced and less contamination of seepage water.

Cork Corporation Invites Tenders for Green Waste Composting

Waste recycling/disposal contractors/consortia have been invited to tender for the composting of green waste using a windrow system at the Kinsale Road Landfill Site in accordance with conditions set by Cork Corporation and the EPA. Closing date for tenders is November 12th 2001.

The system that Cork Corporation envisages is that all green waste received at the Civic Amenity Site will be weighed and delivered to the composting slab. Once the green waste enters this facility, it becomes the property of the operator of the facility (successful tenderer). The green waste is then composted by the operator of the facility (using a windrow system) and the finished compost is sent on to its end market. The operator of the facility will invoice Cork Corporation each month in respect of the number of tonnes of green waste received for composting during the previous month.



A successful days sales

Your News and Views:

We would be delighted to hear from our members. If you have any relevant information or views you wish to share, please send them to us and we will be happy to include it in future issues.

Please send your articles and views to:

Emer O'Callaghan,
Parks Department,
Recreation Amenity & Culture,
Abbeycourt House,
George's Quay,
Cork

Or e-mail: info@compostireland.ie

St. Anne's Park Composting Facility/ Green Depot

Organic and garden waste is brought by Dublin Corporation Parks Department, landscape contractors, waste disposal contractors and the general public. Approximately 60,000 cubic meters of green waste was brought to the depot in 2000. This is brought to a 3,000 square meter reception area where it is sorted and chipped if necessary (for woody items such as trees). The composting area is 8,000 square meters. 10,000 cubic meters of compost is produced each year, which is used in Dublin Corporation Parks, by landscape contractors and private householders for their gardens. There are two people employed full time at the depot.

The following items are suitable for composting:

- Tree branches
- Hedges/bush/shrub prunings
- Grass clippings
- Leaves
- Pallets
- Waste wood
- Christmas trees



St. Anne's Park composting facility

Approximately 33% of household waste can be composted successfully

Integrated Waste Management

Indaver Ireland was set up in 2000 to develop a modern waste management infrastructure in Ireland. The parent company, Indaver N.V. is a European waste management company that specialises in integrated waste management. In 1999, Indaver N.V. managed 800,000 tonnes of waste of which over 300,000 tonnes went for waste to energy, 400,000 was recovered and 100,000 went for treatment or disposal.

Indaver Ireland operates a newspaper and magazine recycling service. Along with this they have produced a number of educational brochures on Composting at home and Household waste management. The Company has received planning permission to build a waste management facility in Carranstown, Co. Meath and will be applying for planning permission to construct a waste management facility in Ringaskiddy, Co. Cork.

The Carranstown facility will:

- Operate a community recycle park
- Recycle non-hazardous industrial waste.
- Recover energy from non-hazardous waste by incineration.

Indaver produce a number of educational brochures on Composting at home and Household waste management.

The Ringaskiddy facility will

- Operate a community recycle park
- Operate a transfer station for hazardous and non-hazardous waste
- Recover energy from hazardous and non-hazardous waste by incineration



The Landfill Directive 1999/31/EC – A Summary

The Landfill Directive 1999/31/EC aims to ensure high standards for the disposal of waste in the European Union and to stimulate waste prevention via composting and biogasification of biodegradable waste as well as recycling. The directive includes provisions to reduce the landfilling of biodegradable waste in order to avoid the environmental damage caused by releases of breakdown products (landfill gas , including methane , and leachate).

Article 5(1) of the directive includes targets for the diversion of biodegradable wastes from landfill , requiring the promotion of waste sorting , material recycling and energy recovery . Several Member State have already introduced limits for the biodegradable waste that is permitted to go to landfill .

For those Member States which have not introduced such guidelines , achieving the targets in the directive will present a challenge to local authorities and the waste management industry . Alternative waste-management routes must be developed for biodegradable wastes which realise environmental benefits in a cost-effective manner . The most practicable of these is composting , both centralised and by the householder .

Special points of interest:

- Launch of Cré
- In Vessel Composting
- Composting Success Stories
- Integrated Waste Management
- St. Anne's Park Green Depot
- Cré Committee

We're on the Web : www.compostireland

**91 % of Municipal
Waste is landfilled
in Ireland**

The Composting Association of Ireland Committee :

The Composting Association of Ireland was launched on the 2nd May 2001 .

The mission of the Association is to promote composting and compost utilisation in Ireland . The Association's function is to infuse best practices into the development of an industry ; promote public awareness ; and to promote research and the development of an information storehouse on composting and compost utilisation .

An organizational committee was selected to the year ending 1 May 2002.

The executive positions of Chair, Secretary and Treasurer were elected by consensus and are noted below .

It was suggested that a limit be placed on the committee to ensure that it remains manageable. It was suggested that the limit be in the range of 10-12.

Committee Members:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
Pearse Buckley	United Waste Ireland
Harry Connolly	Waste Solutions Ltd
Stephen Kieran	Killencoole Garden Compost
Norman Leeper	SFL Engineering
Donal Mulkerrins	UCC (Biotreat)
Emer O'Callaghan	Cork Corporation
Oonagh O'Connor	Kerry County Council (Secretary)
Munoo Prasad	Bord Na Mona
Paul van der Werf	Environment & Resource Management (Chairman)
Mary Walsh	Cork Corporation
Brendan Woods	NWP Recycling (Treasurer)

The Association will have three sub committees , Public Relations , Technical and Membership .

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