



NEWS RELEASE – Monday 30 April 2012

International Compost Awareness Week 6-12 May

Adding a quality, environmentally friendly compost to flower beds and vegetable patches can help plants and gardens cope better with both restricted watering and excessive rainfall.

The advice comes from Hills Waste Solutions in support of the twelfth annual International Compost Awareness Week (CAW) from 6 – 12 May this year.

Mike Webster, group director Hills Waste Solutions, says: “Using a peat-free compost is good news for the environment - it is made from recycled materials and reduces the amount of green waste that is sent to landfill. It also helps the soil retain essential moisture which is important when water restrictions are in place.”

Green waste generated by Wiltshire residents is made into compost that is certified to BSI PAS100 standard and accredited by both the Association for Organics Recycling and the Soil Association. “It is a good example of closed-loop recycling,” says Mike Webster, “and it’s made locally from local green waste.” The product, called Warrior Compost, is offered for sale back to the public either in bulk loads or in smaller bags.

Cricklade Town, the current Britain in Bloom Champion of Champions, has received regular donations of Warrior compost over the years. Bob Jones of Cricklade Bloomers said: “Warrior compost has helped us to reach the highest award in Britain in Bloom. We use it as a soil conditioner, weed suppressant and as mulch which protects and maintains the plants and trees. It is working particularly well with the current rains by helping the soil soak up as much water as possible and hold onto it.”

And it is not only domestic and town gardens that benefit from peat-free compost. Paul Lock of M&M Skip Hire is a regular customer and blends

Warrior compost with recycled soils to add both nutritional value and increase the organic content. He said: “Using Warrior compost ensures that our product remains 100% recycled. It also promotes micro-biological activity and increases water retention properties of the soils.”

Notes to editors

- CAW aims to encourage more people to realise the benefits and great results that can be achieved by using peat-free composts containing recycled material. It also encourages people to try home composting.
- Green waste collected in Wiltshire from households via the kerbside service and at the county’s 11 household recycling centres is processed at the new composting facility at Parkgate Farm, Purton. There it undergoes a rigorously monitored process. The raw material is first finely shredded, then stacked in “windrows” and constantly turned to speed up the decomposition process which takes some 20 weeks.
- CAW is supported by WRAP www.wrap.org.uk and the Association for Organics Recycling www.organics-recycling.org.uk

ENDS

Notes for editors

Hills Waste Solutions offers a range of specialist waste management and recycling services to both the public and private sector. It is a dynamic regional business which, while centred on Wiltshire, has stretched its boundaries into neighbouring areas to become one of the region’s largest providers of waste solutions. Hills Waste Solutions is a wholly owned subsidiary of The Hills Group Limited, a privately owned family company established in 1900. www.hills-group.co.uk

Media contact:

Monique Hayes, Communications Officer, The Hills Group Limited

Tel: 01672 518941 monique.hayes@hills-group.co.uk



@HillsWaste



Hills Group