



Presentation to explain, examine composting

Posted: 11/23/2011 03:40:00 PM EST
Wednesday November 23, 2011

NEAL P. GOSWAMI

Staff Writer

BENNINGTON -- A presentation on commercial composting next week is aimed at providing municipalities and the public with information that will allow them to make informed decisions on composting.

Shelly Stiles, district manager of the Bennington County Conservation District, said her organization will host the event with the Bennington College Environmental Studies Program and the Bennington County Regional Commission. The presentation will explain the science of composting, review existing operations around the region and explain why it could be good for some communities.

"We'll talk about how (regional composting sites) came to be and how they're managed and the impact they have on local economies," Stiles said.

A proposed composting site in Shaftsbury was nixed this year after some local residents objected to its location off Route 7A. Stiles said a panel of experts also will address the issue of where composting sites should be.

"We'll talk about siting as well and what kinds of ordinances or guidelines communities should adopt to make sure that siting is appropriate," Stiles said.

The panel includes Tom Gilbert, executive director of the Highlands Center for Composting, Robert Spencer, an environmental consultant and contributing editor of BioCycle Magazine and Carey Hengstenberg, an environmental analyst with the Vermont Department of Conservation.

The

panel will be able to address some misinformation about composting that emerged during the discussion in Shaftsbury, according to Stiles.

"I believe that a well-run composting operation, no matter the scale, small to commercial, that if run appropriately and acceding to laws will not result in the kinds of things that were hinted in the discussion over the summer."

The presentation will be at Bennington College's Center for the Advancement of Public Action on Dec. 1 at 6:30 p.m.

Contact Neal P. Goswami at ngoswami@benningtonbanner.com

HEARTLAND QUALITY
OMAHA STEAKS
SINCE 1917

SAVE
up to **64%**
to

Plus, get
3 FREE Gifts

Special Code: 45069ZWN

To order: www.OmahaSteaks.com/print71
or call 1-877-605-0496

Print Powered By FormatDynamics™