

## New Jersey DEPE funds municipal solid waste study at Rutgers

TRENTON, N.J. — The state Department of Environmental Protection and Energy (DEPE) will participate in a multi-year study by Rutgers University, funded by a public/private partnership, to determine whether composted municipal solid waste can be used as a nutrient supplement on field crops and by the horticultural industry, DEPE Commissioner Scott Weiner announced.

"Composting is one of the components

in achieving our goal of 60-percent recycling of the total waste stream and in attaining solid waste self-sufficiency," Weiner said. "This research project will examine the availability of markets for compost products, look at the relative safety in the use of composted materials, and provide a basis for application standards."

The total cost of the project is estimated to be as much as \$1.2 million, depending on private sector contribu-

tions. The DEPE is contributing \$250,000 from the Recycling Fund, created by the Statewide Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling of 1987. A tax on each ton of solid waste disposed in landfills is used to provide monies for public education, research, and market development programs. Rutgers is contributing the in-kind research expertise of its agricultural experiment stations and staff. The field research will be done at Rutgers' Agricultural Extension

Service farms near Freehold and Pittstown and in North Brunswick Township.

The study also will include a four-year evaluation of the compost's effect on growth when it is applied to field corn and whether it enhances crop yields. The compost's suitability for growing turfgrasses, application to landscape plants, and creating topsoil from the disturbed soil at construction sites is also being studied, Gabel said.



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## PGA Tour guidelines

Continued from previous page

at least two weeks before the tournament.

- Ensure that all greenside sprinkler heads are at grade to prevent marking as "ground under repair," near the putting surfaces.

- Make sure that an adequate number of greens mowing machines (preferably single unit) are on hand and properly serviced.

- Have two skilled cup changers and necessary equipment, on hand for the placement of the holes during the tournament.

- Repair scalped or low plugs two weeks before the tournament.

- Mowing heights on both cold and warm season grasses should range between 1/8 to 5/32 of an inch during the tournament to obtain desired greenspeed.

### TEEING GROUNDS

Firm, level, closely mown teeing grounds are necessary for tournament play. The mowing height should be between 1/4 and 3/8 inch depending on grass type and time of year. A problem with many championship tees is thatch, mainly because of lack of use by the general membership. Where thatch is a problem, vigorous vertical mowing, topdressing and close monitoring of fertilizer applications, especially nitrogen should occur to eliminate sponginess well before the tournament.

Par 3 and short par 4 holes where iron shots are played should be protected in advance and extra efforts to fill and seed divots should take place. During practice rounds, these tees should be protected with plastic mesh so that unobstructed areas are available for use during the tournament.

Mowing patterns that exceed the flat portions of the tees, or those that do not point toward the landing areas should be corrected.

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In conclusion, the trend in Tour conditioning is away from standardization of playing conditions and toward a program of treating each course on an individual basis. This will protect the design intent and allow the course set-up to take advantage of each course's strong points.