



Town of South Hadley
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
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Jim Reidy
Superintendent

MEMORANDUM

DATE December 6th, 2013

TO: Dan Hall, Department of Environmental Protection

FROM: South Hadley Department of Public Works

RE: Compost Odors

On December 4th at 6:58 pm a confirmed odor complaint was received for the South Hadley compost area, with D/T levels of 2 recorded on Industrial Drive and at complainant's residence that evening.

This odor was created by the following condition(s): normal compost operations of windrowing and turning materials.

On Monday, December 2nd, the leaves deposited in the residential drop off area the prior Saturday were moved and added to the working windrows to create more room for the next open day's deposition. Some of the composting leaves in the windrows may have been disturbed, releasing odors. On Wednesday, December 4th, adjustments were also made to the front of the windrows, again, disturbing the windrows and releasing odors. Normal compost operations include turning of all working compost windrows once every two weeks, normally on a Friday.

The Department of Public Works has performed the following action(s) in order to alleviate the odor problem: none possible as the odors were released during normal working operations.

The Department will perform the following actions to prevent a recurrence of this problem: The Department will attempt to minimize disruption of windrow materials when moving leaves from the residential drop off area to the working windrows.

This information will be posted on the Solid Waste Division page of the Town's website.