



## CITY OF SOUTH BEND

PETE BUTTIGIEG, MAYOR

Office of the Mayor

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### **CITY'S ORGANIC RESOURCES FACILITY MARKS THE END OF 'LEGACY PILE'**

The City of South Bend will celebrate the cleanup of its composting facility at 3 pm on Tuesday, June 9 at Organic Resources, 4340 Trade Drive.

For more than 20 years, the city permitted residents to dispose of leaves, grass clippings, and other yard waste in plastic bags. That resulted in the accumulation of large amounts of non-biodegradable waste at the facility. With pressure from the administration, environmentalists, and the state to clean it up, an ordinance prohibiting the use of plastic bags for yard waste went into effect January 1, 2014, and Organic Resources partnered with a landfill to accept its yard waste contaminated with plastic.

“A lot of hard work went into the removal of contaminants so the mulch and compost could meet conditions for everyday use,” says Eric Horvath, director of Public Works. “To handle the legacy pile, 116,000-cubic yards of non-biodegradable waste was removed, and over \$420,000 was spent. The result is material that can be used to grow food, and material that improves the environmental and aesthetic quality of our city.”

Mulch and compost is a free resource available to residents for flower and vegetable gardens on a self-serve basis at the Organic Resources facility. Residents may bring their own shovels to load the material, or have it loaded for \$4 per yard for up to two yards, and \$8 per yard for three yards and over. The product, free of plastic after the year-long effort, is called South Bend Kompost.

The facility is also available for residents to dispose of brush and limbs that exceed the allowable limit for curbside pickup. No dirt, sand, rocks, sod, wood, or trash are accepted.

Organic Resources is open Monday through Friday from 8 am to 4 pm from May to late-November. No loading or dumping is permitted between 12:30 and 1 pm daily. For questions, contact 287-6841.

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