



MNCC/MnDOT/MPCA Compost Workshop October 13, 2022

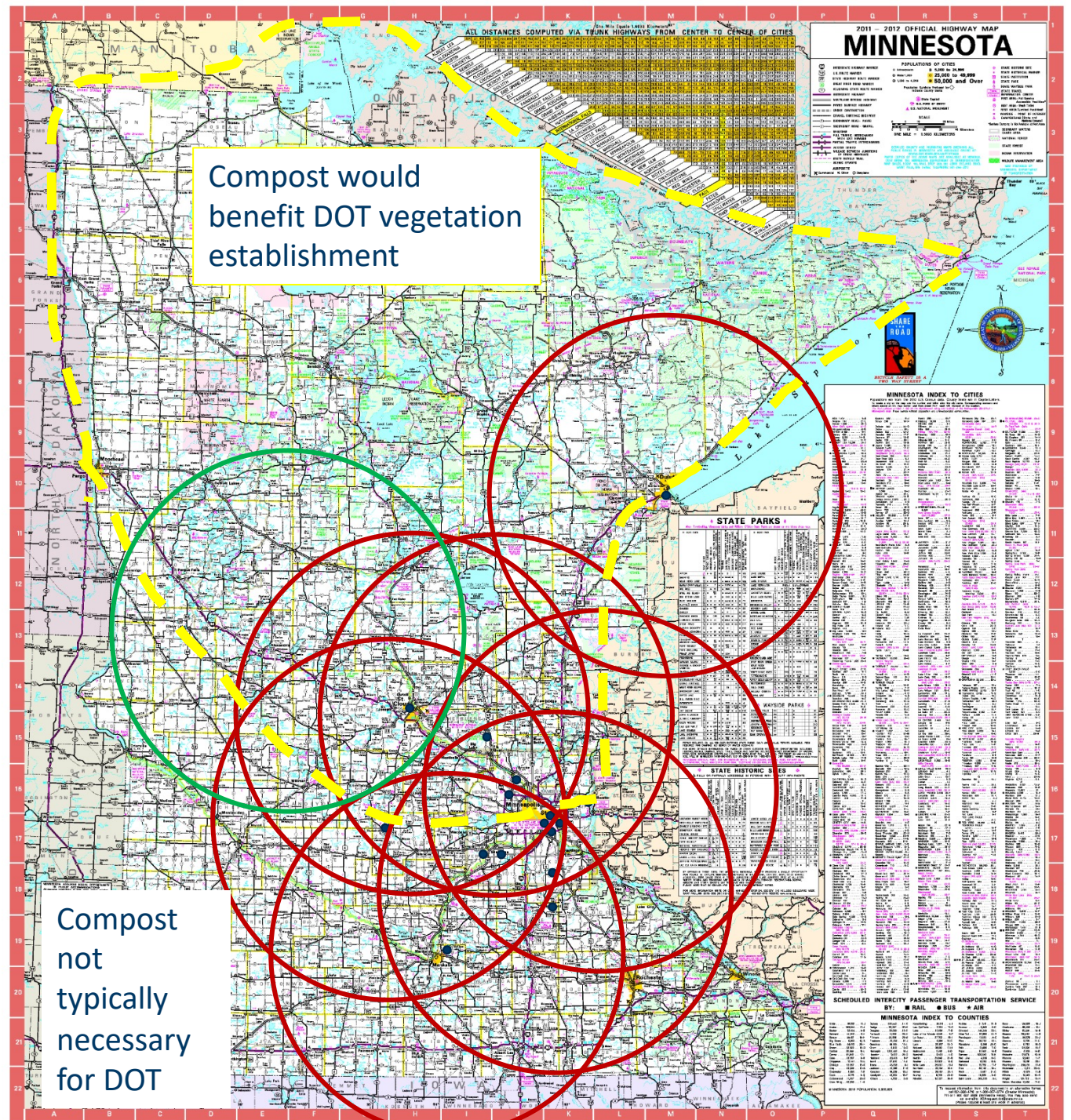
Warren Tuel, PSS | MnDOT – Office of Environmental Stewardship

MnDOT Goals for Compost Use

- Encourage compost use on MnDOT road projects.
 - Demonstrate the need on projects with poor quality topsoil and recognize benefits of compost soil amendment in vegetation establishment and stormwater management. Current research project with University of Maryland and Michigan State using compost as a soil amendment.
- Encourage market opportunities for compost use in northern MN. Currently not much north of St. Cloud.
- Make compost use economically feasible for use on MnDOT projects. Cost/benefit analysis.
- More commercial scale compost facilities to decrease travel distance and cost.
- Interstate 94 pilot project in east metro 2023: Approx. 10 miles and 7,000 CY compost soil amendment.

Topic 4. MnDOT APL Sources

- Is there a limit for cost effective Transport Distance from producer to end user?
- Areas of Benefit:
 - Sandy soils of North Metro, D3, D1
 - Silty Sand soils of D2, D4



Application Process for Approved/Qualified Products List

- Apply online using form on webpage:
<https://www.dot.state.mn.us/products/erosioncontrolandlandscaping/compost.html>
- Provide test data showing the product meets the MnDOT Specifications and meets the US Composting Council Seal of Testing Assurance.
- Turnaround time for approval less than 90 days
- Application form currently being revised

MnDOT Compost APL Grade 1

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://www.dot.state.mn.us/products/erosioncontrolandlandscaping/compost.html>. The page header features the MnDOT logo and the 511 logo. Below the header, there is a search bar and navigation links for "MnDOT A to Z" and "General Contacts". The main content area is titled "Approved/Qualified Products" and includes a "Home" and "Contacts" menu. The primary section is "Compost Grade 1 Compost", which lists three manufacturers with their contact information:

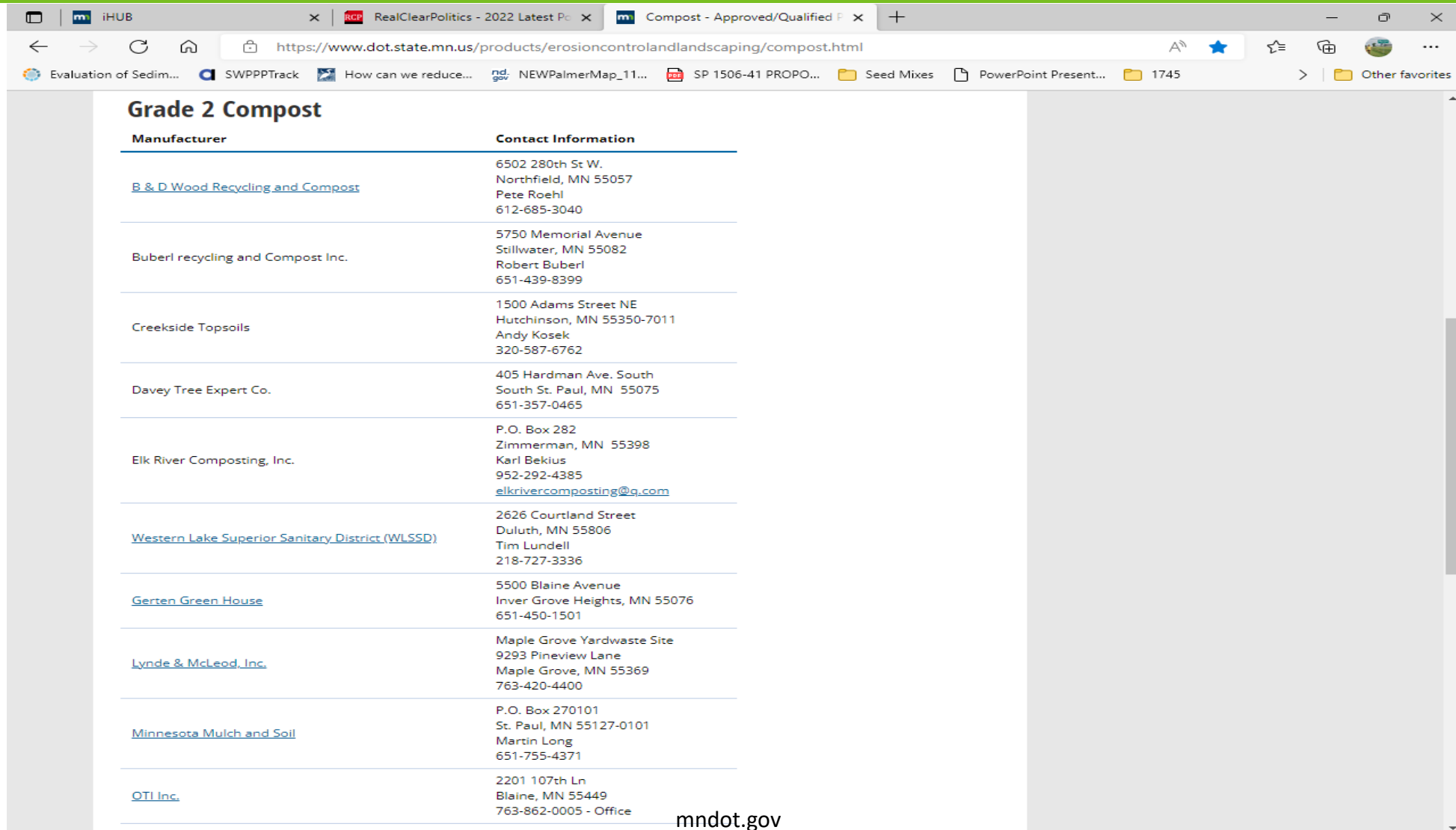
Manufacturer	Contact Information
Minnesota Mulch and Soil	P.O. Box 270101 St. Paul, MN 55127 - 0101 Martin Long 651-755-4371
Mississippi Topsoil	P.O. Box 444 14138 State highway 23 Cold Spring, MN 56230 Brad Matuska 320-685-7676
Sustane Corporation	P.O. Box 19 310 Holiday Avenue Cannon Falls, MN 55009 Craig Holden 507-263-3003

Below this section is the "Grade 2 Compost" section, which lists one manufacturer:

Manufacturer	Contact Information
B & D Wood Recycling and Compost	6502 280th St W. Northfield, MN 55057 Pete Roehl 612-685-3040

On the right side of the page, there are two boxes: "Guidance" with links for [Specifications \(PDF\)](#) and [Application Form](#), and "Contact" with a link for [Warren Tuel](#) at Environmental Stewardship (651-366-3624). The footer includes the "mndot.gov" logo and a Windows taskbar at the bottom showing the time as 8:03 AM on 10/6/2022.

MnDOT Compost APL Grade 2



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://www.dot.state.mn.us/products/erosioncontrolandlandscaping/compost.html>. The page title is "Grade 2 Compost". The content is organized into a table with two columns: "Manufacturer" and "Contact Information".

Manufacturer	Contact Information
B & D Wood Recycling and Compost	6502 280th St W. Northfield, MN 55057 Pete Roehl 612-685-3040
Buberl recycling and Compost Inc.	5750 Memorial Avenue Stillwater, MN 55082 Robert Buberl 651-439-8399
Creekside Topsoils	1500 Adams Street NE Hutchinson, MN 55350-7011 Andy Kosek 320-587-6762
Davey Tree Expert Co.	405 Hardman Ave. South South St. Paul, MN 55075 651-357-0465
Elk River Composting, Inc.	P.O. Box 282 Zimmerman, MN 55398 Karl Bekius 952-292-4385 elkrivercomposting@q.com
Western Lake Superior Sanitary District (WLSSD)	2626 Courtland Street Duluth, MN 55806 Tim Lundell 218-727-3336
Gerten Green House	5500 Blaine Avenue Inver Grove Heights, MN 55076 651-450-1501
Lynde & McLeod, Inc.	Maple Grove Yardwaste Site 9293 Pineview Lane Maple Grove, MN 55369 763-420-4400
Minnesota Mulch and Soil	P.O. Box 270101 St. Paul, MN 55127-0101 Martin Long 651-755-4371
OTI Inc.	2201 107th Ln Blaine, MN 55449 763-862-0005 - Office

mndot.gov

MnDOT Compost Requirements - 3890

- > 30% Organic Matter
- C/N Ratio – 6:1-20:1 & NPK Ratio 2:2:1
- Soluble salts <10 mmho/cm (Electrical Conductivity)
- Particle size < ¾ inch
- pH 5.5-8.0/Moisture Content 35-55%
- Bulk Density 700-1,600 pounds/CY
- MPCA Maximum Levels for Metals (7035.2836)
- Inert Materials <3% @ 0.15 inch (Includes Plastic Bag Shreds)
- Meet US Composting Council Seal of Testing Assurance (STA) – Ensures mature, safe, quality product

MnDOT Compost Use

- MnDOT Compost Specifications Updated in 2017
- MnDOT Turf Establishment Memos encourage use of compost/muck to amend poor quality topsoil.
- The Seeding Manual update will also discuss benefits of compost use as a soil amendment for vegetation establishment.

MnDOT Compost Usage (Bid Letting 2574)

- 2020: 2,368 CY of Grade 2 at \$43.25/CY
- 2021: 8086 CY of Grade 2 at \$30.00/CY
- Compost is also a component of the following Topsoil Products (3877):
 - Boulevard Topsoil Borrow: Grade 2 blended with topsoil borrow and sand.
 - Filter Topsoil Borrow: Grade 2 (20-40%) blended with sand (60-80%).
 - Organic Topsoil Borrow: Grade 2 (50%) and salvaged topsoil (50%).
- Compost also used in compost/soil filled TRM, compost blanket, compost grouting & compost filled filter logs
- Grade 2 used in landscape planting medium.

Other Markets for Compost

- Agricultural Applications
- Site Reclamation
- Landscaping
- Homeowner Gardening Applications
- Common goal of decreasing fertilizer use and improving soil health.



Thank You!

Warren Tuel

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651-366-3624