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Benefits in Bio-solids

Landscaping and Gardening

Bio-solids composted with sawdust, wood chips, yard clippings, or crop residues make excellent mulches and top soils for horticultural and landscaping purposes. Many professional landscapers use composted bio-solids for landscaping new homes and businesses. Home gardeners also find composted bio-solids to be an excellent addition to planting beds and gardens.

Forestry

Bio-solids are recycled in forestry to grow timber for lumber, Christmas trees, and hybrid poplars. Where bio solids have been used, the trees grow faster than those on unfertilized soils. Wildlife populations often increase in these areas because the understory vegetation is more abundant.

Soil Improvement

Severely disturbed soils can be reclaimed through the addition of bio-solids to replace lost topsoil. Bio-solids have been used successfully to reclaim surface strip mines, large construction sites, parks, and landfills. Bio-solids improve soil fertility and stability, aiding re-vegetation and decreasing erosion.

Agriculture

Bio-solids provide essential plant nutrients such as nitrogen, phosphorus, and zinc for healthy crops. Bio-solids promote root growth by improving soil tilth, enhancing moisture retention, and encouraging earthworms. Bio-solids supply organic matter and often improve yields, both of which help control soil erosion. Bio-solids recycling can play an important role in soil fertilization and conservation.

The Ultimate in Recycling

Recycling bio-solids is good for the environment. Organic matter has been recycled for centuries to improve soil fertility and productivity. When properly applied and managed, bio-solids can:

- Provide essential plant nutrients
- Improve soil structure and tilth
- Add organic matter
- Enhance moisture retention
- Educe soil erosion

Bio-solids recycling is regulated and encouraged by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and state and local authorities. Research and years of recycling experience have demonstrated that properly managed land application of bio-solids is environmentally safe.