

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 85-11

PROVIDING FOR THE STATE USE
OF COMPOST PRODUCTS

I, RUDY PERPICH, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the applicable statutes, do hereby issue this Executive Order:

WHEREAS, approximately one-third of all landfills in the state will be filled in the next five years and siting of new landfills is unpopular with the public when much waste could be composted; and

WHEREAS, it is the goal to improve waste management in Minnesota through:

- a. reduction in waste generated,
- b. separation and recovery of materials and energy from waste,
- c. reduction in indiscriminate dependence on disposal of waste,
- d. coordination of solid waste management among political subdivisions,
- e. orderly and deliberate development and financial security of waste facilities including disposal facilities; and

WHEREAS, the technology exists for the cost-effective conversion of waste into usable and marketable compost products; and

WHEREAS, compost products can be beneficial to soil structure as a source of organic material thereby increasing tilth and improving moisture and nutrient retention capabilities; and

WHEREAS, there is presently a lack of paying markets and marketing histories in the state for compost products; and

WHEREAS, the use of compost products by state agencies can help to substantiate the worth of the products, and help to encourage the development of markets in the private sector; and

WHEREAS, the use of compost products will help to encourage the construction of compost facilities in the state resulting in the creation of new jobs, increased economic activity, the conversion of waste into new useful products, and the reduction in dependence upon landfills; and

WHEREAS, it is in the public interest to provide consideration for the state use of compost products because these products reduce the need for land disposal facilities and will assist the state in providing new alternatives to the indiscriminate use of landfills; and

WHEREAS, the Legislative Commission on Minnesota's Resources has recommended funding for the University of Minnesota to conduct a compost market research project; and

WHEREAS, there is recognition of the need for staged implementation of composting facilities and compost market development;

NOW, THEREFORE, I order that:

1. All state departments and agencies that use black dirt or soil amendments demonstrate the use of compost under various conditions and using various compost types and mixes, at their earliest convenience, with any necessary research design assistance provided by the University of Minnesota.

2. All state departments and agencies examine their rules and permit requirements to determine if opportunities exist for affecting and expediting the use of compost.

3. All state departments and agencies evaluate their yard waste management practices and employ on-site waste reduction and composting when feasible.

4. The Pollution Control Agency continue to oversee compost processing facilities to ensure that applicable environmental and health standards and rules are complied with.

5. The Department of Agriculture continue to oversee the use of compost products offered for sale to ensure compliance with appropriate rules.

6. Following and conditioned upon successful completion of the above activities, all state departments and agencies revise their procedures and specifications to give preference to compost products, as defined, when they can be substituted for, are available, and cost no more than regular fertilizer, black dirt, or soil amendment products, if the compost products meet applicable standards and rules.

7. For the purposes of this Order, "compost product" means an end-product produced from the controlled microbial degradation of organic waste.

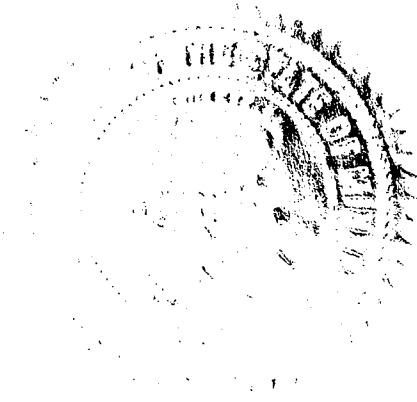
Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 1982, Section 4.035, this Order shall be effective 15 days after publication in the State Register and filing with the Secretary of State and shall remain in effect until it is rescinded by proper authority or it expires in accordance with Section 4.035, Subdivision 3.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand this 22nd day of April, 1985.


RUDY PERPICH
Governor

Filed According to Law:


JOAN ANDERSON GROWE
Secretary of State



STATE OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FILED

MAY - 2 1985


Secretary of State