



June 21, 2019

Dear Neighbor,

Grimm's Fuel Company is a third-generation, family-owned composting business. When we started in 1929, we had few neighbors. But as the region has grown, we find ourselves with many more neighbors and a need to work harder to live in harmony with you. At the same time, the region is doing more and more composting, which is a benefit to the community and the earth. Grimm's receives about 60 percent of Portland's yard waste and turns it into compost. This keeps millions of cubic feet of organic material out of our region's landfills and reduces greenhouse gas emissions.

Since we opened our doors in 1929, Grimm's Fuel has been committed to be a good neighbor. Ninety years later, we remain committed to that goal.

In the fall of 2018, we began installing a new technology that will significantly reduce odors from our composting facility. It is called the "aerated static pile" (ASP) process and has been engineered by Green Mountain Technologies. We are installing this aeration system as quickly as we can, and by the second quarter of 2020, 100% of our piles will be aerated. This aeration method has been proven to significantly reduce odor from composting facilities throughout the nation.

We began testing this technology with our yard debris in February 2019 with great results. Since then we have completed 21 batches and the average oxygen readings in the composting material has been 18.6%.

Our commitment to be a good neighbor does not end there. We are also committed to being better communicators. We will update close neighbors on our progress via mailed and emailed newsletters, notices in neighborhood newspapers and a dedicated blog page: grimmsfuelco.wordpress.com

Since good communication moves two ways, we also want to make sure you can reach us. We have set up a new email address for neighbors: grimmsfuelco@yahoo.com and we promise to respond in a timely manner. We will also host several open houses, and will send invitations via mail, email, our website, and the newspaper. And if you live right near us, in the Pony Ridge or Angel Haven neighborhoods, you have access to unlimited free yard debris dumping, free garden mulch compost, and free blended soil.

Grimm's is proud of the work we do to divert waste from landfills, creating organic compost for home gardeners and farmers, and reducing our region's greenhouse gas emissions. We are also proud to be taking strides to become a better neighbor. We invite you to come by or email us to let us know how we're doing.

Regards,

Jeff Grimm
18850 SW Cipole Rd
Tualatin, OR 97062

grimmsfuelco@yahoo.com

www.grimmsfuel.com

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