

October 31, 2024

CITY OF EDGEWOOD  
ATTN MIKE PAPE  
106 N WEBSTER  
EDGEWOOD IA 52042

Subject: Letter of Noncompliance – 567 IAC 105.3(1), 105.4(2) Edgewood Yard Waste Site

Enclosed is the report of the recent visit to the above facility. We believe you will find the report self-explanatory and strongly encourage you to take action on the requirements and recommendations listed at the end of the report.

A Letter of Noncompliance is being sent to address the separation distances between the site and residences. Please note a written response is required by November 27, 2024, outlining how the requirements noted at the end of this report will be addressed.

If you have any comments or questions about the inspection or report, please contact me at 563-920-2695 or [amber.sauser@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:amber.sauser@dnr.iowa.gov).

Sincerely,



Environmental Specialist Senior, FIELD OFFICE #1

Enclosure(s):

c: Solid Waste Section  
Mike Pape (w/encl. via email), [edgeshop@iowatelecom.net](mailto:edgeshop@iowatelecom.net)  
Efile: 28 SW Edgewood Compost LNC 100924 als

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Yard Waste Compost Facility Visit

Permit # 28-COM-01-22

Site Name: City of Edgewood Compost Site

Person Present: Mike Pape, City Superintendent Date This Visit: 10/09/2024

Yes – compliance was being achieved; No – compliance was not being achieved,  
N/A – not applicable or not observed

**Observations:**

Yes	No	N/A	Item
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1. Adequate signage present
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2. Stormwater run-on/run-off
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3. Ponding minimized/addressed within 48 hours
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4. Evidence of open dumping/burning
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	5. Fenced area (if the site also conducts tree/tree trimmings burning) (fence is provided)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6. Separation distances maintained
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	7. Materials managed to minimize odors, noise, dust, litter, and vectors
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	8. Composting occurs on an all-weather surface
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	9. Facility is registered with the DNR and submits annual reports

**Comments:**

On October 9, 2024, I visited the Edgewood Yard Waste site. A large amount of woody debris was observed piled. Minimal garden waste was observed. The area appeared well-maintained.

A few pieces of dimensional lumber were observed, but it appeared staff remove unacceptable material.

A lockable gate is provided to deter improper disposal at this site.

On October 25, 2024, I spoke with Mr. Pape by phone. He noted that the yard waste is ground annually. If there is a storm or similar event, they may grind twice a year. Yard waste is then screened and available for use. As the material received is approximately 85% wood waste they are unable to effectively compost and operate the site as more of a mulch processing area.

It was noted that there are potentially 7 residences located within 500 feet of this location. Mr. Pape indicated that this site has been here for many years and they've received no complaints. To comply with 567 IAC 105.3(1) the city should obtain written approval from residents within 500 feet and request

a department waiver to the 500-foot separation. Please contact Theresa Stiner with the DNR Solid Waste Section at 515-721-7979 or [Theresa.stiner@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:Theresa.stiner@dnr.iowa.gov) to discuss the waiver process. If the city does not wish to pursue this option, the facility should be moved at least 500 feet from the nearest residence.

The signage indicates acceptable and unacceptable materials. However, 567 IAC 105.4(2) requires a site name, hours, and contact number to be included. The signage should be updated to include all required information.

**Requirements:**

Compost operations must be 500 feet from the nearest residence. Either obtain written waivers from each resident within 500 feet and request a waiver from the department or move the composting operation to meet the 500 foot requirement per 567 IAC 105.3(1).

Obtain facility signage with all information required in 567 IAC 105.4(2).

Provide a written response by **November 27, 2024**, via email to [amber.sauser@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:amber.sauser@dnr.iowa.gov) outlining how the above requirements are being addressed.

**105.3(1)** The composting facility shall be 500 feet from any existing inhabited residence, not including the residence of the person owning/operating the compost facility, at the time the permit application was received by the department. Composting must be done outside of wetlands, at least 200 feet from public wells, 100 feet from private wells, 50 feet from property lines, and 100 feet from flowing or intermittent streams, lakes, or ponds. Composting done inside the 100-year flood plain shall be in accordance with all local and department regulations including 567—71.5(455B). Sediment ponds, engineered wetlands or other constructed waterways for the purpose of pollution control are excluded from this requirement.

**105.4(2)** The facility shall have a permanent sign posted at the entrance specifying:

- a. Name of operation.
- b. Operating hours.
- c. Materials which are accepted or the statement “All materials must have prior approval.”
- d. Telephone number of 24-hour emergency contact person.

**INSPECTOR**

*Amber Sauser*

Environmental Specialist Senior

**DATE: 10/31/2024**