Frequently Asked Questions

Bryn Compost Ltd, Gelligaer, Hengoed 24 March 2011

What does the site do?

The site produces compost-like material which can be used on land for agricultural benefit. The site accepts the following wastes:
Green waste (lawn and hedge cuttings, leaves etc)
Kitchen waste (food leftovers, vegetable waste etc)

What is an 'in-vessel' compost facility?

In-vessel is a term adopted to cover a wide range of composting systems in which the material being composted is contained and, usually, enclosed. The 'in-vessel' technique used at Bryn Compost is carried out initially within a building, before the material is moved outside to mature in windrows.

In all in-vessel composting systems the air which aerates the material is contained and treated via a suitable odour control system.

What is causing the odour?

This is a process where bugs break down waste. It is a natural but odorous process. Many factors can affect the level of odour including the quantity, type and mix of wastes used and the level of oxygen incorporated into the process.

Poor air dispersion is a particular problem in the summer months, when the local area experiences a natural weather phenomenon known as temperature inversions. This means odorous air is held nearer the ground due to the natural air temperature variations. Air dispersion is also limited during the evening and early morning hours when the ground temperatures decrease.

How do the Environment Agency assess odour?

There are various techniques for assessing odour. We use a scale based on our odour management technical guidance note (http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/business/topics/permitting/36414.aspx). This type of assessment is commonly used across permitted and regulated sites in England and Wales.

We use a scale of 1 to 5 as follows:

1	No odour detected
2	Faint odour - unlikely to cause annoyance
3	Moderate odour (odour easily detected while walking and breathing normally) – likely to cause annoyance
4	Strong odour – likely to cause annoyance
5	Very strong odour (possibly causing nausea depending on the type of odour) – likely to cause annoyance

Are Bio-aerosols dangerous to my health?

The site must conduct bio-aerosol assessments at least twice a year. We cannot comment on any specific health enquires. However, the Health Protection Agency (HPA) has assessed the bio-aerosol risk from this type of composting activity as 'low'. We continue to work with the HPA to address concerns raised by the local community about health impacts from the composting operation.

Have Bryn Compost breached their Environmental Permit?

Provided Bryn Compost use appropriate measures to prevent, or where not practical, minimise off site odour annoyance they will not breach their permit. While this is an important legal consideration, the more important thing is that they take actions in a fair and reasonable timescale geared towards solving the odour issues at Gelligaer. We will ensure the site does this.

What are the roles of the Environment Agency and Caerphilly County Borough Council?

The Environment Agency regulates the site's waste activities ensuring they meet the conditions detailed in their permit. Caerphilly County Borough Council assist us with odour assessment in the local area. They also regulate activities at the adjacent farm.

I have concerns about the composting site – who do I contact?

The Environment Agency regulates the Environmental Permit held by the site. If you have any concerns relating to odour outside of the site boundary, pests or any other pollution matters relating to the site please call our 24 hour free hotline number: 0870 80 70 60.

Cwestiynau Poblogaidd

Bryn Compost Ltd, Gelli-gaer, Hengoed 24 Mawrth 2011

Beth y mae'r safle'n ei wneud?

Mae'r safle'n cynhyrchu deunydd tebyg i gompost, y gellir ei ddefnyddio ar dir er lles amaeth. Mae'r safle'n derbyn y gwastraff canlynol:
Gwastraff gwyrdd (tocion lawntiau a llwyni, dail ac ati.)
Gwastraff ceginau (sbarion bwyd, llysiau ac ati.)

Beth yw gorsaf gompostio "mewn llestr"?

Mae "mewn llestr" yn golygu amryw fathau o gompostio lle y cyfyngir ar y deunydd sy'n cael ei gompostio, a'i gadw tan gaead, fel arfer. Mae'r dechneg "mewn llestr" a ddefnyddir yn Bryn Compost yn dechrau o fewn adeilad, cyn symud y deunydd mas i'r awyr agored i aeddfedu mewn rhenciau.

Ym mhob math o gompostio "mewn llestr", mae'r awyr sy'n awyru'r deunydd yn cael ei gyfyngu a'i drin er mwyn rheoli unrhyw ddrewdod.

Beth sy'n achosi'r drewdod?

Y microbau sy'n dadelfennu'r gwastraff. Mae'n broses naturiol, ond yn codi drewdod. Gall nifer o ffactorau effeithio ar raddfa'r drewdod, gan gynnwys maint, math a chymysgedd y gwastraff a ddefnyddir, a faint o ocsigen a gynhwysir yn y broses.

Mae diffyg symudedd awyr (i wasgaru'r drewdod) yn broblem neilltuol yn yr haf, pan fo'r tywydd naturiol lleol, a gwahaniaethau tymheredd awyr, yn dal gwynt drewllyd yn agosach at wyneb y tir. Mae yna ddiffyg symudedd awyr gyda'r hwyr ac yn y bore bach, hefyd, wrth i dymheredd y tir ddisgyn.

Sut mae Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd yn asesu drewdod?

Mae sawl modd asesu drewdod. Rydym yn defnyddio graddfa wedi'i seilio ar ein harweiniad technegol ni ynglŷn â rheoli drewdod (http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/business/topics/permitting/36414.aspx). Defnyddir y math hwn o asesu ledled safleoedd trwyddedig a rheoledig Cymru a Lloegr.

Defnyddiwn raddfa rhwng 1 a 5, fel a ganlyn:

1	Ni chanfuwyd drewdod
2	Ychydig ddrewdod, nad yw'n debyg o achosi niwsans
3	Drewdod cymedrol (hawdd ei glywed wrth gerdded ac anadlu'n arferol) - yn debyg o achosi niwsans
4	Drewdod cryf - yn debyg o achosi niwsans
5	Drewdod ofnadwy (a allai godi pwys, gan ddibynnu ar y math o ddrewdod) - yn debyg o achosi niwsans

A yw bio-aerosolau'n niweidio fy iechyd i?

Rhaid i'r safle gynnal asesiadau bio-aerosolau o leiaf ddwywaith y flwyddyn. Allwn ni ddim gwneud sylwadau ynglŷn ag ymholiadau iechyd penodol, ond y mae'r Asiantaeth Diogelu Iechyd (ADI) o'r farn fod bygythiad bio-aerosolau y math hwn o gompostio'n "isel". Parhawn i weithio gyda'r ADI er mwyn trin pryderon y gymuned leol ynglŷn ag effaith y compostio ar iechyd.

A yw Bryn Compost wedi torri eu Trwydded Amgylcheddol?

Ond i Bryn Compost ddefnyddio dulliau atal niwsans drewdod addas, neu leihau drewdod oddi ar y safle i'r graddau eithaf posibl, ni fyddant yn torri'u trwydded nhw. Y mae hwn yn bwnc cyfreithiol pwysig, ond pwysicach fyth yw iddyn' nhw fynd ati, o fewn amser teg a rhesymol, i ddatrys y materion drewdod yng Ngelli-gaer. Sicrhawn ninnau fod y safle'n gwneud hynny.

Beth yw swyddogaethau Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd a Chyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Caerffili?

Mae Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd yn rheoleiddio gweithgareddau gwastraff y safle, gan sicrhau eu bod nhw'n cadw at amodau eu trwydded nhw. Mae Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Caerffili'n ein helpu ni i asesu'r drewdod yn y cyffiniau. Maen nhw'n rheoli gweithgareddau ar y fferm gyfagos, hefyd.

Dwi'n becso am y safle compostio. Â phwy ga'i gysylltu?

Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd sy'n rheoleiddio Trwydded Amgylcheddol y safle. Os ydych yn pryderu dim am ddrewdod y tu mas i ffiniau'r safle, plâu neu unrhyw fath arall o lygredd ynglŷn â'r safle, galwch ein llinell frys rhad ac am ddim 24 awr ni: 0870 80 70 60.