

Manure exchange list started for Hennepin County

--By Betsy Gilkerson, University of Minnesota Extension Service

Betsy Gilkerson, County Extension Educator for University of Minnesota Extension Service in Hennepin County has started a list of livestock owners who have manure to give away. For gardeners it is a great way to provide needed nutrients and organic matter to their gardens. The manure/bedding combinations often seen can be used to improve sandy or clayey soils. It has also occasionally been used for mulch.

The list contains contact information, city of residence and information about the manure. Information includes livestock species, type of bedding, percentage of bedding, amount of materials, nutrient test results if performed, and more. Since these are private residences, directions will be given upon calling the people on the list. The list can also include people from adjacent counties, as these may be more convenient for pickup.

This list is an effort to find a beneficial use for the material that can be harmful to our water quality if not disposed of properly, to connect people who have it with people who want it. Due to the large horse population in Hennepin County, the list only includes horse manure so far. However any type of manure can be put on the list.

To get a list of livestock owners with manure, or to be added to the list, please contact Betsy Gilkerson at 612-596-1175 or eliza003@umn.edu.

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Betsy Gilkerson is a County Extension Educator in Agriculture Production Systems with the University of Minnesota Extension Service in Hennepin County
417 North 5th Street, Suite 200
Minneapolis, MN 55401-1397
Phone: 612-596-1175
Fax: 612-348-8532

Thank you, Monica Cuneo, for forwarding this information to community gardeners!