



# *VTrans & Compost*

# Compost is not a separate “pay item”

- *Component of other items:*
  - *Sod installations*
  - *Topsoil amendment*
  - *Erosion log filler*
  - *Landscape Backfill – 50% topsoil, 25% compost, 25% native material*



# Compost Material Specifications



- (4) Purity (%)
- (5) Weed seed content (%)

755.05 COMPOST. Compost shall be free of weed seeds and comply with EPA requirements for compost. The compost shall have a loose and granular texture with the following characteristics or properties as specified in [Table 755.05A](#).

TABLE 755.05A – EPA COMPOST MATERIAL REQUIREMENTS

Compost Physical Property	Material Requirements
Organic matter content	30% – 60%
Total Kjeldahl nitrogen content	0.5% – 2.0%
pH	6.5 – 7.5
Maximum particle size	< 1 inch
Soluble salt content	< 5 mmhos/cm
Human inerts, by dry mass	< 1.0%
Moisture content	35% – 55%

Compost shall generally comprise 25% of the backfill material unless otherwise specified. The compost shall possess no objectionable odors and shall not resemble the raw material from which it was derived. The compost must meet *40 C.F.R. 503* (also known as *EPA Part 503*) exceptional quality concentration limits for trace elements and heavy metals.

At least 14 days prior to delivery and use, the Contractor shall provide a compost analysis to the Engineer. The analysis shall be performed by a facility employing the latest *Test Method for the Examination of Composting and Compost (TMECC)*.

# VTrans Projects with Stormwater Permits

- *Post-Construction Soil Depth and Quality Standard*

## NOTICE TO BIDDERS

### POST-CONSTRUCTION SOIL DEPTH AND QUALITY STANDARD

Permit authorization (permit #) requires areas identified in the plans to meet the Post-Construction Soil Depth and Quality Standard, as defined in the 2017 Vermont Stormwater Management Manual. In accordance with this Standard, the Contractor shall follow Subsection 651 on Turf Establishment with the following additions and modifications:

- Restrict equipment from driving outside of established Project Demarcation Fence (PDF) or Barrier Fence (BF).
- Stockpile and reuse native topsoil within the project limits.
- Test topsoil in accordance with Subsection 755.02. If results show that the topsoil has less than 4% organic matter, then the topsoil will be amended with compost at a rate of 1:3 compost to topsoil. **The compost must be a humus-rich material having 40-65% organic matter, a carbon to nitrogen ration below 25:1 and meet the definition of "compost" in the Vermont DEC Solid Waste Management Rules.**
- Scarify or loosen subsoils to a depth of 4".
- Place topsoil in accordance with Subsection 651.05(a) with a minimum depth of 4".

