



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

Date: Mar 16, 2026

Mr. David Paull
Southern Soil Works, LLC
P.O. Box 12152
Raleigh, NC 27605

Subject: Permit Issuance: 099-021P(MRF-CO)

**Southern Soil Works Material Recovery and Composting Facility
707 Sewell Rd.
Meriwether County, Grantville, GA 30220**

Jeffrey W. Cown, Director

Land Protection Branch

4244 International Parkway
Suite 104
Atlanta, Georgia 30354
404-362-2537

Dear Mr. Paull:

Your application for a Solid Waste Handling Permit, including the necessary supplemental data for your operation, has been reviewed and approved.

Solid Waste Handling permit [099-021P(MRF-CO)] is attached and includes conditions and limitations for your operation. This permit is now in effect; however, under Georgia law it is subject to appeal for a period of thirty (30) days following its issuance and is subject to modification or possible vacation if appealed. Should an appeal be received within the thirty (30) day appeals period, you will be immediately notified and further construction or operation under this permit may not be undertaken until such time as the appeals process is concluded. Personnel of the Georgia Environmental Protection Division will make periodic inspections of your operation. These inspections will be discussed with you or your designated representative.

As required by the Georgia Rules for Solid Waste Management 391-3-4-.16, operators of compost facilities classes 3-5 must maintain records tracking incoming feedstocks and finished compost. By September 1 of each year, operators of compost facilities classes 3-5 shall submit a report to the Division that includes the weight or volume (in tons or cubic yards) of the feedstocks accepted, total compost produced, and any amount sold or used in the previous fiscal year (July 1 - June 30).

Effective July 1, 2025, EPD will only accept electronic submissions of the annual compost tonnage report. A copy of the report form is attached, and it can also be downloaded online at:

<https://epd.georgia.gov/about-us/land-protection-branch/recovered-materials-and-abatement/recovered-materials/composting>

The completed report shall be emailed to rma.epd@dnr.ga.gov no later than September 1 for the previous year (July 1- June 30).

Annual organic diversion tonnage reports will be posted to EPD's website to share the impact the compost industry has on organic waste diversion in Georgia.

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If you have any questions regarding this permit or report submission, please contact Richard Posey at (470) 604-7137 or rma.epd@dnr.ga.gov.

Thank you for your continued cooperation and dedication to composting in Georgia.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lena Sassone".

Lena Sassone

Program Manager

Recovered Materials and Abatement Program

Attachment: Permit with conditions

cc: Sarah Knapp; EPD West Central District

PERMIT NO. 099-021P(MRF-CO)
ISSUANCE DATE: Mar 16, 2026



GEORGIA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

LAND PROTECTION BRANCH

Class 3 Compost and Material Recovery Facility Permit

Permittee Name: **Southern Soil Works, LLC**

Permittee Address: **707 Sewell Road
Meriwether County, Georgia 30220**

In accordance with the provisions of the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act, and the Rules promulgated pursuant thereto, this permit is issued for the following operation:

The construction and operation of a Material Recovery and Class 3 Compost Facility located in Meriwether County, 707 Sewell Road. (Latitude: 33.17728 N, Longitude: 84.82667 W).

This permit is conditioned upon the permittee complying with the attached conditions of operation, which are hereby made a part of this permit.

All statements in the application and supporting evidence, information, and data submitted to the Environmental Protection Division of the Department of Natural Resources have been evaluated, considered and relied upon in the issuance of this permit.

This permit is now in effect; however, under Georgia law it is subject to appeal for 30 days following issuance and is subject to modification or revocation on evidence of noncompliance: (i) with any provision of the Act or of the Rules promulgated pursuant thereto; or (ii) with any representation made in the above mentioned application or the statements and supporting data entered therein or attached thereto; or (iii) with any condition of this permit.



Jeffrey W. Cown

Jeffrey W. Cown, Director
Environmental Protection Division

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Conditions for Material Recovery and Class 3 Compost Facility

1. This permit is valid for the location listed above and is not transferable to any other location.
2. The operation of the facility and erosion control measures to be implemented shall be protective of ground and surface water, and conform to:
 - a. OCGA §12-5-20, Georgia Water Quality Act
 - b. OCGA §12-7-1, Georgia Erosion and Sedimentation Act
 - c. Georgia DNR Environmental Rule 391-3-6, Georgia Water Quality Rules, and
 - d. Georgia DNR Environmental Rule 391-3-7, Erosion and Sedimentation Rules
3. The facility shall not restrict the flow of the 100-year flood, reduce the temporary water storage capacity of the floodplain, or result in a washout of solid waste or material so as to pose a hazard to human health and the environment. Solid waste handling activities shall not be performed in areas of the property considered to be within the 100-year floodplain.
4. Solid waste handling operations shall not be conducted in any wetlands, as defined by the United States Corps of Engineers, unless evidence is provided to the Director, by the applicant, that use of such wetlands has been permitted or otherwise authorized under all other applicable state and federal laws and rules. A statement certifying that the facility has been designed so that implementation of the plans will not impact wetlands delineated and shown in the Design and Operational (D&O) Plan shall be submitted. This statement shall be signed and stamped by the professional engineer responsible for the D&O Plan for the subject site. Wetland areas shall be delineated on the D&O Plan.
5. No radioactive waste, asbestos containing material, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB) waste as defined in the Code of Federal Regulation, 40 CFR Part 761, regulated quantities of hazardous waste or any other prohibited waste as specified in sections 391-3-4-.04 and 391-3-4-.16 of the Rules for Solid Waste Management may be handled or stored at the facility.
6. The Permittee shall comply with all other applicable state and local laws, rules and ordinances which are not incorporated as conditions of this Permit, but which are separately enforced by the relevant state or local agency with jurisdiction.
7. The Permittee shall comply with the location restrictions and site limitations, the design criteria, and the closure criteria required by the Rules for Solid Waste Management, Chapter 391-3-4-.05, 391-3-4-.09, 391-3-4-.16 and 391-3-4-.11.
8. Operations shall be conducted at all times in such a manner as to prevent air, water, and land pollution as well as public health hazards and nuisances.
9. Prior to receipt of waste, a professional engineer licensed to practice in Georgia shall provide the Division with written certification that the facility has been constructed in accordance with the permit and the approved D&O Plan.

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10. The D&O Plan approved by the Environmental Protection Division (Division) for this facility on November 14, 2025, is hereby made a part of this permit and this facility shall be designed, constructed and operated in accordance with the approved plan. Conditions of this permit supersede any provisions of the plan which may conflict.
11. Operation and management of waste processing shall at all times be under the supervision and control of a responsible individual properly trained in such processes.
12. Access shall be limited to authorized entrances that shall be closed when the facility is not in operation.
13. The material recovery and composting facility shall have a sign at its entrance that lists the name of the facility, permit number, days and hours of operation, feedstocks accepted, and emergency contact information.
14. All loading and unloading of feedstocks shall be confined to the designated receiving areas shown in the D&O Plan.
15. Feedstocks shall be restricted to the receiving area and processing facility as designated in the D&O Plan. In no case shall feedstock be deposited or stored outside of the facility or be allowed to scatter to the outside.
16. Non-compostable or non-recoverable material and solid waste generated on site shall be stored in a waste container and then either recycled or disposed of at a permitted solid waste facility. No solid waste may remain on-site for longer than 72 hours. Non-compostable or non-recoverable materials shall be handled at all times in such a manner as to prevent air, water, and land pollution, as well as public health hazards and nuisances.
17. Equipment for fire control shall be available in proper working condition near the designated waste-receiving and processing areas, and near the processed solids storage area at all times.
18. The facility shall be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition. Accumulation of putrescible materials and rubbish shall be controlled in a manner so as to minimize odors and prevent infestation by insects or rodents, and insect and rodent control measures shall be applied as necessary.
19. No process or domestic wastewater shall be generated by the facility operations, except in accordance with the approved plan. Any spills, leaks, or free liquids emanating from waste handled at the facility shall be contained within the permitted areas and promptly remediated. In no event shall wash-water or free liquids contaminated by waste be discharged or otherwise released to the environment.

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20. The facility shall be operated and maintained to prevent open burning, scavenging, and the open dumping of wastes.
21. The Division shall be notified of any fires, explosions, or releases to the environment that occur at the facility by telephonic communication no more than twenty-four (24) hours after occurrence and in writing no more than five (5) days after occurrence. The 24-hour Emergency Response phone number is (800) 241-4113.
22. By the end of each operating day, all incoming Category B feedstocks shall be processed, transferred to leak-proof containment, or mixed with bulking material and covered in a manner that minimizes odors and scavenging by vectors. Prior to being incorporated into the active composting area, feedstocks with free liquid shall be mixed with drier feedstocks, bulking material, or compost so that the liquid is promptly absorbed and not allowed to flow from the mixing area.
23. Windrow compost processing time and temperatures shall be sufficient to kill weed seeds, reduce pathogens and vector attraction, and produce compost that meets the stability necessary for the intended use. Pathogen and vector attraction reduction compliance shall be achieved as follows by maintaining the compost material at a minimum average temperature of 55°C or higher for 15 days or longer. During the period when the compost is maintained at 55°C or higher, there shall be a minimum of five turnings of the windrow. The 15 or more days at or above 55°C do not have to be continuous.
24. Aerated static pile or in-vessel composting: The compost material shall be maintained at a minimum average temperature of 55°C or higher for three consecutive days, followed by at least 14 days at over 40°C with an average temperature of over 45°C.
25. Facilities using aerated static piles shall insulate piles to ensure that all parts of the decomposing material reach and maintain temperatures at or above 55°C for a minimum of three days.
26. The all-weather compost pad must be maintained to its specified slope and resist deformation that would cause ponding or increase infiltration of contact water.
27. Storage of finished compost on site is limited to 12 months, unless approved by the Division on a case-by-case basis.
28. A facility odor minimization plan shall be maintained and updated as stipulated in the following:
 - a. The odor impact minimization plan shall be revised and submitted to the Division for any major modification as described in 391-3-4-.16(7).
 - b. The odor impact minimization plan shall be reviewed annually by the operator to determine if any revisions are necessary.
 - c. The odor impact minimization plan and results of the odor monitoring shall be used by the Division to determine whether the facility is following the procedures approved in its permit and its design and operational plan.

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29. The facility shall meet the requirements for testing as described in 391-3-4-.16(8).
30. Records shall be maintained to track incoming feedstocks and finished compost. By September 1 of each year, operators shall submit a report to the Division that includes the weight or volume (in tons or cubic yards) of the feedstocks accepted, total compost produced, and any amount sold or used in the previous fiscal year (July 1 - June 30).
31. Records documenting compliance with the Rules for Solid Waste Management shall be kept for a minimum of five (5) years from the date of the record and be in a form suitable for submission or inspection by the Division.
32. The facility shall be closed in accordance with the Rules for Solid Waste Management Chapter 391-3-4-.11 and the approved Closure Plan in the D&O plan.
33. The Permittee shall fully satisfy all applicable financial responsibility requirements for closure in accordance with Solid Waste Rule 391-3-4-.13.
34. The amount of material to be stored and processed as listed in the approved D&O Plan shall not be exceeded at any time.
35. Coverage under this permit shall automatically terminate unless construction of the materials recovery and class three compost facility has commenced within three hundred sixty-five (365) days and completed within seven hundred thirty (730) days.