

**NEWS RELEASE – Monday 14 May 2012**

## **Compost giveaway for Cricklade**

Residents of Cricklade were invited to ‘bring a bag and fill it with compost’ at the Cricklade Leisure Centre on Saturday 12 May from 8.00am.



Cricklade residents drop off green waste and collect compost. Photo: Bob Jones

The ‘*Warrior Compost*’ was supplied free of charge by Hills Waste Solutions in support of the 12<sup>th</sup> annual International Compost Awareness Week (CAW). In addition to collecting free compost residents were encouraged to bring along their green waste for disposal. The green waste collected will be used by Hills to make more *Warrior Compost*.

Cricklade Town, the current Britain in Bloom Champion of Champions, has received regular donations of *Warrior Compost* over the years. Bob Jones of Cricklade Bloomers said: “*Warrior Compost* has helped us to reach the highest award in Britain in Bloom. We use it as a soil conditioner, weed suppressant and as mulch which protects and maintains both plants and

trees. It is working particularly well with the current rains by helping the soil soak up as much water as possible and hold onto it.”

Mike Webster, group director Hills Waste Solutions, says: “Using a peat-free compost is good news for the environment - it is made from recycled materials and reduces the amount of green waste that is sent to landfill. It also helps the soil retain essential moisture which is important when water restrictions are in place.”

Green waste generated by Wiltshire residents is made into compost that is certified to BSI PAS100 standard and accredited by both the Association for Organics Recycling and the Soil Association. “It is a good example of closed-loop recycling,” says Mike Webster, “and it’s made locally from local green waste.” **ENDS**

#### **Notes to editors**

- CAW aims to encourage more people to realise the benefits and great results that can be achieved by using peat-free composts containing recycled material. It also encourages people to try home composting.
- Green waste collected in Wiltshire from households via the kerbside service and at the county’s 11 household recycling centres is processed at the new composting facility at Parkgate Farm, Purton. There it undergoes a rigorously monitored process. The raw material is first finely shredded, then stacked in “windrows” and constantly turned to speed up the decomposition process which takes around 12 weeks.
- CAW is supported by WRAP [www.wrap.org.uk](http://www.wrap.org.uk) and the Association for Organics Recycling [www.organics-recycling.org.uk](http://www.organics-recycling.org.uk)

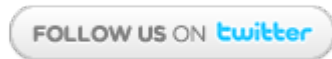


- Hills Waste Solutions offers a range of specialist waste management and recycling services to both the public and private sector. [www.hills-waste.co.uk](http://www.hills-waste.co.uk)

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