



Encouraging sustainability



Twycross Zoo is trying to encourage sustainability and reduce its input to landfill sites.

The Zoo's Conservation Officer, Claire Pipe, took on the difficult task of finding out how much waste the Zoo produced in a year and how to recycle it. Over seven hundred tonnes of animal waste is produced every year with an additional 300 tonnes of general waste.

Because of this the Zoo has invested in a state-of-the-art in-vessel composting system; a Hotrot 1811 capable of dealing with the 2½ tonnes of Zoo waste produced per day.

Animal waste, shredded paper, straw, sawdust and garden

waste etc is fed into the machine which chews, grinds and frequently rotates the waste, heating it up to 75 degrees. The heat destroys all of the pathogens (bacteria and germs) generating sterilized compost within twelve days. This process is extremely fast; normal household compost bins will usually take approximately twelve months to decompose.

The Zoo's clean compost will be used to produce fast growing crops for the animals in the Zoo by spring 2009 and will be used around the Zoo grounds.

Zago Ecogreen Composters
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