



Township of West Milford

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West Milford, NJ 07480-1303

Press Release

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Soil Placed on Township Property Found to be Contaminated

West Milford, NJ - The Township of West Milford was advised on June 16, 2021 that there were various contaminants in the soil placed on Township-owned property behind 280 Marshall Hill Road. The soil was placed on the property by B&B Organic Waste Recycling, LLC. As required, we have notified the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), and will take all necessary steps to address the problem.

Soil samples were taken on June 3, 2021 from five (5) separate locations. The results indicated that all five (5) locations are contaminated with various materials. Ten (10) separate materials were found to exceed acceptable standards. The materials that were found in unacceptable levels are Aluminum, Lead, Manganese, Mercury, Chlordane, Dieldrin, Benzo(a)anthracene, Benzo(a)pyrene, Benzo(a)fluoranthene and Dibenzo(a,h)anthracene.

The Township has taken immediate action to address this contamination, and will work diligently with the NJDEP to ensure that the property is remediated.

This soil testing was conducted in part due to the failures of B&B Organic Waste Recycling LLC to respond to repeated requests from the Township, and to comply with the Township's Limited Manufacturing and Industrial (LMI) Ordinance 2017-18, which directs that there be "[v]erification that material being delivered is free of hazardous or contaminated materials." As a result, and in response to two fires which occurred at the property late last year, the Township filed suit in New Jersey Superior Court demanding--amongst other things, that the Court compel B&B Organic Waste Recycling LLC to abate all pending violations, supply the necessary certifications concerning the soil, and to remove all B&B Organic Waste Recycling LLC property from the Township's property. This on-going litigation has already achieved the desirable result of having a number of open fire violations corrected at B&B Organic Waste Recycling LLC, to ensure the public's health, welfare and safety.

It is also important to note that these identified contaminants are not related to the recent fuel truck spill that occurred on the B&B Organic Waste Recycling property earlier this year. The cleanup from that fuel spill is a separate and distinct matter, and is being handled by NJDEP.

Mayor Michele Dale and the Township Council take great pride in being good stewards of the tremendous natural resources that exist within the Township. Moreover, the Township works diligently with property and business owners to balance their needs against any potential environmental impacts, and will work with the NJDEP to address this situation promptly, and pursuant to law.