



## NEWS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jan. 9, 2006

Contact: Steve Frank

Phone: 303-286-3465

Cell: 303-263-5039

### METROGRO® COMPOST PRICE INCREASES

**DENVER**, Jan. 9 — The price of METROGRO® Compost increased from \$2 a bag to \$3 a bag on Jan. 1, according to Mitch Costanzo, head of the Metro Wastewater Reclamation District's Resource Recovery and Reuse Department.

The cost of bulk compost, which customers can pick up themselves, increased from \$21 a ton to \$26 a ton, Costanzo said.

"It's been years since we had a price increase," Costanzo said. "Because of increases in operating and fuel costs, we felt it necessary to raise our price."

A bag of METROGRO® Compost contains 1.25 cubic feet of compost.

The compost helps gardeners and homeowners stretch their water further. It helps soil retain moisture and also has nutrients and a host of micronutrients.

The Metro District makes its compost from biosolids and wood chips. Biosolids are the treated, nutrient-rich organic material that results from processing the solids removed during wastewater treatment. When composted with the wood chips, pathogens are destroyed and the material is safe to use on lawns and in home gardens.

METROGRO® Compost meets strict federal and State of Colorado safety requirements in order to be sold to the public.

The hours of sale remain 8 a.m.-11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.-2 p.m. on weekdays at the Metro District's plant at 6450 York Street. People who have their own pick-up truck or trailer can buy the compost in bulk and save money.

In July, the National Biosolids Partnership certified the Metro District's Environmental Management System (EMS) for Biosolids after Metro passed a voluntary independent audit. That made Metro the eighth wastewater treatment agency in the U.S. to have its EMS certified.

—MORE—

1<sup>st</sup> ADD — PRICE INCREASE — EMS certified.

The EMS for Biosolids is completely voluntary. It documents the Metro District's all-encompassing biosolids management program. It also ensures that biosolids are processed appropriately and safely, proper documentation and reporting requirements for the reuse of the product are met, and the Metro District's overall management of the program is efficient and environmentally sound.

The Metro District is the largest wastewater treatment agency in the Rocky Mountain West. It serves 1.5 million people in metropolitan Denver and treats about 140 million gallons of wastewater a day.

# # #

More Information: [www.MetroWastewater.com](http://www.MetroWastewater.com)