

Composted Horse Manure and Stall Bedding Pilot Project

Caitlin Price

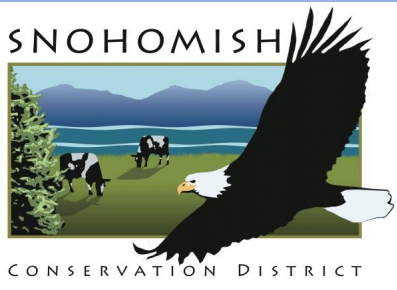
Farm Planner

www.snohomishcd.org

425-335-5634 x 4

Lake Stevens, WA

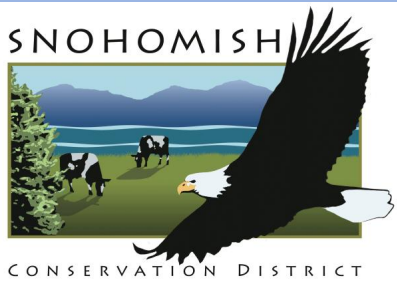
"Local Solutions to Local Problems"



Grant



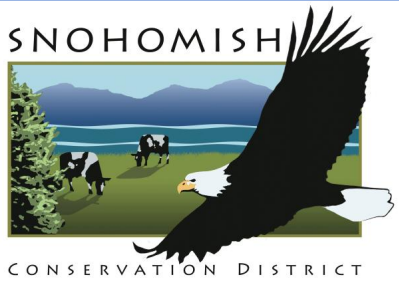
- 2 year SARE grant - \$36,000
- Pilot Project - worked with 7 stables
- Technical assistance from O2 Compost
- On-farm trials
- Education and Outreach



Rationale



- W. WA horses - overlooked as contributors to ag
- No farm bill programs, nutrient management req.
- Few standard practices w/in industry
- Manure and bedding is a problem – high risk of surface water contamination
- Compost used for all WSU livestock facilities
- Benefits for dairy cows bedded on compost
- **Opportunity to turn waste from a liability into an asset...**



How can we think about stall waste differently?



“Local Solutions to Local Problems”



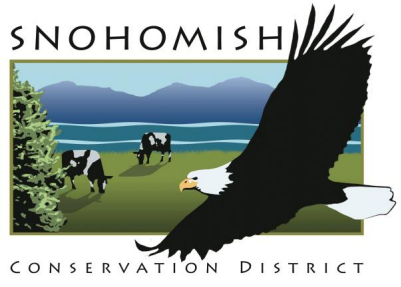
Wood Pellet Bedding 50% recovered



“Local Solutions to Local Problems”

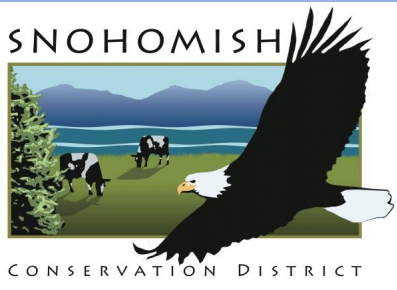
Kiln Dried Shavings
75% – 80% recovered





What's left over?





Challenges and Opportunities



- Looks “dirty”, too dark, clients don’t like it....
- Labor intensive
- Works best with shavings (more waste = more recovered)
- Allergies – less dust!
- Promote bedding re-use for other livestock
- Opportunity to engage, talk about manure and waste: newsletter article, field days...
- Re-think our approach to waste!

“Local Solutions to Local Problems”