10. Adoption

I will continue to use this system with the aforementioned modifications because it is an inexpensive, earth-friendly and workable project.

11. Outreach

I gave presentations as follows: January 7, 2008, Vegetable Growers Association/Agriculture Week; January 9, 2008, Delaware Herb Growers and Marketers Association; January 12, 2008, Delaware Organic Food and Farming Association; January 15, 2008 On the Farm Radio; January 15, 2008, Delaware Master Gardeners; January 24, 2008, Women in Agriculture; February 12, 2008, Delaware Composter's Association; January 16, 2008 Regional Nurserymen Association (display only); January 16, 2008, New Jersey Vegetable Grower's Association (display only); Maryland Organic Food and Farming Association (display only). I was unable to get into the Pennsylvania Farm Show and Delaware State University has not held a Field Day. They usually do this during the summer months. Flyers were produced and distributed at the Open House held on April 5, 2008 and all of the above events except the radio broadcast.

Media coverage: The Delaware State News did two articles, The News Journal, Delmarva Farmer printed articles and WBOC TV did a clip that was aired a total of four times February 16 and 17, 2008. An article was written and submitted to Mother Earth News magazine, Back Home magazine and People Places and Plants magazine. Back Home will publish an article this summer and Mother Earth News plans to do one in the future. Many individuals have visited and viewed the system some from the local area and others from other states. Information about the system has been sent to individuals in Vermont, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Tennessee, Arizona, Colorado, Indiana and Delaware. Those in Indiana are associated with a Missionary group and hope to send the project idea to other countries.

12. Report summary

This system was designed to provide heat to an otherwise unheated greenhouse so plants could remain in the greenhouse regardless of the outdoor temperature. This was accomplished through the construction of a five foot high and five foot wide cylindrical compost pile adjacent to the greenhouse and ongoing additions of compost material. A reservoir in the center held water and a pump. A system of pipes and hoses transported the heated water to the greenhouse forming a complete loop. The average high temperature inside was 79.8 degrees and the average low temperature was 44.9 degrees. The average temperature within the compost pile was 124.6 degrees and the project lasted for three and one half months, from December through March. The project fulfilled my expectations to maintain an adequate temperature during the cold winter months at a very modest cost of $9.00 per month for electricity. Compost materials were expendable farm waste items.