

Environment Fair 2009

In 2003, 2005 and 2007 the Environmental Management team organised "Green Day", a very successful environmental and gardening event in Lerwick, and in 2009 we plan to build on these successes, making it **bigger and better** than previous years! On 9th and 10th May 2009, the "Environment Fair" will be held in the Clickimin Centre, with stalls from organisations and business from across Shetland.

We will be there, selling subsidised compost bins and recycling stacking units, as well as providing information and support. An expert composting advisor from the **Waste & Resource Action Programme (WRAP)** will be a special guest, there to answer all your questions about composting and offer advice.

Compost Bins from WRAP



You already have one compost bin, if you had two you could make twice as much compost! WRAP (Waste Resources Action Programme) will provide up to three compost bins to every household at reduced prices. There are two ways to purchase another bin:-

- You can order online by visiting www.wasteawareScotland.org.uk
- Or call the orderline on 0845 076 0223 (Calls are charged at UK local rates and lines are open 8am to 5pm Monday to Friday)

Although they're ordered from outwith the Isles, the bins are despatched from a store in Lerwick.

WRAP



Waste Aware
Scotland



natural
scotland
SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

If you have any questions about your compost please contact the Environmental Management team on (01595) 744850

COMPOST

newsletter no.2
Winter '09

Welcome to the second issue!

First of all, a big thank you to those of you who took the time to fill in the questionnaire that went out with the last issue - your feedback is valuable and has been very helpful.

This issue has tips to help resolve one of the most mentioned problems, a heap that's too wet.

Also in this issue is information about your local compost meetings and this year's bigger and better "Environment Fair" at the Clickimin Centre.

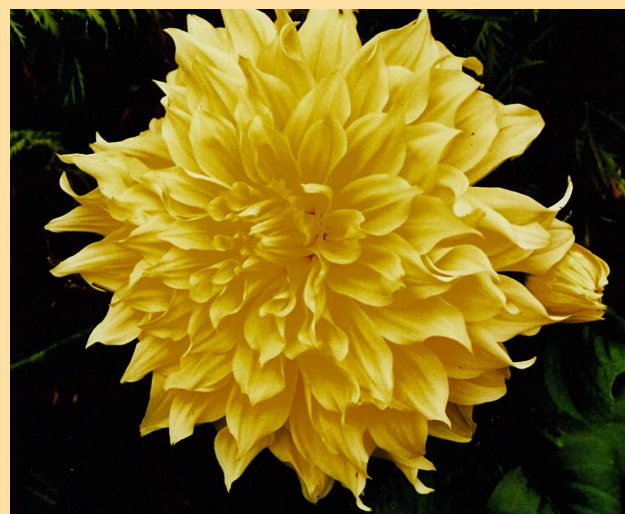
Contact us with your photos, tips and hints at -

email: waste@shetland.gov.uk

Phone: (01595) 744850

Or by post at:

Environment and Building Services
Infrastructure Services Dept.
Grantfield
Lerwick
SHETLAND
ZE1 0NT



This stunning Dahlia was grown in home produced compost by **Robert Johnson**, East Voe, Scalloway. He had **6 flowers**, all measuring around **14" (35.5cm) across**.

Remember you can send in photos of your compost success, and any of your hints and tips for composting in Shetland. **Our contact details are in the red box above.**

If you have any questions about your compost please contact the Environmental Management team on (01595) 744850

Master Composter Advice - Sessions In Your Area

The purpose of these events is to talk to people about their composting and to exchange advice and good practice. We will also have on sale a number of highly subsidised compost bins.

If you are interested in starting composting or are already a successful composter – regardless of what type of system you use – we would be delighted to hear from you.

The event is aimed at all levels of composter:

- **complete beginners** – we can sell you a cheap starter bin and tell you how to successfully compost
- **existing composters with questions or problems** – we can offer assistance and advice
- **successful composters** – come and tell us what you are doing and we can enrol you in the Master Composter programme, a national support programme exchanging good practice locally to help everyone get a better composting end product.

Please look out for us in the following areas. **All meetings start at 7:00 pm and last till 8:30 pm:**

Tuesday 3rd March – Scalloway Hall
Monday 9th March – South Nesting Hall
Tuesday 17th March – Aith Hall
Tuesday 24th March – Walls Hall
Tuesday 31st March – Symbister Hall
Tuesday 7th April – Brae Hall
Tuesday 14th April – Ollaberry Hall
Tuesday 21st April – Mid Yell Hall
Tuesday 28th April – Baltasound Hall

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My Bin is Too Wet!

As a result of the feedback from the questionnaire we sent out with the last issue, it has become apparent that many of your bins are suffering from being too wet. While this might be disappointing, it's no reason to panic or give up composting, it can be easily remedied with a few simple steps.

1. Collect all the brown material you can lay your hands on. You can gather twigs, do a bit of pruning or even add dried seaweed. Remember that it doesn't have to be brown "garden" waste, you can include scrunched up cardboard boxes, paper, toilet/kitchen roll tubes and junk mail.
2. This step really depends on how wet your bin/pile has become. If there's a lot of material in it already you might need to empty some, or all, of it before the next step. If your bin is around a quarter full you might get away with leaving the contents in.
3. If you've emptied your bin it's time to fill it again! This time try and get an even mix of the wet material you removed in stage 2, and the brown material you collected in stage one. If you didn't empty your bin, you have to throw all your collected brown material in and mix it with the wet material, best done with a garden fork.
4. Your work is done! With a bit of luck these steps should remedy the wetness problem and kick-start the processes within your bin, letting it get on with breaking down your waste.

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