

Lynnbottom Composting Facility:

Isle of Wight, UK

A 60 tonne per day composting facility using three 20 tonne per day Wright composting tunnels is operating on the Isle of Wight, UK. Lynnbottom Composting Facility was established in 1998 by Island Waste Services Limited (IWSL), a privately financed initiative between Biffa Waste Services and the local authority of the Isle of Wight.



Since 1992, the Isle of Wight had been composting green waste delivered to Civic Amenity sites each year by windrowing within a barn in a rural area. To increase diversion and reduce organic material directed to disposal in their new landfill, IWSL established a domestic and commercial food waste collection system to augment the green waste delivery system.

Lynnbottom Composting Facility consists of a 1,050 m² processing building, three composting tunnels each 3m by 3m by 45m, a biofilter and a 2,550 m² composting curing pad. The building includes a food waste receiving area, plastic bag splitter, trommel screen, overband magnet, green waste receiving area, vibrating feeder to meter feed green waste, mixer to blend food waste with green waste amendment and a series of conveyors to move materials through this system and into the loading sections of three Wright composting tunnels. The remaining portions of the tunnels extend out from the building on a concrete pad.

Each of the three Wright composting tunnels is designed to accommodate 20 tonnes per day of mixed food and green waste with 14 days retention within the tunnel. Each tunnel is comprised of eight sections: a loading section, a discharge section with a series of breaker bars and an auger to remove materials from the tunnel onto a discharge conveyor and a total of six standard sections. A series of perforated stainless steel trays form the floor of each composting tunnel, providing flexibility in the number of trays loaded per day and allowing regular inspection of trays as they exit the tunnel during the loading procedure. The biofilter is located within retaining walls adjacent to the tunnels.

Cured compost has been marketed to local horticultural and green house operations and used as interim and final cover on the adjacent landfill.

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