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City of Ventura launches free Compost and Mulch Program

Ventura, Calif. - The City of Ventura's Environmental Sustainability Division in partnership with Agromin, has launched a new compost and mulch giveaway program, the first of its kind in California, aimed at supporting the City's state requirements for organics recycling. This program provides free, high-quality compost and mulch to City of Ventura residents to use for gardening and landscaping.

"This partnership enables the City of Ventura to meet its state requirements while allowing residents to access quality compost and mulch," said Ventura Mayor Joe Schroeder. "We encourage everyone to take advantage of this leading program and help us make Ventura a more sustainable and resilient city."

The Free Compost and Mulch Program aligns with state law, Senate Bill (SB) 1383, which is a short-lived climate pollution reduction act. The law sets a goal of diverting 75% of organic waste from landfills by 2025 and requires jurisdictions to procure recovered organic material such as mulch and compost.

Compost and mulch can enhance soil health, support plant growth, control weeds, retain moisture, regulate temperature, and improve the overall appearance of garden beds.

Agromin is California's largest organics recycler and works with cities to support the fulfillment of SB 1383 procurement needs.

"We are excited to work with the City of Ventura on this new program--a first for California and we believe the entire United States. The City is a leader in implementing SB 1383 solutions and in the big picture, it's part of the solution to reduce the amount of greenhouse gases that enter the atmosphere," says Bill Camarillo, Agromin's CEO.

For small amounts of compost, residents can pick up the free material at Cornucopia Community Gardens from sunrise to sunset. For larger amounts of compost or mulch for pick-up or delivery directly from Agromin, use specific instructions on the City website. Residents can place up to two orders per household per year with Agromin. Delivery is also available for addresses with City of Ventura zip codes for an additional fee of \$135 per order.

To learn more about the program, visit the Environmental Sustainability Division of the Public Works Department at www.cityofventura.ca.gov/ES.

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