



Hello all, from Cleanit Greenit,

At Cleanit Greenit (CG), we value open communication with our neighbours. We prepared this mail-out to encourage positive dialogue and provide our neighbours with an update on our operations. Our goal is to do good for the environment while also contributing positively to our fellow Edmontonian residential and business communities. We support Alberta's economy while we work for Alberta's carbon future.

We do everything we can to prevent any smells from our facility. We regularly patrol our community and respond rapidly to any odour reports. If a smell is from our site, in most instances, we can significantly reduce it within an hour. If you do believe a smell in your neighbourhood is from our facility, we encourage you to:

**Call our complaint line, at 780-818-3128.**

Please read on for more information about us and our commitment to being good neighbours.

### **Our Positive Impacts**

- Diverted 420,000 tonnes of organic recyclables from landfill
- Reduced 370,000 tonnes of greenhouse gases by diverting materials from landfill; equivalent to taking the annual emissions of 80 cars off the road, per day
- Processed recycled organics into 280,000 cubic yards of soil amendment, which puts necessary microbes, back into the soil and into our food
- Soil microbes support plant growth and support all life, simultaneously fighting many diseases, sequestering carbon, and reducing greenhouse gases
- Raised \$660,000 to date with our annual May community compost fundraiser sales, which raise money for many community groups including animal shelters, schools, Boy Scouts, Girl Guides, and other community programs
- Provided free compost to last year to more than 25 community gardens

### **Benefits of Our Process**

- We facilitate a natural, biological process of recycling organic materials into a rich soil amendment known as compost, which provides much-depleted organic matter, microbes, and essential nutrients to soil.
- Healthy soil microbes in our product naturally shield our communities from harmful toxins and diseases.
- We produce a natural soil amendment for soil that improves soil health and promotes healthy plant growth.
- Compost is an all-natural and chemical-free method for building soil structure, improving drainage, and preventing soil saturation.
- Our process is a renewable way to reduce household and community waste – nationally, composting keeps millions of tonnes of recyclable organic material out of landfills each year.
- It is a perfect application of the 3 Rs of “Reduce, Reuse, Recycle.”



## Company Background

- CG was founded in 1996 and is locally owned and operated.
- CG supports other local and area business by providing a much-needed service that allows us to recycle up to 20,000 tonnes of organic materials each year.
- All compost facilities, including CG, must continually perform on-site environmental monitoring. CG has a third-party consultant, registered with APEGA that carries out annual monitoring which is submitted to AEP.
- CG's highly trained staff carry out field monitoring and sampling on a regular basis, in compliance with all regulations.
- All compost produced by CG must pass stringent analysis and testing by an independent national laboratory, before it can be sold or given away.

## Clients We Serve

CG receives organic materials from local/area employers including:

- Food manufacturers
- Local independent landscaping companies
- Area municipalities

## Cleanit Greenit's Commitment to Minimize Odour Impacts

It's been a wet two years, record breaking. CG's new aeration system was working well, and then we got rain, rain, and more rain, and it set us back.

- Cleanit Greenit is committed to looking for ways to improve its processes, such as its current implementation of additional aeration pipes as recommended by experts.
- CG employees are trained, knowledgeable, and hard-working people who want to prevent these impacts as much as anyone.
- Over the past year, CG reduced the total tonnage of compostable material accepted and stopped accepting several types of potentially odourous material.
- The company employs people specially trained to patrol, monitor, investigate, and report on potential and actual odour events. **During business hours, we can significantly reduce smells within a few hours of a report, 95 percent of the time.** CG patrollers are generally on location and communicating with site operators within an hour of a call to our complaint line during business hours or in response to a call from Alberta Environment and Parks (AEP). (If events are reported to the City of Edmonton, Epcor, or other agencies the information is not reaching CG.)
- In February 2020, CG brought in a specialist to review and provide training for all employees on best management practices for our industry.
- If you want to participate as a volunteer in our voluntary objective responder program, send us your résumé so we can contact you.



## Best Ways to Communicate Issues

CG does everything in its power to prevent events. As with most things, the process is not perfect. Here are best steps to take, particularly if you are from the new neighbourhoods.

Please:

- **If you detect odour and CG is a possible source, please call our dedicated complaint line, 780-818-3128.**
- When you report, please describe and rank the event as objectively as possible – good data is *critical* to enabling best practices and both immediate and long-term improvements.
- Know the only substances that produce health concerns are extremely localized to the site and are heavily monitored. Research shows that off-site events may be a nuisance but are not a health concern.
- Understand that *layering* is a real and significant phenomenon. Layering occurs when multiple sources contribute to an event. CG will always do everything in its power to prevent and mitigate events; however, while CG's trained patrol staff may be able to identify other sources, the company is not able to control those other sources.
- Other sources we have found are sewer systems, sour wells, asphalt in road construction, pet food manufacturing, dry landfills, the Big Lake sewage lift station, and Big Lake itself.

## Results from Patrols

CG conducted 266 regular patrols from January to October, 2019, and of course more since then, to proactively monitor the area air. Patrols involve checking the air and talking to persons at seven locations in our greater area, each time.

We found that:

- CG was noted 3 times at 111 Ave and 190 St (1.2 km from CG),
- 3 times at Anthony Henday and 111 Ave (1.1 km), and
- 7 times north of Yellowhead and Winterburn Rd (1.6 km).

From January to October, 2019, investigations of 93 calls from the public resulted in 20 confirmed instances and operations were immediately adjusted. Ten cases were identified as sewer, 31 cases found no detection within 1–2 hours, and in 32 cases the source could not be identified.

Working for a better business and environment,

Sincerely,

Kirstin Castro-Wunsch, Professional Engineer and CEO