

Using Compost for a Safer Environment

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NEW ! - Project Results
(November 2002)

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Project Objectives

1. Measure and compare the quantity and quality of roadside vegetation (grasses) grown on conventionally treated roadway foreslopes with vegetation produced on foreslopes amended with various levels of three types of composted organics produced in Iowa.
2. Measure and compare soil characteristics, runoff quantity, and soil erosion occurring on conventionally-treated roadway foreslopes with that occurring on foreslopes treated with composted organics.
3. Use field measurements of soil erosion to calculate interrill and rill soil erodibility factors that can be used with the [USDA Water Erosion Prediction Program](#) to model and predict the effects of compost.



Key Objectives

Compare performance of conventionally-treated roadside embankments with performance of roadsides treated with 3 types of compost.

Performance indicators:

1. Erosion
2. Runoff quantity
3. Runoff quality
4. Growth of desired cover crop
5. Weed growth

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