**Virginia Composters Form State Composting Council Chapter**

The Virginia Composting Council (VCC) and the Heroes Club from Twin Hickory Elementary School (THES) collaborated on a project to demonstrate the use of compost and at the same time, transform a vacant property into a community green space.

 The children used compost donated by McGill Environmental Systems, one of the charter members of the VCC, a chapter of the US Composting Council, to create a beautiful garden of shrubs and flowers from an empty corner on the property of Henrico Fire Station 16 in Glen Allen, VA .

“The VCC is always looking for opportunities to promote the use of compost, and this was a great way to not just achieve this goal, but also support a wonderful community service project,” said Pieter Conradie, president.

The Heroes Club consists of 3rd through 5th Grade students from THES, and operates under the umbrella of the PTA. The mission of the club is to make a difference in their community through involvement in a variety of community service projects. We commend the Heroes Club volunteers for their valuable efforts!

For more information on the VCC, contact Mr. Conradie at pconradie@daa.com.

***About the Virginia Compost Council***

Virginia is proud to have recently become a state regional chapter of the USCC (United States Composting Council), committed to supporting the state's commitment for increasing organic diversion rates of its communities, by removing food scraps, yard debris, and other organic residuals from its landfills. The Virginia Composting Council is also committed to educating both the professional and residential communities with the beneficial uses of compost, as economic and sustainable practices for improving the health of the state's soils.

***About USCC***

The US Composting Council, a national organization dedicated to the development, expansion and promotion of the compost manufacturing industry, was established in 1990 to encourage, support and perform compost-related research. The USCC promotes best management practices, establishes standards, and educates professionals and the public about the benefits of composting and compost utilization. The USCC seeks to enhance compost product quality, train compost manufacturers and stimulate and develop compost markets. USCC members include compost manufacturers, marketers, equipment manufacturers, product suppliers, academic institutions, public agencies, nonprofit groups and consulting/engineering firms.