

## WM EarthCare™ Compost Makes Sustainable Farming Possible

Compost derived from food scraps, food-soiled paper and landscape trimmings is the critical ingredient allowing ranchers in drought-prone areas to continue their livelihood while protecting the environment.

### Background

Vivien Straus runs **Straus Home Ranch**, 166-acres of rolling hills in northwest Marin County where heifer cows graze on native grasses as they grow into adult dairy cows. Ensuring a steady supply of naturally grown grass is essential to the business and is just as important to Vivien and her family as taking care of a property that she grew up on.

Over the years, riparian areas have been planted with native plants and trees, and creeks have been fenced off. In addition, Vivien and her family created a new business model to keep the family ranch active. They lease the pastures to an organic dairy rancher and opened up the family home and barn for visitors as a one-of-a-kind vacation and event destination, all while educating guests on agricultural practices

WM EarthCare Homegrown Compost from Redwood Landfill is a key ingredient in making the business model work. Vivien cares about the land and understands the importance of organic farming, protection of the environment and make sure the decisions she makes today keeps the ranch sustainable for tomorrow.



### In her own words

"It's kind of funny how the land becomes part of your soul and it means so much to me. It's who I am, and I feel so responsible for what I do on this property. I want to make sure I take good care of the pastures, doing the right thing for climate

change, for future generations. There's responsibility when it comes to owning land and this is a beautiful piece of it. I don't want to blow it.

"What you put on the land really matters and I wanted to find clean soil. It made a big difference that it was OMRI certified. It made a big difference to have a relationship with Redwood and they came out, looked at the land with me and talked to me about it. It made a big difference."

- Vivien Straus, Straus Home Ranch



**STRAUS HOME RANCH**  
MARSHALL, CA

**Customer:** Straus Home Ranch  
**Solution:** WM EarthCare™ Compost



## Why WM EarthCare™ Compost?

Compost is a natural fertilizer that retains water and essentially sucks carbon dioxide from the environment, sending it into the ground and turning a harmful greenhouse gas into a beneficial vitamin for grasses and other vegetation.

While there are countless composts in the market, Vivien chose WM EarthCare Compost because its certified organic, it's top quality and it's sustainable. The compost is made from the food scraps, food-soiled paper and landscape trimmings we all generate every day at our homes and businesses. Instead of these materials being sent to a landfill to decay into methane gas, WM diverts them to compost facilities where in a few short months, the food scraps you had on your plate become compost that nourishes the Earth.



## Certifications

**OMRI Certified** (Organic Materials Review Institute)

**CDFA Organic Input Material** (California Department of Food and Agriculture)

**U.S. Composting Council Seal of Testing Assurance**



## How to Order WM EarthCare Compost

Contact and WM EarthCare Specialist below to begin a consultation so we can make sure you receive exactly what you need. Don't forget to ask about our other products, including mulch, soil blends and hardscape.

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*WM EarthCare™ is produced by Waste Management.*

