



# Mulch & Soil Council

## Product Certification Program

### Application for Certified All-Natural Horticultural Mulch



#### GENERAL INFORMATION

Note:

1. A product seeking All-Natural Product Certification must **FIRST** be certified as a Horticultural Mulch.
2. The additional All-Natural Product Certification for mulch can be done concurrent with, or any time after, certification as a Horticultural Mulch is granted.
3. License fees for the additional All-Natural Mulch Certification will be prorated the first year if submitted after the Horticultural Mulch Certification is granted and shall run concurrently and in full, thereafter.
4. Recertification is required for additional one-year periods.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Registrant (Company) Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, and Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of preparer: \_\_\_\_\_ Preparer's Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of product as it appears on package labels: \_\_\_\_\_  
(including brand name on label)

Package sizes by volume: \_\_\_\_\_

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#### Section 1: Product Description

This section must be completed to provide information about the product being certified. The information may be used to verify physical product changes and accuracy during routine audits and to establish compliance with proper labeling. Product nomenclature, labeling and content must comply with the *MSC Uniform Voluntary Product Guidelines for Horticultural Mulches, Soil, and Growing Media (UVPG)* and the with the *MSC Product Guidelines for Certified All-Natural Horticultural Mulches (CANHM)*.

**1A. PHYSICAL COMPONENTS:** List ALL product inputs in decreasing order of volume. Be specific as to the nature of the material, such as whether it is derived from bark or wood, the genus of tree the material is derived from and its origin as defined in the with the *MSC Product Guidelines for Certified All-Natural Horticultural Mulches*.

#### Component #1:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ % Content: \_\_\_\_\_ Genus: \_\_\_\_\_ Particle Size (Range) \_\_\_\_\_

Origin: Forest Product Wood Mfg By-product Tree Trimmings Yard Waste

Other (Specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**Component #2:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ % Content: \_\_\_\_\_ Genus: \_\_\_\_\_ Particle Size (Range) \_\_\_\_\_  
Origin: Forest Product Wood Mfg By-product Tree Trimmings Yard Waste  
 Other (Specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**Component #3:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ % Content: \_\_\_\_\_ Genus: \_\_\_\_\_ Particle Size (Range) \_\_\_\_\_  
Origin: Forest Product Wood Mfg By-product Tree Trimmings Yard Waste  
 Other (Specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**Component #4:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ % Content: \_\_\_\_\_ Genus: \_\_\_\_\_ Particle Size (Range) \_\_\_\_\_  
Origin: Forest Product Wood Mfg By-product Tree Trimmings Yard Waste  
 Other (Specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**Component #5:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ % Content: \_\_\_\_\_ Genus: \_\_\_\_\_ Particle Size (Range) \_\_\_\_\_  
Origin: Forest Product Wood Mfg By-product Tree Trimmings Yard Waste  
 Other (Specify): \_\_\_\_\_

***Copy this sheet and attach for any additional components over 5.***

**1B. WOOD CONTENT:**

1. What is the overall **Bark Content** as a % Volume (range): \_\_\_\_\_ % to \_\_\_\_\_ %
2. What is the overall **Non-Bark Wood Content** as a % Volume (range): \_\_\_\_\_ % to \_\_\_\_\_ %

**1C. LIST OTHER COMPONENTS:** Check and describe **ALL ADDITIONAL INPUT MATERIALS:**

- Natural or organic dye/colorant: list the name of the colorant and its rate of application in the overall product:  
 Manufacturer: \_\_\_\_\_ Colorant: \_\_\_\_\_ Appl Rate (lb/yd<sup>3</sup>): \_\_\_\_\_
- Insecticides, fungicides, herbicides, or plant growth regulators (if added, give name and concentration):  
 Material Concentration EPA Registration #  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- Fertilizer. List any nutrient sources such as manures, compost, biosolids, etc
- Other: List all other materials or ingredients added to or present in the product package.

**1D. ADDITIONAL COMPONENT INFORMATION:**

***Applicant must read --- [ AND INITIAL ] --- ALL statements below*** affirming the product in this application complies with the stated requirements as defined in the ***MSC Product Guidelines for Certified All-Natural Horticultural Mulches:***

\_\_\_\_ This product does not contain foreign matter greater than 0.2% by volume.

\_\_\_\_ This product does not contain any reprocessed/recycled wood products or any mulch blends containing any reprocessed/recycled wood products.

\_\_\_\_ This product does not contain any inorganic or unnatural paints, stains, colorants and/or other chemicals.

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## Section 2: Description of Quality Control Program

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2A. Does the manufacturing plant(s) where this product will be made have a formal quality control program?

Yes      No

If yes, please provide a description of this process including tests done and frequency of testing. Specifically describe weights & measures testing and all processes for treated wood and foreign matter detection and control:

2B. Describe the what procedures are followed to detect, prevent and remove any reprocessed/ recycled wood, foreign matter, or any inorganic or unnatural paints, stains, colorants and/or other chemicals in **WOOD MANUFACTURING BY-PRODUCTS** used for this product. (May be subject to verification.)

2C. Describe what procedures are followed to detect, prevent and remove any reprocessed/recycled wood, foreign matter, or any inorganic or unnatural paints, stains, colorants and/or other chemicals in **TREE TRIMMINGS** used for this product. (May be subject to verification.)

2D. Describe sources and procedures followed to detect, prevent and remove any reprocessed/recycled wood, foreign matter (especially plastic bags & mixed solid waste from curbside collection), or any inorganic or unnatural paints, stains, colorants and/or other chemicals in **YARD WASTE** used for this product. (May be subject to verification.)

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## Section 3: Materials Required with Certification Application Form

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**3A. APPLICATION FEE** - MSC Member: \$200 / Nonmember: \$400

Enclose a check in the amount indicated on the fee schedule. This fee is non-refundable in the event certification is denied. Application fees are waived for renewals if the product and label do not change. Substantive changes to either the label or product require a new application (including labels, samples, etc.). No applications will be processed without payment of the correct application fee.

**3B. PRODUCT TESTING FEE** – MSC Member: \$200 / Nonmember \$400

This fee is nonrefundable and will be used to test for species claims, bark/wood content, foreign matter, heavy metals, recycled/reprocessed wood and other restricted content of the mulch submitted and audit samples.

**3C. LICENSE FEE** — Payment of annual license fee (\$650/MSC members; \$1,300/non-members) will be required *after product certification is approved.*

**PLEASE NOTE**

**3D. PRODUCT LABEL:** Product label must accompany application and appropriate fees. (An empty bag label, legible copy or PDF [e-mailed to [certification@mulchandsoilcouncil.org](mailto:certification@mulchandsoilcouncil.org)] of the bag label is acceptable.)

**3E. PHYSICAL SAMPLE**

Please include a minimum of a 1 cu.ft. product sample with your application.

**SEND: 1) application, 2) application fee, 3) testing fee, 4) product label, and 5) product sample to:**  
**Mulch & Soil Council, 7809 N. FM 179, Shallowater, TX 79363** (Tel: 806.832.1810; Fax: 806.832.5244)

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**Section 4: Affidavit of Truth and Accuracy**  
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I have reviewed this product application and understand its requirements. I acknowledge that the information provided is accurate and truthful in all respects.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
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**Section 5: Payment Method**  
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Check Enclosed

Credit Card:

VISA      MC      AmEx

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Dt.: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ CVV: \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_ Billing Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
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FOR MSC USE ONLY  
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PRODUCT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

File Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Application Received: \_\_\_\_\_

Action:      Acceptance      Denial — Indicate reason for denial:

Certification Director Approval Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Approval Date: \_\_\_\_\_