

Local Renewable Energy Company Releases New Sustainable Potting Soil Products

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Element Soil®, a new soil conditioner and potting soil line engineered from biologically treated poultry litter, is now available on the Eastern Shore of Maryland.

Planet Found Energy Development (PFED), an innovative renewable energy and nutrient recovery service provider based in Pocomoke City, MD, has been working since 2014 to develop technologies to address the over-production of poultry litter on the Delmarva Peninsula. PFED's mission is to develop manure management technologies that will safeguard the environment, economic viability and lifestyle of agricultural communities in the Chesapeake Bay Region and beyond. As part of that vision, the Element Soil product line is designed to provide an alternative use for poultry litter on the Shore.



Element Soil® is produced from an anaerobic digestion and nutrient recovery facility at Millennium Farm in Pocomoke City, Maryland. The facility processes poultry litter generated from poultry houses to create renewable natural gas and fertile, odor-free soil conditioners. For every bag of Element Soil's two newly released products – the Annemessex and Pocomoke Blends

– an average of 5.9 kilowatts of renewable energy is produced and 0.1 pounds of phosphorus is prevented from running into the Chesapeake Bay and surrounding water bodies.

The Phosphorus Management Tool, signed into law by Governor Hogan in 2015, seeks to responsibly manage agricultural phosphorus application to fields in Maryland. As a result of these increasingly stringent regulations, poultry farmers, who currently provide their manure to grain farmers in return for having their chicken houses cleaned out, have fewer places to put their waste. Grain farmers, who currently rely on poultry litter as a source of nutrients to offset the cost of buying fertilizer commercially, are forced to spend more for the same return.

By providing poultry farmers an alternative destination for their waste, PFED hopes to use its processes and the new Element Soil® brand line to simultaneously support local farmers and provide a tangible benefit to the environment in the Chesapeake Bay region. The company's work is supported by the Maryland Department of Agriculture, the Maryland Energy Administration and numerous local investors.

You can purchase Element Soil® products online at elementsoil.com or at the following local retailers:

- Elliott's Hardware – West Ocean City, Maryland
- How Sweet It Is – Fruitland, Maryland
- Johnson Seed and Feed – Salisbury, Maryland

More information about the PFED process can be found at pfedusa.com.

