

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Want Mulch? It's Now Available On St. Croix For Residents

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The Department of Agriculture announced Tuesday that chipped hurricane vegetative material or mulch is available for pick-up on St. Croix.

Beginning Thursday, mulch can be obtained from the Rudolph E. Schulterbrandt Agriculture Complex in Estate Lower Love every Tuesday and Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., and 12:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m., according to the release.

“St. Croix residents have been patiently waiting for the opportunity to get their hands on the material for use in their landscapes, home gardens and farms,” said D.O.A. Commissioner Carlos Robles. “I hope that all residents will take advantage of the mulch

to increase crop productivity and enhance the landscapes around their homes."

According to the release, using mulch in gardens can have many benefits: During a dry period, the mulch can be placed around plants to reduce evaporation and retain moisture in the soil. Mulch can also be used around plants to suppress and reduce weeds which harbor pests and compete with desired plants for moisture. As the mulch decomposes or breaks down, it improves the soil and releases essential nutrients needed for plant growth.

Residents must bring their own vehicles, shovels, and other necessary equipment for pick-up. A release of liability must also be signed before mulch collection. The Department encourages all interested persons to take advantage of this opportunity to acquire valuable organic material to improve their landscapes, gardens and farms.

For more information, contact the Department of Agriculture in St. Croix at 340-778-0997.

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