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## STONELEIGH FIRST PRIVATE CLUB IN MID-ATLANTIC TO COMMIT TO ZERO FOOD WASTE

## The Tavern Becomes First Zero Food Waste Restaurant in Virginia

Round Hill, Virginia — May 18, 2012 — Stoneleigh will become the first private club in the Mid-Atlantic to commit to a zero waste food initiative by using an innovative type of fermentation composting called Bokashi. The Club's Tavern will become the first restaurant in Virginia to implement a zero food waste program.

According to Damon DeVito, Managing Director of Affinity Management which operates the facility, "between member dining, golf outings and weddings, Stoneleigh generates literally tons of food waste annually. With membership and the numbers of weddings and charitable golf outings on track to double this year, serving those groups generates a lot of waste. This program will eliminate all of that waste – including meat and dairy."

Bokashi is a composting practice that uses fermentation to break down all food scraps – including meat and dairy – in less than half the time of conventional composting. At the same time, it prevents unpleasant odors and deters pests. It results in a natural fertilizer that will be used in a new organic vegetable and herb garden.

DeVito estimated Stoneleigh's voluntary adoption of the Zero Food Waste Initiative would divert more than 1.6 tons of food waste from landfills to the new garden. With more than 4,400 private clubs in the U.S., if every country club were to follow Stoneleigh, an estimated 13,000 tons of waste could be recycled.

A number of local officials including Janet Clark, Blue Ridge District supervisor and Vice Chairman of the Loudon County Board of Supervisors and representatives from Stoneleigh and Affinity Management, will be on hand for launching ceremony.

Stoneleigh will partner with non-profit Rock 'n Renew to provide educational partnerships with local schools. Rock 'n Renew has formed a comprehensive network of over 250 schools worldwide.

According to Jonny Dubowsky, musician and founder of Rock 'n Renew Foundation, "Affinity and Stoneleigh are leaders. There are hundreds of private clubs in the Middle Atlantic but none have taken this step until now. This is a big deal."

Stoneleigh G&CC is a full-service golf and country club with an expansive practice facility, swimming pool, and a golf course that has been called "one of the most beautiful and accessible golf courses in Northern Virginia." Stoneleigh hosts outings, special events and weddings and offers mountain vistas and enclosed pre-Civil War era stonewall courtyard. For more information about Stoneleigh G&CC, visit <a href="https://www.stoneleighgolf.com">www.stoneleighgolf.com</a> or call (540) 338-4653.

Affinity Management advises, manages and owns private clubs, golf courses, equestrian facilities and other member-based businesses. Affinity has advised clubs in twenty-six states since 1997. For more information about Affinity Management, please visit www.affinitymanagement.com or call 434-817-4570.

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