

Hi Maggie,

As a follow up to your question regarding our Nutri-Mulch product and its potential to catch fire, I would offer the following.

Casella Organics has manufactured Nutri-Mulch for more than ten years and we distribute thousands of cubic yards per year of this product to garden centers, nurseries, and landscapers throughout New England. In our ten year experience with Nutri-Mulch we have not experienced it to spontaneously combust or catch fire. The main reason for this, unlike fresh ground mulch which is produced from much lighter weight and lower moisture content wood fiber, is Nutri-Mulch is produced using 1 part compost and 1 part aged dark bark. The ingredients we use in Nutri-Mulch make it handle much different than conventional fresh ground or colorized mulch. The bark in Nutri-Mulch is more than 20 year old and is very dense (1100 lbs per cubic yard vs conventional mulch at 550 lbs per cubic yard.) and like compost, Nutri-Mulch has as a moisture content of 50%. This greater density, higher moisture content, and 50% compost portion, limits Nutri-Mulch's ability to ignite.

Please let me know if you have any questions or if additional information is needed.

**John Kelly**  
**Director of Product Sales**  
Casella Organics

135 Presumpscot Street  
Portland, ME 04005  
p. 207-347-3605 | c. 207-650-5010 | w. [casellaorganics.com](http://casellaorganics.com)

