



INSTITUTE FOR
Local Self-Reliance

Current Activities and Future Plans: Sustainable Foodservice Ware & Composting

Brenda Platt

Institute for Local Self-Reliance

December 11, 2014

Exploring the Value Chain of Food & Beverage Packaging

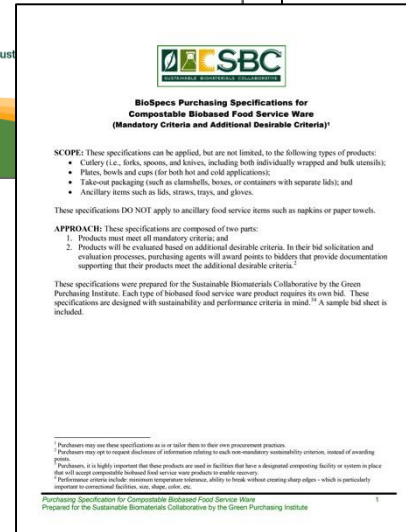
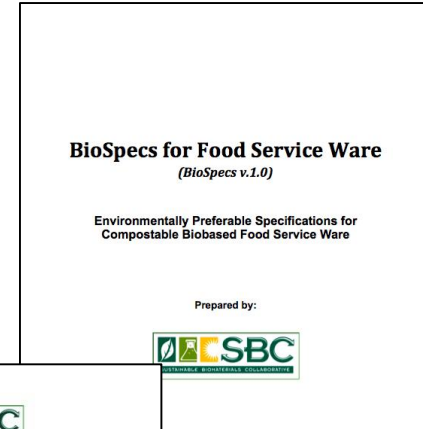
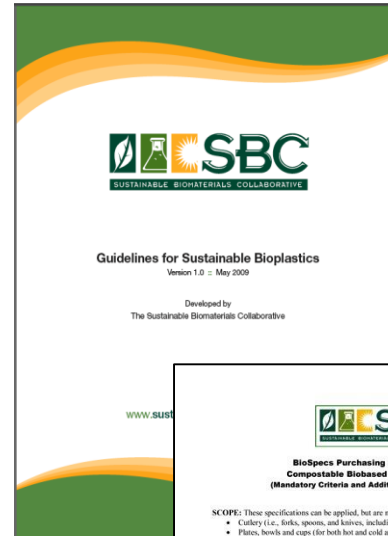
Washington, DC

Sustainable Biomaterials Collaborative: Market-based tools for biobased products

- Sustainable feedstocks / Sustainable agriculture
- Green Chemistry / Clean Production
- Closed Loop Systems / Cradle to Cradle / Zero Waste



**WORKING
LANDSCAPES
CERTIFICATE**



2011



“Just because it’s biobased, doesn’t make it green”



Sustainability Criteria & Tools

SUSTAINABILITY CRITERIA & TOOLS

> Overview

[Sustainability Guidelines](#)

[Working Landscape Certificates](#)

[Manufacturing Specifications](#)

[Purchasing Specifications](#)

Plastics derived from fossil fuels are nonrenewable, may leach toxic chemicals, can harm marine life, and increase reliance on imported fossil-fuel-based feedstocks. The development of bioplastics and other biobased materials hold great promise to mitigate many of these problems by offering the potential for renewability, biodegradation, and a path away from harmful chemicals. They are not, however, an automatic panacea.

The Sustainable Biomaterials Collaborative (SBC) has developed tools to help producers, purchasers, and consumers navigate the maze of biobased products entering the marketplace.

The Guidelines for Sustainable Bioplastics: provide a roadmap for the development and continuing improvement of biobased plastics.

The BioSpecs for Food Service Ware: Environmentally Preferable Specifications for Compostable Biobased Food Service Ware: define the criteria for manufacturers to determine the sustainability of their compostable food service ware.

The Conformance Guide: BioSpecs for Food Service Ware: lists the verification documents necessary for manufacturers to substantiate conformance to the *BioSpecs* criteria.

The Purchasing Specifications for Compostable Biobased Food Service Ware: is a sample bid document that purchasers can use when going to bid for compostable food service ware.

SUSTAINABILITY CRITERIA

- [Overview](#)
- [Sustainability Guidelines](#)
- [Working Landscape Certificates](#)
- [Manufacturing Specifications](#)
- [Purchasing Specifications](#)

LIFECYCLE ISSUES

EARLY ADOPTERS

EMERGING MATERIALS AND PRODUCTS

Atlanta Airport direct assistance



Annual HJIA Foodservice Ware Packaging Usage Form, Detail of All Products Used
Concessionaires Conformance to Contract Provisions for Compostable Consumer-Facing Packaging
 Fill out this form for each store location.

Date (mo/day/year):	
Name of Master Concessionaire:	
Concept/Brand:	
Operator/Subtenant:	
Store Location:	
Contact Name:	
Title:	
Email:	
Phone, work:	
Phone, cell:	

For each type of consumer-facing packaging used, provide the manufacturer item #, name of manufacturer, whether the item is compostable, and whether or not the product is labeled as compostable.

Alternatively attach the requested information to this form. Items do not need to be listed in the product category order.

Product Category	Product Description	Manufacturer
Cold cups for beverages		
Cold cups for other applications		
Cold cup lids/domes		
Hot cups for beverages		
Hot cups for other applications		
Hot cup lids		
Straws		
Stirrers		
Plates/Platters		
Lids/domes for plates/platters		
Bows		
Food containers: hinged clamshells		
Food containers: folding cartons/boxes		
Food containers: one piece, without a lid (such as a tray)		
Food containers: two piece, including a lid		
Portion cups (with or without a lid)		
Wraps		
Bags: single portion (such as for fries, sandwiches or hotdogs)		
Bags: carryout		
Beverage carriers		
Cutlery		
Other (please list):		



Compostable Foodservice Ware Packet

Introduction

Many event venues, office buildings, malls, airports and other facilities with food court operations are embarking on a waste management journey. One of the first steps in the journey is back-of-the-house organics collection for minimal purchasing changes necessary.

Front-of-the-house collection of food waste and packaging is the next stage in zero waste waste management. Significant modification to current foodservice packaging used by operators. With recent product options available to food service operators.

As a Zero Waste Zones – Atlanta Participant, Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport Sustainable Food Court Initiative (SFCI), an Elemental Impact Task Force in partnership with the Atlanta Foodservice Association, to bring zero waste practices to the airport operations. The new concessionaires beginning in 2012 include, among others, the following provision:

“Concessionaire shall use compostable serviceware along with consumer facing packaging for food service wastes for direct transport to off-airport composting facility.”

This document’s intent is to provide clear, concise information:

- 1) To allow concessionaires to satisfy the contract provisions stipulated in the Request for Proposal
- 2) To ensure effective ongoing communication with product manufacturers and distributors

The SFCI Team is available to support concessionaires with education and information on obtaining a solid understanding of the compostable packaging requirements, operators are in a position to identify distributors or discover additional options in the marketplace to satisfy the Compostable Foods packaging requirements.

For more details, please refer to the information provided below:

- **Composting: what is it, why do it, and why it is important at the Atlanta Airport**
- **The importance of packaging in successful composting**
- **Compostable foodservice ware contract requirements**
- **Types of compostable foodservice ware products covered by contract restrictions**
- **Description of compostable foodservice product types**
- **Resources for more information**
- **Frequently Asked Questions**



Compostable Foodservice Ware Packet

FAQs

Why require foodservice ware to be compostable?

Single-use foodservice ware products such as drink cups, take-out containers, and cutlery are thrown away as trash in large volumes at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport (HJIA). They are not recyclable at HJIA. Compostable alternatives are now easily sourced and are no longer considered specialty items. Requiring food vendors to use compostable products will reduce overall trash removal needs and costs, enable food residuals recovery, and help avoid contamination of collection bins for compostable materials.

Food residuals commingled with compostable packaging diverts one waste stream from landfills that was previously two waste streams. No cleaning or washing of compostable products is needed for recovery. Unlike traditional recycling of plastics and paper, compostable items do not have to be free of ice, liquids, grease, and other food residues in order to be composted. They can be put straight into the collection bin with any remaining food scraps; they will decompose together at the composting facility. Customer participation is an easy one-step process. Convenient access to properly labeled bins is a critical component to ensure high customer participation levels.

What is the difference between recyclable and compostable products?

“Recyclable Products” include the reuse, reconditioning, and remanufacturing of products or parts in another product. Similarly, “recycled content” includes products and packages that contain reused, reconditioned or remanufactured materials, as well as recycled raw material. “Compostable Products” will break down, or become part of usable compost (for example, soil-conditioning material or mulch), in a safe and timely manner in a commercial composting facility. Composting turns biodegradable materials into usable compost, which is a humus-like material that enriches and returns nutrients to the soil.

Why is HJIA requiring that food vendors use third-party-approved products?

Unfortunately, there are many available products with misleading, deceptive or unsubstantiated claims of biodegradability or compostability. Buyer beware! Items with simple claims of “biodegradability” or “biobased content” do not mean they are, in fact, compostable. Because the intent of HJIA’s program is to minimize landfilling, products designed to be “biodegradable” in a landfill are not acceptable. Be sure the products you buy are certified as compostable by the Biodegradable Products Institute (BPI) or accepted as compostable by Cedar Grove Composting, which field-tests the compostability of food service items in its state-of-the-art composting facility.

BPI is a third-party certifier of commercially compostable resins, films, foodservice ware and other products. It is recognized by the US Composting Council (the trade association for the composting industry) as the leading industry organization for determining product compostability in North America. BPI-certified compostable products are being used successfully in numerous restaurants as part of diversion efforts throughout the US and Canada.

BPI-certified items have passed rigorous testing at reputable labs under one of two scientifically accepted standards: ASTM 6400 for plastics or ASTM 6868 for plastic-coated paper. To pass these standards, products have to meet thresholds for three basic elements: biodegradation, disintegration, and safety (measured by ability to grow plants and limits on certain regulated heavy metals such as lead). A product that only meets one or two of the elements but not all three will fail the standard.



STATE OF COMPOSTING IN THE US

What, Why, Where & How

Brenda Platt
Institute for Local Self-Reliance

Nora Goldstein
BioCycle

Craig Coker
Coker Composting & Consulting

with contributions from

Sally Brown
University of Washington



APRIL 2014

<http://www.ilsr.org/state-of-composting/>

Composting = Climate Protection

- × Prevents landfill methane emissions
- × Stores carbon
- × Improves soils ability to store carbon
- × Substitutes for energy-intensive fertilizers, pesticides, fungicides
- × Improves plant growth, and thus carbon sequestration
- × Reduces energy use for irrigation

Marin Carbon Project



Composting = Jobs

Potential New Jobs by Composting 1 Million Tons of Organics

Option	FTE Jobs
Burning	120
Landfilling	220
Composting	740
Compost Use	620
Total Composting	1,360

FTE = full-time equivalent



MCS Inc. worker installing growing media made from compost on green roof. www.mcsnjinc.com

Source: Brenda Platt, et. al, *Pay Dirt: Composting in Maryland to Reduce Waste, Create Jobs & Protect the Bay*, ILSR, May 2013. www.ilsr.org/paydirt.

Compost-amended soil = healthier watersheds

Building Healthy Soils with Compost to Protect Watersheds

May 2013

By Bobby Bell and Brenda Platt



Summary

The Institute for Local Self-Reliance (ILSR) is a national research and technical assistance nonprofit organization providing innovative strategies, working models, and timely information to support environmentally sound and equitable community development.

This paper was prepared under ILSR's Composting Matters Series Initiative with funding support from the DC Water Resources Research Institute of the University of the District of Columbia and the Town Creek Foundation.

For more information on ILSR and how to get involved in promoting composting and compost use, visit www.ilsr.org.



www.ilsr.org/paydirt



Denbow, www.denbow.com



3 WEEKS AFTER INSTALL

Credit: City of Portland, Oregon Bureau of Environmental Services

Vegetated Walls
www.ilsr.org
(Filtrex)

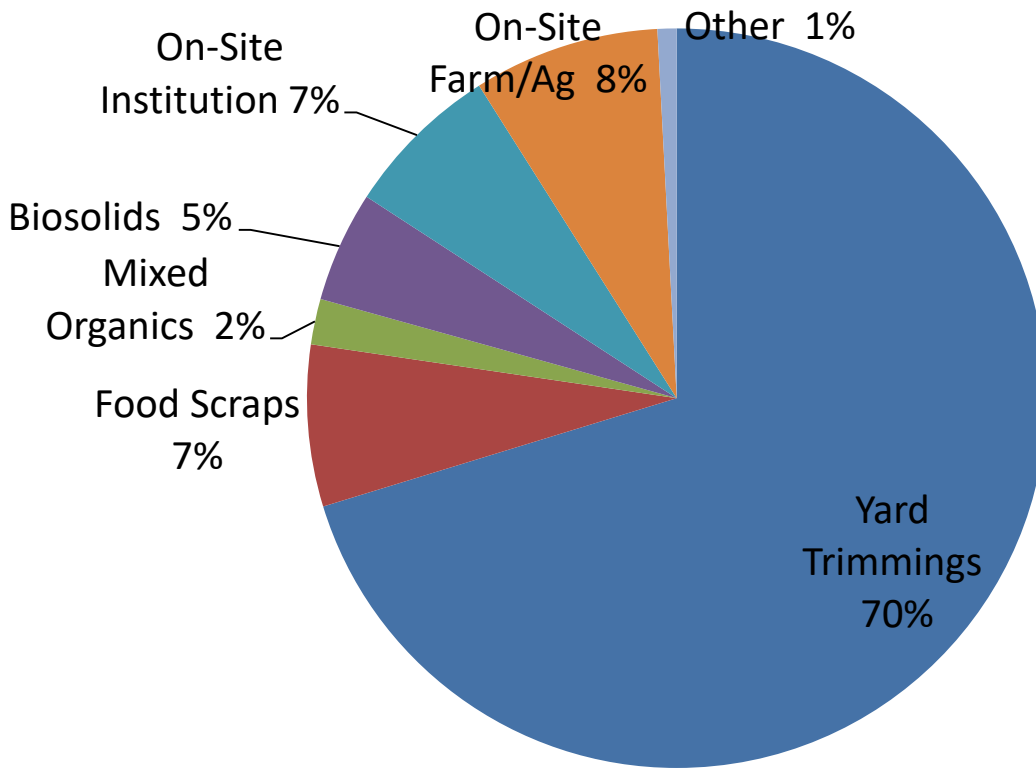


INSTITUTE FOR Local Self-Reliance

Source: *State of Composting in US, ILSR, 2014. Research by BioCycle.*

State	Total Organics Diverted To Composting (tons)	Diverted Organics As Percent Of Total MSW ¹	Number Of Facilities By Volume Received [tons per year]			
			<5,000	5,000 to <20,000	Over 20,000	All Facilities
Arkansas	227,044		19	6	3	28
California	5,900,000	8.6	50	44	68	162
Colorado	263,549	3.2	10	11	9	30
Connecticut	270,163	8.4	82	45	12	139
Delaware	66,111	6.5	1	0	2	3
Florida	1,450,757	5.0	131	58	40	229
Indiana	272,364	3.4	87	8	3	98
Iowa	1,281,201	47.0	103	3	6	112
Kansas	191,596	5.9	141	5	2	148
Kentucky	na	na	40	1	0	41
Maine	27,944	1.6	82	3	2	87
Maryland	941,261	13.8	na	na	na	na
Massachusetts	660,000	9.0	130	18	3	151
Minnesota	249,949	4.4	na	na	na	na
Mississippi	13,414	0.2	13	3	0	16
Missouri	530,000	na	na	na	na	na
Montana	52,764	3.3	40	4	2	46
Nebraska	150,000	na	na	na	na	na
New Hampshire	na	na	7	2	0	9
New Jersey	535,176	4.2		324		324
New Mexico	74,021	4.0	32	6	0	38
New York	1,006,706	5.5	459	22	9	490
North Dakota	na	na	47	4	0	51
Ohio	987,694	na	279	47	10	336
Oregon	224,275	9.2	20	23	11	54
Pennsylvania	857,739	9.5	na	na	na	na
Rhode Island	111,000	14.0	20	5	2	27
South Carolina	246,624	5.5	99	22	5	126
South Dakota	73,216	11.4	144	2	1	147
Tennessee	500,000	1.5	10	1	1	12
Texas	381,827	1.8	na	na	na	na
Utah	221,374	10.6	10	10	4	24
Vermont	52,411	9.0	11	5	0	16
Virginia	184,702	1.5	7	7	4	18
Washington	1,211,805	13.7	39	12	14	65
Wisconsin	215,000	5.0	231	9	0	240
Wyoming	na		10	3	5	18
All Reporting States	19,431,687	7.8	2,354	713	218	3,285
		state average				

Composting Facilities by Type



4,914 total compost sites reported.

Source: *State of Composting in US*, ILSR, 2014.

Programs to support composting: state-by-state summary

Source: *State of Composting in US, ILSR, 2014. Research by BioCycle.*

State	Grants	Loans	Technical Assistance	Diversion Mandates	Disposal Bans	Outreach & Education	Operator Training Courses
Alaska	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Arizona	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Arkansas	No		Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
California	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
Colorado	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Connecticut	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Delaware	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
Florida	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Idaho	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
Indiana	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No
Iowa	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Kansas	Yes	na	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
Kentucky	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
Maine	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
Maryland	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	No
Massachusetts	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Minnesota	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Mississippi	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Montana	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
Nebraska	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
New Hampshire	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
New Jersey	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
New Mexico	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
New York	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
North Carolina	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
North Dakota	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
Ohio	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
Oregon	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Pennsylvania	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	No
Rhode Island	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
South Carolina	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
South Dakota	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
Tennessee	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
Utah	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Vermont	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Virginia	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Washington	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
Wisconsin	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Wyoming	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
States Reporting Programs (total of 39 states responding)	14	7	34	8	18	31	15

State Laws Targeting Food Waste Generators

Massachusetts:

- ✘ Targets food waste generators who generate 1 ton a week or more of food or vegetative material.
- ✘ These materials are banned from disposal effective October 1, 2014.

Vermont:

- ✘ Law gradually expands from large food generators (>104 tons per year) in effect July 1, 2014, to every generator, including households, by July 1, 2020.
- ✘ The law has interim targets in 2015 (>52 tons per year), 2016 (>26 tons per year), and in 2017 (>18 tons per year).
- ✘ Only generators within 20 miles of a certified organics management facility with available capacity and willingness to accept food residuals are covered.
- ✘ Requires trash haulers offering curbside services to provide services for leaf and yard debris by 2016 and for food scraps by 2017.
- ✘ Residences are required to source separate leaf and yard debris by July 1, 2016, and food scraps by July 1, 2020.

Other state laws or bills, cont.

Connecticut:

- ✘ Requires certain large entities (commercial food wholesalers/distributors, industrial food manufacturers/processors, supermarkets, and resorts/conference centers) generating 104 tons or more per year to divert food waste by January 1, 2014, to composting if a permitted composting facility exists within 20 miles.
- ✘ By January 1, 2020, the law applies to entities generating 52 tons or more per year.

Rhode Island:

- ✘ Targets entities generating 104 or more tons per year by January 1, 2016.
- ✘ Each covered entity shall ensure that organic waste materials are recycled at an authorized composting facility, or anaerobic digestion facility or by another authorized recycling method if entity is not more than 15 miles from an authorized composting facility or anaerobic digestion facility with available capacity to accept such material.
- ✘ Waiver may be allowed if tipping fees are not competitive.

California's organic waste recycling bill

AB 1826 signed into law September 28th!

- × By April 1, 2016, a business that generates 8 cubic yards or more of organic waste per week shall arrange for organic waste recycling services.
- × By January 1, 2017, a business that generates 4 cubic yards covered.
- × By January 1, 2020, if the department determines that statewide disposal of organic waste has not been reduced to 50% of the level of disposal during 2014, then businesses generating 2 cubic yards are covered.
- × By January 1, 2016, each jurisdiction shall implement an organic waste recycling program designed specifically to divert organic waste generated by businesses subject by the new law. The plan has to identify:
 - × Existing organic waste recycling facilities within a reasonable vicinity and the capacities available
 - × Other facilities within the jurisdiction that may be suitable for potential expansion or colocation of organic waste recycling facilities
 - × Efforts to develop new private or public regional organic waste recycling facilities and the anticipated timeframe for completion of those facilities
 - × Appropriate zoning and permit requirements for the location of new organic waste recycling facilities
- × By August 1, 2017, each jurisdiction shall report on its progress in implementing its organic waste recycling program.

Maryland HB878 & SB814 (2014 passed)

State Highway Administration – Compost and Compost–Based Products – Specification

<http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2014RS/bills/hb/hb0878t.pdf>

Requires SHA, by December 30, 2014, to establish a specification for the acquisition and use of compost and compost-based products for:

- (1) erosion and sediment control; and
- (2) postconstruction stormwater management.



Filter Sock
(Filtrex.com)

Maryland HB878 & SB814 cont.

- ✘ Make recommendations to maximize use of compost
- ✘ Review its existing specifications and identify compost-based equivalents to add to the existing specifications, including:
 - Compost blankets for soil stabilization mats and other types of compost erosion control blankets,
 - Compost socks for slope interruptions, inlet protection, and sediment control,
 - Compost in biofiltration soil mix, and
 - Compost in biofiltration swales
- ✘ Report to the General Assembly by December 1, 2015



Gabion
(Filtrexx.com)



Compost blanket
(Denbow.com)

Composting, lots of ways

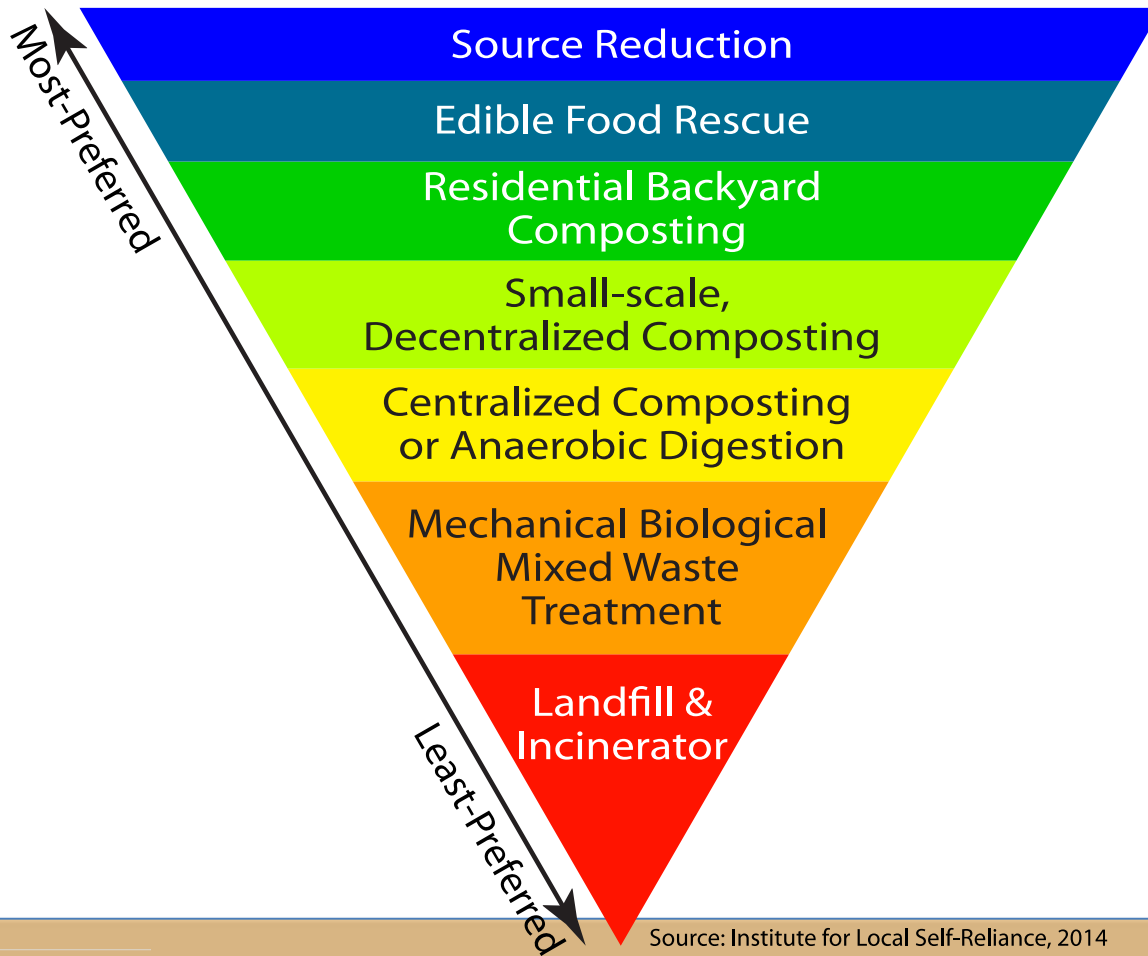


Trend to rely on large-scale far-away compost sites



Revised Hierarchy of Food Scrap Recovery

Hierarchy For Reducing & Recycling Food Scraps And Other Organic Discards



Source: Institute for Local Self-Reliance, 2014

Austin zero waste plan

“...decentralized composting processes can reduce the carbon footprint of collection and transportation while consuming organics in more localized situations that do not require large organized collection programs.”

“The Department recognizes that, in addition to helping the City achieve its Zero Waste goals, composting also addresses the community’s interest in enriching the region’s soil, strengthening sustainable food production and completing the food cycle.”



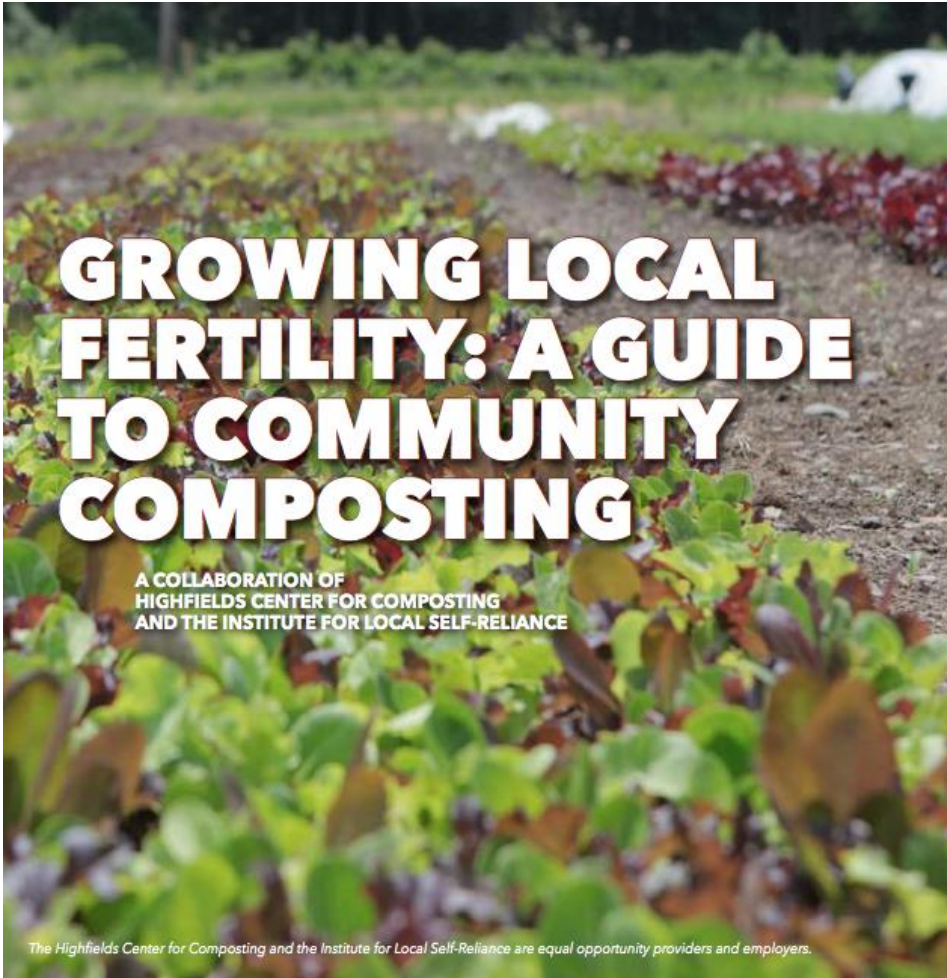
**AUSTIN RESOURCE RECOVERY
MASTER PLAN**
DECEMBER 15, 2011



The Austin Resource Recovery Master Plan
(December 2011), pp. 105-106.

http://www.austintexas.gov/sites/default/files/files/Trash_and_Recycling/MasterPlan_Final_12.30.pdf

www.ilsr.org



Joint project of ILSR's Composting Makes \$en\$ Initiative and the Highfields Center for Composting's Close the Loop program



COMPOST.

www.highfieldscomposting.org



INSTITUTE FOR
Local Self-Reliance

Replication Tip: Train



Consider starting a Master Composter training program. They require volunteerism. (NYC Compost Project)



Train to be a certified Master Composter!

Become a neighborhood compost expert

Help make NYC cleaner & greener— become a Master Composter!

Develop composting expertise and share your knowledge with family, friends, neighbors, kids, and co-workers to help create a more beautiful and sustainable city. The citywide Master Composter Certificate Program is designed to promote the practice of composting in NYC and to reduce the city's solid waste. (See details about the Master Composter Certificate Program, and how to apply, inside.)

What is Compost?
Compost comes from decomposed organic material. It is a rich, dark, crumbly material that looks, feels, and smells like good potting soil.

Why Compost?
Composting is a good horticultural practice that benefits the environment. Adding compost to soil improves soil structure, prevents erosion, increases moisture retention, and increases the availability of nutrients that are essential to plant health. Soil in gardens, street tree pits, and potted houseplants all benefit from regular additions of compost.

Help Reduce NYC's Waste
Improving your garden with compost is also good for New York City. The average New York City household discards 1.3 pounds of food and yard waste each day, which has to be transported and disposed of by the Department of Sanitation. This adds up to more than 750,000 tons per year. When we throw this "waste" away, we lose a valuable resource that can help beautify our parks, gardens, lawns, and houseplants. By composting food scraps, leaves, and yard trimmings, New Yorkers can recycle these valuable organic nutrients.

Neighborhood Soil Rebuilders Training Program

- ✘ Identify existing composter training programs & facilitate information sharing among them
 - ✓ Create national listserve
 - ✓ Create web resources
 - ✓ Survey existing programs
- ✘ Launch a model Master Composter training program in the DC-metro region in partnership with ECO City Farms
 - ✓ Beginner
 - ✓ Advanced
 - ✓ Master
- ✘ Produce a Master Composter Toolkit
- ✘ Replicate training program

BECOME A COMMUNITY COMPOSTER & LEADER!



Apply to the Neighborhood Soil Rebuilder Advanced Composter training program today!

Class Dates & Times:
5 Wednesdays from 6:30pm - 8:30pm on November 5, 12, 19 and December 3, 10;
1 Monday from 6:30pm - 8:30pm on December 15;
4 Saturdays from 10am - 12:30pm on November 1, 8, 15, 22;
2 Saturdays from 10am - 4pm on December 6, 13

Cost: A \$40 donation is requested to help cover the cost of food & materials

Location: Weekday classroom location will be accessible by the DC Metro Green Line; Saturday hands-on instruction will take place at one of ECO City Farms' sites in Prince George's County, MD (transportation from DC Metro Area may be available)

To Apply & For More Information: Visit NeighborhoodSoilRebuilders.org

Space is limited

An in-depth course training new community leaders in composting:

- Learn about the compost process, from building piles to using the finished product
- Gain experience in building and managing compost systems
- Develop leadership skills and promote community composting

You will gain these skills as part of a six-week course, and be certified as an Advanced Neighborhood Soil Rebuilder upon completion of course requirements. Requirements include completion of 30 hours of community service launching a community-composting project of your choosing.

Once completed, there will also be an option to continue on to the Master Neighborhood Soil Rebuilder train-the-trainer apprenticeship.

This program was developed by the Institute for Local Self-Reliance and ECO City Farms and is offered in partnership with the DC Department of Parks & Recreation



Kids understand that reusable is better than single-use



Washington Post, Dec. 9th, 2012.



Young Activist Club, Maryland, www.YoungActivistClub.org



Polystyrene Restrictions Expanding

Young Activist Act of 2014, Takoma Park (MD)



Takoma Park passes a ban on polystyrene

■ Ordinance affecting Styrofoam cups, to-go packaging to start July 1

BY KEVIN JAMES SHAY
STAFF WRITER

Takoma Park will become the first area government entity to implement a comprehensive ban on Styrofoam cups, to-go packaging and other polystyrene eating ware in restaurants and retailers such as supermarkets.

The council on Monday finalized its proposal, which is scheduled to take effect July 1. Montgomery County is consid-

ering a similar ban. Washington, D.C., has passed a ban on polystyrene food ware that takes effect in January 2016.

Council members praised members of the Young Activist Club — made up of students from Piney Branch Elementary School and local middle schools — which introduced the issue in 2010. The city banned using public money for polystyrene products then and disallowed their use at city festivals and by food trucks last year.

"This just shows the power of a small group," Councilman Jarrett Smith told the students, many of whom attended the

See BAN, Page A-10

Washington, DC

11 TITLE IV. CLIMATE AND THE ENVIRONMENT
12 SUBTITLE A. PROTECTING THE DISTRICT'S WATERWAYS THROUGH
13 POLLUTION PREVENTION.
14 Sec. 401. Definitions.
15 For the purposes of this act, the following terms shall mean:
16 (1) "Expanded polystyrene" means blown polystyrene and expanded and extruded
17 foams which are thermoplastic petrochemical materials utilizing a styrene monomer and
18 processed by any number of techniques including, but not limited to, fusion of polymer spheres
19 (expandable bead polystyrene), injection molding, foam molding, and extrusion-blow molding
20 (extruded foam polystyrene).
21 (2) "Expanded polystyrene food service products" means food containers, plates,
22 "clamshells," hot and cold beverage cups, meat and vegetable trays, egg cartons, and other

Montgomery Co., MD



Needs to Expand Composting (and thus, options for compostable ware)


- Collection infrastructure
- Composting capacity (all sizes!)
- Corporate support for infrastructure and policies:
 - Organics disposal bans
 - Organics diversion requirements
 - Compost procurement
 - Persistent pesticide restrictions
 - Polystyrene restrictions
 - Requirements for reusable, compostable, and recyclable foodservice ware
- Reduce contamination by encouraging use of compostable products, products that meet ASTM standards.

PROMOTING THE PRACTICE

SUPPORTIVE RULES FOR SMALL-SCALE COMPOSTING

Eleven states are surveyed for their noteworthy efforts and differing approaches to encourage more farms and other small-scale operators to compost, especially food scraps.

Brenda Platt, Rachel Ross, and Melody Poland



Composting is inherently local. It supports local growers, jobs, farmers and other business. Indeed, farmers have a vital role to play in producing and utilizing compost to restore depleted soils. They also have land, a necessary factor for developing the capacity to compost. State permitting rules can facilitate on-farm and other small-scale operations, thus helping to expand and diversify the composting infrastructure.

Eleven states — Iowa, Maine, Massachusetts, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Washington, West Virginia and Wisconsin — are surveyed here for their noteworthy efforts and differing approaches in promoting the practice.

Some constraints for farm crop residue operators to compost, especially food scraps. (See Table 1 for a list of the state laws and date of passage. It is still unclear which state policies are the most effective in boosting composting of food residuals. In addition, this is not a comprehensive analysis but focuses on the most salient composting practices.)

Some constraints for farm crop residue operators to compost, especially food scraps. However, as the transition of materials flow, so do the standards that facilities have to meet. Currently, Wisconsin allows up to 20,000 cy of on-site yard material and 10,000 cy of off-site yard material to be composted. Wisconsin also allows 10,000 cy of on-site yard material to be composted.

ILSR INSTITUTE FOR Local Self-Reliance

Initiatives Rules Library Reports & Resources Archives

Waste to Wealth Composting

Building healthy soils and local economies

Overview Explore All (89) Articles (23) Rules (17) Resources (29)

Viewing all Composting Rules

Composting is an age-old process whose success has been well demonstrated in the U.S. and elsewhere. Composting facilities are far cheaper than landfills and incinerators. Adopting this approach would provide a rapid and cost-effective means to reduce methane and other greenhouse gas emissions, increase carbon storage in soils, and could have a substantial short-term impact on global warming. At the same time, compost can also restore depleted soils with nutrient-rich humus and organic matter, providing ancillary benefits that are not realized when systems of incineration and landfilling are used. Below you'll find some model composting rules adopted by communities and states.

Composting, Environment, Waste to Wealth | Local, State, Federal

Ban on Food Scraps in Landfills and Mandatory Participation Ordinances
Composting, Environment, Waste to Wealth | Local, State

Compost Procurement Policies
Composting, Environment, Waste to Wealth | Local, State

Florida – Composting Rules and Programs
Composting, Environment, Waste to Wealth

Performance-Based Composting Permit Regulations
Composting, Environment, Waste to Wealth | State

Ban on Landfill Disposal of Yard Trimmings
Composting, Environment, Waste to Wealth | State

Compost-Amended Soil Requirements
Composting, Environment, Waste to Wealth | Local, State

On-Farm Composting Rules and Permit Exemptions
Agriculture, Composting, Environment, Waste to Wealth | Local, State

Yard Waste Reduction Policies
Composting, Environment, Waste to Wealth | State

Recent Updates

- Moving From an Age of Ignorance to Scarcity to Abundance
- Freedom to Connect Starts Monday, March 4
- Community Leaders Testify Against HB 282, BB Passes Anyway
- High Tech Companies Oppose Bill to Limit Internet Investment in Georgia
- Three Unequal Options for Local Energy Control

Most popular

- Top 10 Reasons to Support Locally Owned Businesses
- Key Studies on Big-Box Retail & Independent Business
- Survey Finds Independent Businesses Benefit from "Buy Local First" Campaigns, But Challenges Remain
- Half of Germany's \$3,000 Megawatts of Renewable Energy is Locally Owned
- Soaring Credit Card Transaction Fees Squeeze Independent Businesses
- Local Food, Drink, and More March 4th



Contact

Brenda Platt
Institute for Local Self-Reliance
tplatt@ilsr.org
www.ilsr.org/paydirt

For model policies, please visit:
<http://www.ilsr.org/initiatives/composting/>
and click on “Rules”

