AN OPPORTUNITY TO BUILD EQUITY

COMPOSTING COMES FULL CIRCLE

KEYNOTE: Washington Organics Recycling Council

Brenda Platt
Institute for Local Self-Reliance
Composting for Community Project
November 16th, 2016
A few words about me
Long lines and hours of waiting to get gas were common sights in the 1970s.
Our Mission:

To provide innovative strategies, working models and timely information to support environmentally sound and equitable community development.

Programs:

- Waste to Wealth
- Composting for Community
- Community Banking
- Community Owned Broadband
- Energy Democracy
- Community Scaled Economy
- The Public Good Blog
Rush to Burn, mid 1980s-1990s

300+ trash burners planned

280+ defeated largely via grassroots campaigns
  • Philadelphia
  • Los Angeles
  • Austin
  • Seattle
  • New York City
  • Mt. Holyoke (MA)
  • Binghamton (NY)
Remember this guy?

Winston Porter, former Assistant Administrator of the U.S. EPA

In the mid-1990s, argued we should abandon 40% recycling goals and higher

Insisted that ¼ of garbage was inherently nonrecyclable

Favorite examples:

DIRT and FOOD SCRAPS
**Don’t Throw Away That Food**

Strategies for Record-Setting Waste Reduction

The Waste Reduction Record-Setters Project fosters development of exceptional waste reduction programs by documenting successful ones. These programs can be used as models for others implementing their own programs to reduce garbage. This fact sheet packet is oriented toward commercial and institutional food discard generators, and highlights record-setting food recovery programs.

**Food Discards: What Are They and Where Do They Come From?**

Food discards (food dis-ladins): food preparation wastes and uneaten food from households, commercial establishments, institutions, and industries. Major generators: restaurants, supermarkets, produce stands, school cafeterias, hospitals, food processors, farmers, hotels, hospitals, employee lunch rooms, and community events. Examples: leftovers, outdated bread, wilted lettuce, surplus canned goods, vegetable peels, and fruit pits.

**Why Recover Food Discards?**

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture Economic Research Service, if 5% of consumer, retail, and food service food discards from 1995 were recovered, savings from landfill costs alone would be about $50 million dollars annually. Recovering 5% of losses from these sources “would represent the equivalent of a day’s food for each of 4 million people.” Food discards comprise 6% of the weight of the total U.S. municipal solid waste stream. In 1995, 14,000,000 tons of food discards were generated. Of this, only 4.1%, 600,000 tons, was diverted, or recovered, from the traditional disposal destinations of landfills and incinerators.

Almost any business can successfully create fewer discards by buying less, and can divert food discards from landfills. Businesses with record-setting waste diversion programs are recovering 50% to 100% of their food discards and reducing their overall solid waste by 33 to 85%. If a successful overall waste reduction plan is in place, your program can allow you to:

- Impose or animal food; waste reduction goals; business.

**The Waste Reduction Record-Setters Project** was developed under a U.S. EPA grant by the Institute for Local Self-Reliance (ILSR). For more information on the project, contact ILSR, 2425 18th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20009, phone (202) 232-4108, fax (202) 332-0463, web site (www.ilsr.org). This publication replaces EPA-530-F-98-002, dated January, 1998.

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**Model Programs — Diversion Strategies and Rates**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Record Setting Program</th>
<th>Diversion Strategies</th>
<th>Materials Recycled</th>
<th>Food Discards and Other Organic Reclaimed (tons per year)</th>
<th>% Estimated Food Discards and Other Organic Reclaimed</th>
<th>% Total Waste Stream Reclaimed</th>
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<tr>
<td>De Nola (Arizona)</td>
<td>In-store composting</td>
<td>30 tons</td>
<td>1,200 (1996) - 1997</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<td>Vanguard Coffee</td>
<td>On-site composting</td>
<td>100 tons</td>
<td>1,200 (1996) - 1997</td>
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<td>Green Warehouse</td>
<td>On-site composting</td>
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<td>1,200 (1996) - 1997</td>
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<td>25%</td>
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<td>Larry’s Markets</td>
<td>In-store composting</td>
<td>300 tons</td>
<td>3,000 (1996) - 1997</td>
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<td>25%</td>
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<td>Middlebury College</td>
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<td>New York State</td>
<td>On-site composting</td>
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<td>San Francisco Produce</td>
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<td>ShopRite (Connecticut)</td>
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<td>University of</td>
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## Job Creation: Reclamation vs. Disposal

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<th>Type of Operation</th>
<th>Jobs/10,000 TPY</th>
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<td>Textile Reclamation</td>
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<td>Misc. Durables Reuse</td>
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<td>Wooden Pallet Repair</td>
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<td>Recycling-Based Manufacturers</td>
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<td>Conventional MRFs</td>
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<td>Composting</td>
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<td>Disposal Facilities</td>
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</table>

MRF = materials recovery facility  
TPY = tons per year  

Institute for Local Self-Reliance
Composting = Local Jobs

- Organics do not ship well
- Composting is small-scale
- Jobs are local
- Compost products are used locally
- Dollars circulate within local economies
- Local = good for local economies
- Composting linked to urban food production
- Composting diversifies farm products and saves money

Ned Foley, Two Particular Acres
Composting Makes ¢en¢e

- Expanding composting = supporting made-in-America industry
- 1,400 new jobs could be supported for every 1 million tons of food scraps and yard trimmings converted into compost and used locally
- These jobs could pay $23 million to $57 million in wages
- Small-scale community-based composting works
- Composting sustains 2x more jobs than landfilling and 4x times more than burning trash (on a per-ton basis)
- Healthy soils need organic matter like compost

Pay Dirt:
Composting in Maryland to Reduce Waste, Create Jobs & Protect the Bay

LEARN MORE www.iilsr.org/paydirt
Composting Creates Jobs

Jobs are sustained in each stage of the organics recovery cycle.

**PER 10,000 TONS WASTE/YEAR**

- **Incineration**
- **Landfilling**
- **Manufacturing Compost**

**JOBS SUSTAINED**

On a per-ton basis, making compost alone, employs 2x more workers than landfills and 4x more than incinerators.

**Green infrastructure** uses compost in rain gardens, green roofs, bioswales, vegetated retaining walls, and on steep highway embankments to control soil erosion and storm water. Using compost in green infrastructure creates even more jobs.
Zero waste path = huge climate benefits
Compost = Climate & Soil Protection Strategy

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

Credit: Marin Carbon Project
Food scraps in landfills generate methane, a greenhouse gas with a global warming potential 84x more potent than CO$_2$ in the short term.

...but when converted into compost and applied to the land, compost sequesters carbon.

One research project found that ½ inch of compost applied to rangeland sequestered the equivalent of **1 metric ton of CO$_2$e/hectare over three years**.

This level of sequestration on half of California’s rangeland would offset **42 million metric tons of CO$_2$e**, which is equal to the annual greenhouse emissions from California’s commercial and residential energy sectors.
The 11th Hour Project –
Where’s the compost going to come from?
Erosion Exceeding the Soil Loss Tolerance Rate on Cropland, 2007

Each red dot represents 100,000 tons of erosion above the soil loss tolerance rate on highly erodible cropland (a total of 595.1 million tons per year on 53.6 million acres).

Each green dot represents 100,000 tons of erosion above the soil loss tolerance rate on non-highly erodible cropland (a total of 199.3 million tons per year on 45.6 million acres).

Map ID: 10981
Data Source: 2007 National Resources Inventory
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service

Legend
- Federal land

Dots are distributed randomly within each area – defined in this map as the combination of state boundaries and 10-by-10 mile cells. Note that dots do not represent actual feature locations or points.
How well are we doing?

BioCycle Nationwide Survey 2014

Communities with SSO food waste collection by state, 2013/14

- CA: 65
- CO: 6
- CT: 1
- IL: 1
- IA: 3
- KY: 2
- MD: 5
- MA: 6
- MI: 2
- MN: 23
- NJ: 2
- NY: 6
- OH: 6
- OR: 7
- PA: 1
- TX: 2
- VT: 1
- WA: 57
- WI: 2
Seattle & San Fran. w/ their private partners Cedar Grove and Recology: Industry Leaders
Compostable Product Options

6,133 certified compostable foodservice products

Foodservice

Disposable food serviceware including plates, containers, cups, lids, straws and cutlery. These products are used to facilitate food-waste composting. By replacing plastic products with compostable substitutes, foodservice operations can compost large quantities of predominantly organic trash.
U.S. Composting Facilities by Type

Yard Trimmings 70%
On-Site Farm/Ag 8%
On-Site Institution 7%
Biosolids 5%
Mixed Organics 2%
Food Scraps 7%
Other 1%

4,914 total compost sites reported.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Total Organics Diverted To Composting (tons)</th>
<th>Diverted Organics As Percent Of Total MSW¹</th>
<th>Number Of Facilities By Volume Received [tons per year]</th>
<th>All Facilities</th>
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<td>All Reporting States</td>
<td>19,431,687</td>
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¹ State average
Programs to support composting: state-by-state summary

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<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Grants</th>
<th>Loans</th>
<th>Technical Assistance</th>
<th>Diversion Mandates</th>
<th>Disposal Bans</th>
<th>Outreach &amp; Education</th>
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</tbody>
</table>

States Reporting Programs (total of 39 states responding): 14

Grants: 7, Loans: 34, Technical Assistance: 8, Diversion Mandates: 18, Disposal Bans: 31, Outreach & Education: 15, Operator Training Courses: No
What am I seeing?

Lack of infrastructure remains largest obstacle to food waste recovery in many parts of country.

The results of the election will dismantle climate protection policies & reshape how we “sell” compost at the federal level.

The results of the election underscore the importance of building community equity with composting.
## Likely winners & losers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OUT</th>
<th>IN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Healthcare</td>
<td>Private prisons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign manufacturing</td>
<td>U.S. manufacturing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Telecom – Net neutrality</td>
<td>Pharmaceuticals</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mega-mergers</td>
<td>Defense industry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Solar and wind</td>
<td>Coal, oil drilling, gas pipelines</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marijuana</td>
<td>Marijuana</td>
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<td>Climate protection</td>
<td>Infrastructure</td>
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</table>
The dust storms and floods of the last few years have underscored the importance to control soil erosion. I need not emphasize the seriousness of the problem and the desirability of our taking effective action, as a Nation and in the several States, to conserve the soil as our basic asset.

The Nation that destroys its soil destroys itself.

— Franklin D. Roosevelt, Letter to all State Governors on a Uniform Soil Conservation Law, Feb. 26, 1937
Composting Enhances Soil and Protects Watersheds

Healthy soils are essential for protecting watersheds. Compost is the best way to add organic matter—which is vital—to soils.

When added to soil, compost can filter out urban stormwater pollutants by an astounding 60-95%.

**IT'S ALL ABOUT THE SOIL**

**COMPOST** improves biological, chemical, and physical characteristics of soil.

- Protects against soil desertification and soil erosion
- Increases resilience to floods and droughts
- Converts nitrogen into a more stable and less mobile form and phosphorous into a less soluble form
- Reduces need for chemicals
- Improves water retention
- Improves soil structure
- Adds humus, keeping soil particles stuck together
- Improves ability to store nutrients (such as cation exchange capacity)
- Increases soil fertility
- Increases microbial activity
- Enhances plant disease suppression

Compost helps reduce stormwater runoff because it can hold ~5x its weight in water.

Compost serves as a filter and sponge. It immobilizes and degrades pollutants, improving water quality.

Infographics / posters: ils.org/compost-impacts
Will climate remain a key driver?

US Conf. of Mayors Climate Protection Agreement

- Strive to meet Kyoto Protocol targets
- Urge state & feds to enact policies & programs
- Urge Congress to pass legislation
Businesses are Leading the Way to Zero Waste (>90% diversion)

- Anheuser-Busch, several
- Albertson’s (100 in So. CA)
- American Licorice*
- Ann, Inc.*
- Delaware North, Yellowstone Pk.*
- Del Mar Fairgrounds
- Disneyland Circle D Corral*
- Earth Friendly Products*
- Fetzer Vineyards*
- Frankie’s Bohemian Café, SF
- General Motors (117 plants)
- Hilton Hotel, SF
- Honda

- Microsoft*
- Miller/Coors
- New Belgium Brewery*
- Nutiva*
- Piazza Produce*
- Pillsbury
- Scoma’s Restaurant, SF
- Sierra Nevada Brewing Co.*
- Subaru
- Toyota
- Vons-Safeway
- Whole Foods Markets, SD*
- Xerox Corp
- 2800 Businesses

*Certified by USZWBC

Source: Gary Liss & Associates
More examples at www.uszwbc.org
Target Changes Restroom Policy After Receiving Boycott Threats

NBA Will Boycott North Carolina if Transgender Law Not Repealed
$17 trillion U.S. economy

Local and State Policies & Regs Will Remain Central to Advancing Composting

Performance-based permitting regs

Food waste recovery requirements

“Compostable” labeled products must meet stds

Buying and spec’ing compost & compost-based products
Montgomery County, MD
RainScapes Rewards Rebate Program

- BMP for rain gardens: amending soil with compost
- Conservation landscapes: required to have 3-inch layer of compost (incorporated to create a 6-12 inch improved soil layer)
- Property owners offered rebate for low-impact development installations
- $2,500 max for residential
- $10,000 max for commercial, multi-family, or institutional
- Replicated in Gaithersburg & Rockville

Rain Gardens

Why should I install a rain garden?

One use of rain gardens is a 2,000 square foot lawn that uses over 5,000 gallons of stormwater runoff. Typically, this runoff seeps into rain gardens, which then release the water into the ground. When water cannot soak into the ground, it flows over impermeable surfaces and erodes stream banks that flow to streams. If flows over these impermeable surfaces, stormwater picks up pollutants such as acids, gases and oil from cars and tools, and fertilizers from lawns. The rain gardens reduce the erosion and lead to fewer pollution problems in our streams, rivers, creeks, flooding, and erosion issues.

Rain gardens are functional landscaping features. In addition to reducing runoff, they also have a more attractive and functional appearance in your yard and neighborhood.
Requirements for Minimum Organic Matter

- **Leander (TX):** All new landscapes (nonresidential and residential) are required to have a minimum of six inches (6”) of soil depth in areas planted with turfgrass. This six-inch (6”) minimum soil depth will consist of 75% soil blended with 25% compost.

- **Greeley (CO):** anyone installing a new lawn must use 4 cubic yards of compost per 1,000 square feet of area, incorporated at a depth of 6 inches.

- **King Co. (WA):** Clearing/grading regs: Replaced topsoil must have an organic matter content of 5% dry weight for turf applications and 10% for planting beds.

- **Seattle:** New construction sites: 20-25% compost by volume in a topsoil mix for turf (5% organic matter) and 35-40% compost by volume in a topsoil mix in planting beds (10% organic matter).
Infrastructure – What does it mean?

Jason Grumet, Bipartisan Policy Center – “Infrastructure” is the happiest word in American politics
Composting, lots of ways
What about local? Scale? Diversity?

Source Reduction

Edible Food Rescue

Residential Backyard Composting

Small-scale, Decentralized Composting

Centralized Composting or Anaerobic Digestion

Mechanical Biological Mixed Waste Treatment

Landfill & Incinerator

Source: Institute for Local Self-Reliance, 2014
US EPA Hierarchy of Food Scrap Recovery

Food Recovery Hierarchy
www.epa.gov/foodscraps

Source Reduction
Reduce the volume of surplus food generated

Feed Hungry People
Donate extra food to food banks, soup kitchens and shelters

Feed Animals
Divert food scraps to animal feed

Industrial Uses
Provide waste oils for rendering and fuel conversion and food scraps for digestion to recover energy

Composting
Create a nutrient-rich soil amendment

Landfill/Incineration
Last resort to disposal
Farmers Need Particular Support
Orlando – Get Dirty for Valentine’s Day

- FREE bins to City of Orlando residents
  - Free home delivery
  - Assembled
  - The Earth Machine
- Launch February 14, 2015 “Get Dirty” Campaign
  - Get Dirty for Valentine’s Day
  - Get Dirty with Your Neighbors
- 3,068 delivered as of April 2016
Cheverly, MD, shows 25% of residents will backyard compost, saving money on collection and disposal fees

- April 2011, backyard composting program
- 25% of 1,600 single-family homes participating
- ~100 tons per year composted
- ~$6,000 in avoided disposal fees/year
- Total savings expected to be $120,000 over 20 years
- A dozen municipalities have implemented the program (including Bowie, Greenbelt, Mount Rainier, Berwyn Heights, Colmar Manor & Brentwood).

Source: Doug Alexander, NIE Institute, Landover Hills, MD
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.”

The Austin Resource Recovery Master Plan (December 2011), pp. 105-106.
DSNY Organic Waste Diversion Strategy:
DSNY believes that a strong organic waste diversion strategy for NYC will operate at three scales:

① at a citywide level,
② in communities and neighborhoods, and
③ in the home.

This tiered approach enables the City to divert the greatest amount of organic waste from landfills; build support for and participation in organic waste recycling; and generate high-quality finished compost in NYC to improve soils and public health.
Drop-off Network

Greenmarket Food Scrap Collection Schedule

Union Square Greenmarket

- Site Name: Union Square Greenmarket
- Location: NE Section of Union Square Park
- Day: Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat
- Duration: Year Round
- Time: 8am-5pm
- Coordinates: 40.736579, 73.989534
New York Compost Project, New York City
Included in this map are all community compost sites affiliated with the NYC Compost Project.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Borough</th>
<th>Total per Borough</th>
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<tr>
<td>Brooklyn</td>
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<td>Queens</td>
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<td>Staten Island</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>225</strong></td>
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The NYC Compost Project works to rebuild NYC’s soils by providing New Yorkers with the knowledge, skills, and opportunities they need to produce and use compost locally.

The project is funded and managed by the NYC Department of Sanitation’s Bureau of Waste Prevention, Reuse and Recycling. Learn more at nyc.gov/compostproject.
Principles of Community Composting

- Resources recovered
- Locally based and closed loop
- Organic materials returned to soils
- Community-scaled and diverse
- Community engaged, empowered, and educated
- Community supported

Download the free Growing Local Fertility: A Guide to Community Composting at www.ilsr.org/growing-local-fertility
Collection Entrepreneurs
Compost Peddlars (Austin)
Compost Peddlars (Austin)
Compost Peddlars (Austin)
DC Dept. of Parks & Rec’s 3-bin system

"Compost Knox" design by Urban Farm Plans (www.urbanfarmplans.com)
DC DPR Community Compost Cooperative Network

- 41 DPR gardens have a Compost Knox system
- Each site has a compost manager
- Each site has a community compost cooperative
- 9 more planned

http://dpr.dc.gov/service/community-compost-cooperative-network
Worker-owned Cooperatives

Roots Composting

Farmer Pirates

Pedal People
CERO – Boston area co-op

www.cero.coop

Green jobs in the community

CERO worker-owners are local residents who take pride in their role as environmental stewards, keeping their neighborhoods green and prosperous.

CERO investors support
- environmental justice
- socially responsible profits
- living wage jobs in democratic workplaces
- zero waste innovation
- local food & solidarity economy

Photo credit: Boston Impact Initiative (http://bostonimpact.com)
Red Hook Community Farm (Brooklyn)
ECO City Farms (MD)
Volunteers Are Important
Training Operators Is Critical

The NYC Compost Project cultivates community leaders through its Master Composter Certificate Program.

These leaders volunteer their time to conduct public workshops, provide community outreach, bring people to gardens, and spread compost.
You're Invited to The
NEIGHBORHOOD SOIL REBUILDERS
MASTER COMPOSTER TRAINING COURSE
In Baltimore

Fall 2016

Apply by September 14th!
More info at
NeighborhoodSoilRebuilders.org

BUILD COMMUNITY WHILE REBUILDING YOUR SOILS!
Compost Monitoring & Testing
Compost Pile Building
Compost Bin Build
Community Engagement
Howard University Compost Cooperative (NW DC)

**Rebuilder:** Jeffrey Neal

**System Used:** Jeffrey partnered with DC DPR to construct an Urban Farm Plans 3-bin composting system at Howard University’s Community Garden, creating a new DPR Compost Cooperative.

The NSR Program and Jeffrey collaborated to make this site a demonstration site to showcase how a well-managed community composting site runs.
Project EDEN (SE DC)

**Rebuilder:** Xavier Brown

**System Used:** Xavier partnered with DC DPR to build an Urban Farm Plans 3-bin system, creating a new DPR Compost Cooperative. Xavier collaborated with local residents and The Green Scheme to build the system.

Project EDEN (Everyone Deserves to Eat Naturally) is part of a church community in southeast DC.
Project EDEN (SE DC)

**Materials Composted:**
Garden waste created onsite, food scraps from Compost Cab, straw, woodchips and spent mushroom spawn from Good Sense Farm.

At EDEN, Xavier is helping to educate local youth about gardening, composting and entrepreneurship.

Pastor Cheryl Gaines believes that the composting skills and knowledge now being developed at Project EDEN are providing opportunities and alternatives to the murder and gun violence that have plagued her community.
Rebuilder: `Abdu’l-Karim Ewing-Boyd, International Baccalaureate Youth Program Manager at Stokes School

Systems used: A 3-bin system for outdoor thermophilic (hot) composting and 10 small vermicomposting bins for in-classroom use. Students and parents built the existing 3-bin system as a Martin Luther King Day service project. Karim is building a new Urban Farm Plans-style 3-bin to service food scraps from Stokes’ students’ families and Other schools.
“The earliest compost is now in the garden beds and kids just had spinach and butter lettuce on the salad bar grown in beds amended with compost from their old food. Cool, huh?”
BALTIMORE: Pilot a Youth-Led Bike-Powered Food Scrap Collection & Community Composting Operation

- Pilot route based on BK ROT program in Bushwick, Brooklyn, NY
- Pilot community composting at Filbert St. Garden
- Assess potential to scale up
2,000 ton-per-day incinerator successfully defeated in Curtis Bay, South Baltimore

Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley: "The Fairfield Renewable Power Plant project will become a national model for the creation of green jobs, while solving or mitigating many energy and environmental problems at the same time."
Zero Waste Dev. & Expansion Act

Why get trashed when you can recycle?

By Rep. Keith Ellison | 09/04/15

Most is recyclable or compostable

Burning trash is wasteful. Almost three-quarters of the waste burned in the HERC is recyclable or compostable. In Minnesota, we burn or bury nearly $200 million of usable materials every year.

Trash burning is no job driver, especially compared to recycling. It’s estimated that recycling creates ten times more jobs than sending waste to landfills or incinerators. Burning trash is not the best way to go for our health, environment, or economy.

What can you do? Some ideas…

- Policy to support diversified infrastructure
- Policy to support community equity
- Access to land & funding support
- Technical assistance and tools for locally based systems
- Model locally based systems
- Master Composter Training Program
- Procurement of finished compost
- Promote pay-as-you-throw trash fees and reinvest savings into communities (e.g., community composting, community solar)
- Renewed focus on SCHOOLS

Photos: NYC Compost Project
TOP ISSUES

- VOLUNTEER MGT.
- STAFF/OPERATOR TRAINING
- COMMUNICATIONS & OUTREACH
- LOCAL GOVT SUPPORT
- PRODUCT TESTING
- VERMICOMPOSTING
- BIKE COLLECTION

TOP ISSUES

- FINANCING
- BUSINESS MODELS
- LOGISTICS
- MEASURING IMPACTS
- BMPs
- REGULATORY COLLECTION SYSTEMS
- EQUIP. & SYSTEMS COMPOSTING
| Focus grants on schools to establish system-wide collection for food and yard waste. | Budget for these grants has been eliminated. | None, though progress monitoring by staff will continue. | Not initiated. Due to lack of funding. |
Ferrisburgh Central School Pilot (Vermont)
Ramona Unified School District (CA)

2014-2015

- Source reduction = 2,860 lbs
- Fed people = 7,280 lbs
- Fed animals = 3,840 lbs
- Composted = 6,576 lbs

A cost benefit >$18,000 in 2015

Parting Thought on Contamination

Mounds of trash take the bloom off Cherry Blossom Festival

Single use has got to go!

Craig Hudson/For The Washington Post - A massive pile of trash lies near Mall-goers enjoying Sunday’s weather near 14th Street and Jefferson Drive SW.

Washington Post, April 13, 2014
The Tipping Point

- Innovators, the adventurous ones
- Early adopters, infected by innovators
- Early Majority
- Late Majority
- Laggards

Make the Connections

- Climate protection
- Soil protection and revitalization
- Stormwater management and TMDL reduction
- Local food production/Farm to Plate
- Zero waste
- Environmental health (e.g., no polystyrene)
- Community and economic development
- Cost cutting
- Jobs & workforce development
- Infrastructure
- Farm viability
- Equity

Photo credit: GAIA, www.no-burn.org
Embrace Diversity & Distributed

Montgomery County, MD, Blair High School Students Stage Walk-Out, March to Protest Donald Trump’s Election


Episcopal Church of Our Savior, Montgomery

Twitter/Gene Robinson
"You develop an instant global consciousness, a people orientation, an intense dissatisfaction with the state of the world, and a compulsion to do something about it. From out there on the moon, international politics look so petty.

You want to grab a politician by the scruff of the neck and drag him a quarter of a million miles out and say, 'Look at that, you son of a bitch.'

-- Edgar Mitchell, Apollo 14 astronaut and the sixth person to walk on the Moon.
Contact

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www.ilsr.org

Photo credit: GAIA, www.no-burn.org