

Getting Scrappy with Community Food Scrap Composting

**Athena Lee Bradley
Windham Solid Waste
Management District
Northeast Recycling Council**



Community Composting

- ▶ Produces compost for local use
- ▶ Promotes community connections
- ▶ Builds resident food waste management awareness & participation
- ▶ Can play an essential role in the evolution of food scrap diversion

Community Composting, cont.

- ▶ Often volunteer run; some staffed
- ▶ Garden groups, neighborhoods, nonprofit organizations, housing complexes, public sector, farms, schools
- ▶ Range of sizes: 10 sq. ft.– 20,000 sq. ft.
- ▶ Range of compost systems

Food Scraps Sourcing

- Community gardeners
- Schools
- Businesses
- Nonprofits
- Churches
- Community

• Start collecting small volumes & grow it!
• Year-round, consistent supply of feedstocks!

Carbon Sourcing

- Wood workers, town, utility crews, landscapers – sawdust/shavings
- Neighborhood, landscapers – leaves
- Farmers – livestock bedding

- Year-round, consistent supply of feedstocks!
- 2-3 times volume than food scraps
- Keep Dry



Bringing Communities Together!



Images Cr.:
Cassandra Hemenway, CVSWD

Ludlow, Vermont

- Hidden from view
- Relatively isolated
- Limited winter access



Barre Town, Vermont

Jora Tumbler

Senior citizen
multi-family
housing



Image Cr.: Cassandra Hemenway,
CVSWD

Bennington, Vermont



- In town at Rec Center
- Nearby residents
- Highly visible

Montpelier, Vermont



Buffer area

Active Composting Step 2

Water

Jora - Active Composting Step 1

- Nearby residents
- Highly visible
- In town neighborhood

Fort Community, Burlington



Carbon Storage

Food
scrap
Tumbler

3-Bin
System

FOOD SCRAPS

Do not put any trash – make sure you do not put any paper, wrappers and any plastic.

Before you leave your house, chop your food scraps (these can be found in the "Browns") and dump your food scraps inside.

When you are ready to use the tumbler, turn it back on the tumbler and make sure it is tightly secured. Turn the tumbler a spin.

COMPLAIN

New York City

Windrows



Images Cr.: David Hurd, GrowNYC

Aerated Static Piles



NYC

Images Cr.: David Hurd, GrowNYC

Food Scrap Mixing/Active Composting



Curing, Screening,
Finished

The Dirt Factory Community
Composting Facility, University City,
Pennsylvania

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Northeast Recycling Council

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