EXPANDING COMPOST DROP-OFF

Presented by
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Solid Waste
August 2020: City of Asheville awarded NRDC Food Matters grant

October 2021: First City (Stevens-Lee) and County (Landfill) drop-off sites open

March 2022: County is awarded $22,500 CWRAR grant to expand drop-off sites

July 2022: Begin use of CWRAR grant funding
CURRENT DROP-OFF SITES

Buncombe County Landfill
*October 2021*

Stephens-Lee Recreation Center
*October 2021*

Oakley Recreation Center/Library
*July 2022*
Current Drop-Off Participation by Zip Code

- Swannanoa: 2.1%
- Fairview: 1.8%
- Arden - Avery Creek: 2.4%
- Enka- Candler - Beacon Heights: 2.6%
- Weaverville - north outer: 4.3%
- East Avl: 10.1%
- downtown/southslope: 19.4%
- West Avl: 19.1%
- North Avl: 16.9%
- South Avl: 16.7%
ORGANICS IN BUNCOMBE COUNTY

- **Nationally:** divertible organic matter comprises over 50% of landfill mass

- **Buncombe County:** recent data suggest around 38% of total waste is organic

- **Current program:** diverting 3.5 tons/month, still large percentage remaining
COMPOST BENEFITS

• Locally collected and processed by Danny’s Dumpster
  • Finished compost available for purchase at their facility

• Why compost?
  • **Waste reduction**
    • Over half of all waste in landfills is organic matter, most of which can be diverted and composted
  • **Soil amendment**
    • High quality, natural fertilizer that provides essential plant nutrients and bolsters soil ecosystems
  • **Climate change**
    • Greenhouse gas reduction potential
DEACS CWRAR GRANT
Department of Environmental Assistance and Customer Service’s Community Waste Reduction and Recycling

• $22,500 for program expansion in FY23

• 2-4 expansion sites at libraries
  • Partnering with the City (recreation centers)

• Signs, installation materials, print materials, kitchen totes
  • County covers all operational maintenance costs, including hauling contract
1. Scan QR code or visit buncombecounty.org/composting

2. Fill out online registration form (zip code and # people per household collected as data)

3. Receive email with shed lock code and pilot program participation instructions

4. Residents can use the drop-off site closest to them

5. Educational materials will be available on our website and at drop-off sites
ESTIMATED GRANT TIMELINE

• **Summer 2022**
  • Open fourth drop-off site (West Asheville Library)
  • Expand education plan

• **Fall 2022**
  • Open fifth drop-off site
  • Host promotional event

• **Spring 2023**
  • Open one to two more drop-off sites, if/as needed
  • Host second promotional event