

# Commercial Food Waste Collection



**Griselda Puga**  
Waste Reduction Coordinator

# Why Food?



- ❧ In Marion County, food waste accounts for 20% (by weight) of total waste disposed.
- ❧ More than 70% of the total waste from restaurants and grocery stores could be composted.

# Collaboration Between



Mid-Valley Garbage & Recycling Association

- Inform customers of service
- Add service to customer's account
- Provide exterior containers

Marion County Environmental Services

- Provides educational materials
  - Stickers and Posters
  - Frequently Asked Questions
  - Employee Training guide
- Technical Assistance
  - Employee presentation
  - Assist with disposal station setup
- Free promotion of program participants

# History of Service



## ∞ 2010 Downtown Salem: Republic Services

- Cascade Baking
- Bentley's Grill
- The Grand Hotel

## ∞ 2011 Northeast Salem: Suburban Garbage Service

- McGrath's Fish House
- Hometown Buffet
- Roadhouse Grill
- Red Robin

## ∞ 2012 Salem-Keizer School District

# Materials



These materials are available to businesses for FREE.

**FOOD WASTE ONLY  
NO GARBAGE**

**TODA LA COMIDA  
NO BASURA**

**YES!**

- ✓ Food (including meats)
- ✓ Food soiled paper
- ✓ Plants
- ✓ Waxed produce boxes

**NO!**

- ✗ Plastic or Styrofoam
- ✗ Liquids
- ✗ Grease or cooking oil
- ✗ Glass
- ✗ Metal

**¡Sí!**

- ✓ Toda la comida
- ✓ Papel manchado por comida
- ✓ Plantas
- ✓ Cartón encerado

**¡NO!**

- ✗ Plástico o Styrofoam
- ✗ Líquidos, grasa, aceite de cocinar
- ✗ Vidrio
- ✗ Metales



**MARION COUNTY BUSINESSES COMPOST!**

**ALL FOOD**  
Fruits, vegetables, meat, poultry, seafood, shellfish, bones, rice, beans, pasta, bakery items, cheese and eggshells.

**FOOD-SOILED PAPER**  
Waxed cardboard, napkins, paper towels, uncoated paper plates, tea bags, coffee grounds/filters, wooden crates.

**PLANTS**  
Floral trimmings, tree trimmings, leaves, grass, brush and weeds.

**TODA COMIDA**  
Frutas, verduras, carnes, mariscos, huesos, arroz, frijoles, pastas, productos de panadería, queso y cáscaras de huevo.

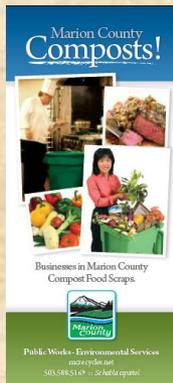
**PAPEL MANCHADO POR COMIDA**  
Cartón encerado, servilletas, toallas de papel, platos de papel sin recubrimiento, bolsas de té, café molido / filtros, cajas de madera.

**PLANTAS**  
Adornos florales, ramas de árboles, hojas, pastos, arbustos y malezas.

**¡NO!**  
Plástico, envolturas de plástico, espuma de poliestireno, metal, papel de aluminio, vidrio, líquidos, cajas de alimentos congelados, residuos peligrosos.

**HAVE QUESTIONS?**  
Call your hauler or the Mid-Valley Garbage & Recycling Association. 503.390.4000

Public Works Environmental Services  
503.588.5169. Or habla español! mrecycles.net



**GARBAGE ONLY!**  
Please sort out your recyclables and place them in the proper recycling containers.  
Thank You

# Results



We currently have 104 participants.

∞ 48 Businesses

∞ 56 Schools

- 42 Elementary Schools
- 13 Middle Schools
- 1 High School

# Food Waste Collection in Schools



Salem Keizer School District

- ❧ Program was started in 2012
- ❧ In 2014 all elementary schools were participating.
- ❧ 2015-16 All middle schools came on board.
- ❧ 2016 South Salem High became a participant.

# Materials Provided



## WHY BOTHER SORTING FOOD WASTE FOR COMPOSTING?

- Food waste accounts for 20% of the waste disposed of in Marion County. It is the single largest component of our waste streams. Only 13% of food waste is currently being recovered. In Marion County more than 38,389 tons of food waste are being treated as garbage each year! (Source: DEQ 2012, Oregon Material Recovery and Waste Generation Rates Report)

- When negative
- Because require facilities
- When Brook food
- If food carts come (Source)
- As it becomes extensive

### Food Waste Composting

DONE	Principal	NOTES
	Provide leadership to school community.	
	Communicate details of new program to all staff.	
	Ensure that teaching staff explains program to students before lunch on the first day of food waste composting.	
	Ensure that lunch supervisors are enthusiastically participating.	
	Ensure that lunch supervisors require student participation.	
	Determine school start date.	
DONE	Principal or School Green Team Leader	NOTES
	Be a resource for teaching staff on food waste composting.	
	Promote the food waste composting program within your school community through your school newsletter, parent club, etc.	
	Work with teachers to assign recycling helpers at lunchtime. These students will help monitor dump stations to ensure milk cartons and food waste are going in the proper bins.	
	If you aren't already, consider becoming an Oregon Green School!	
DONE	Recycling Coordinator	NOTES
	Facilitate initial meeting with principal, custodial lead, and green team leader.	
	Provide school with information regarding program WHY and HOW.	
	Contact custodial staff to educate and inform about program. Answer any questions and provide support.	
	Inform custodial staff of start date.	
	Contact food service to educate and inform about program. Answer any questions and provide support.	
	Inform Nancy Stalich of school start date.	
	Make contact with lunchtime student supervisors to ensure they understand the program. Answer any questions and provide support.	
	Contact garbage hauler to arrange for delivery of food waste.	



Liquid Only  
Líquido Solamente

Milk Cartons Only  
Cartones de Leche Solamente

Garbage  
Basura

All Food Waste and Paper Napkins  
Todos los desechos de la comida y servilletas de papel



NO



Paper bowls, cups, or other paper products

# Sorting Station



Before



After



# Food Waste Diversion



☞ In the 2013-2014 school year SKSD diverted 8.54 tons per week.

Bringing the diversion rate to about 333.01 tons per year.

☞ In the same year SKSD experienced an estimated savings of \$22,644.

# What make a program successful?



## ☞ Defining the program

- Keep it simple
  - Create an implementation plan

## ☞ Top-down Leadership

- Principals
  - School Staff
  - Students

## ☞ Involvement

- Have the green team or sustainability club take the lead

## ☞ Communication

- Have open communication with all parties
  - Make sure everyone knows their tasks and responsibilities
  - Recognize success

# Program in Action



# Next Steps



❧ Residential mixed organics collection is now available in

- Salem
- Keizer
- Woodburn
- Silverton
- Stayton
- Turner

Silverton's Environmental Management Committee has expressed interest in expanding food waste collection to commercial accounts.

❧ Update our materials and find new ways to keep the program growing.

❧ Get more businesses and schools to participate in our commercial composting program.

# Thank you!



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