

Thank you to the
2020 cohort

IDEASTARTER

Now accepting
applications for the
2021 cohort

Ideastarter Spotlight | Sustainable City Hall

Tania Dautlick & Mariel Klein

Pre-Covid Plans

- City Hall pilot
- Green meeting pilot

Covid Pivot

- Home Waste Reduction Pilot
- Virtual Training

Future...



QUICK GUIDE
What composting method suits your needs?

| Method | Basic overview | + | - | Accepted items |
|---|--|--|---|---|
| VERMICOMPOST (WORM BIN) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collect organic waste in an indoor bin; Worms decompose material into compost over time | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creates the richest (and most valuable \$\$\$) compost Fun to watch and learn - especially with kids | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> More like animal husbandry - worms can be finicky Doesn't allow for all kinds of organic waste | <p>FEWEST kinds of organic waste allowed (no animal products, bread, citrus, compostable "plastics", etc.)</p> <p><i>* You'll likely still be throwing away food in the landfill with this option.</i></p> |
| BACKYARD COMPOST (PILE / HEAP COMPOST) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collect organic waste in an outdoor pile to compost (many styles to choose); Occasionally turn, mix or tumble to introduce oxygen | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Able to create compost with minimal interaction & labor Accepts more kinds of waste than vermicomposting Fun to watch and learn - especially with kids | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires outdoor space (but not much) Can attract animal attention if you put in animal proteins (so just don't do it) | <p>MORE kinds of organic waste allowed (still no animal products or compostable "plastics"; not too much processed food)</p> <p><i>* You can make a big dent in your household landfill contribution.</i></p> |
| INDUSTRIAL COMPOST (FEE-FOR-SERVICE) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collect organic waste in indoor bin and bring outside to be collected weekly; Replaced with clean cart by service provider Industrial piles get very hot so they decompose quickly <p><small>* This is the method that City of Duluth is currently developing at the SWM facility.</small></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invisible process - it's the cleanest, hands-off method Get compost back, or you can choose to donate it Dashboard tells you how much waste you create | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current option costs money (\$30-35/month) Invisible process - you miss out on witnessing the transformation | <p>MOST kinds of organic waste allowed (meat, dairy, bread, processed foods, compostable plastics all A-ok)</p> <p><i>* You can make a massive dent in your weekly landfill footprint, especially if you start shopping for compostable materials.</i></p> |



- Continue remote trainings
- Consistent signs & receptacles
- City staff as pilot; use to inform resident program
- Before-and-after waste audits in office spaces;
- City employee waste reduction habits remain in strategic plans

Budget Retreat prototypes

2 days, 126 lbs food diverted
>5% contamination

Home Waste Reduction pilot

4 weeks

Recycling, Composting & Reducing waste
8 City staff and their families

Virtual Compost Training w/SWM Muriel Williman

2 trainings, over 40 participants