Minneapolis Solid Waste & Recycling



Outreach, education and minimizing contamination

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minneapolismn.gov/organics





Division Overview

Services Provided (1-4 unit buildings):

- Garbage (weekly)
- Recycling (every other week)
 - Household battery collection
- Organics Collection (weekly)
- Large Item Collection (weekly)
- Yard Waste (Apr. Nov.)
- Clean City Services:
 - CleanSweeps
 - Litter Clean-Up Supplies
 - Adopt-A-programs
 - Graffiti Abatement
- Voucher Program
 - **Event Recycling Services**









Organics program history

Pilot program 2008

Consultant study 2012 - 2013

Drop-offs
 2014 - 2015

Citywide roll-out 2015 - 2016

Sign Up Rates

• Jun. 2015 27.13 %

• Dec. 2015 31.82 %

• Jun. 2016 35.15 %

• Dec. 2016 40.54 %

• Jun. 2017 42.17 %

• Dec. 2017 43.66 %

Jan 22, 2018 43.82 %









Organics program overview

- Residents must sign up to receive a cart
 - No extra cost to sign up
 - Can sign up online, by email, phone, or mail
- Collected weekly
 - Must be bagged (compostable plastic or paper grocery bag)
 - Yard waste collected separately
- Composted (forced aeration) 30 miles from MPLS
 - Composter: Specialized Environmental Technologies

OrganicsRecycling Guide

All food





- Dairy products
- · Eggs and egg shells
- Pasta, beans and rice
- · Bread and cereal
- Nuts and shells

Food-soiled paper

- Pizza boxes from delivery
- Napkins and paper towels
- Paper egg cartons

State TANK

Certified compostable products

 Compostable paper and plastic cups, plates, bowls, utensils and containers

Look for the BPI or Cedar Grove logos or the term "compostable" on certified products.



Find a detailed yes/no list and additional home set up tips at minneapolismn.gov/organics

Other compostable household items

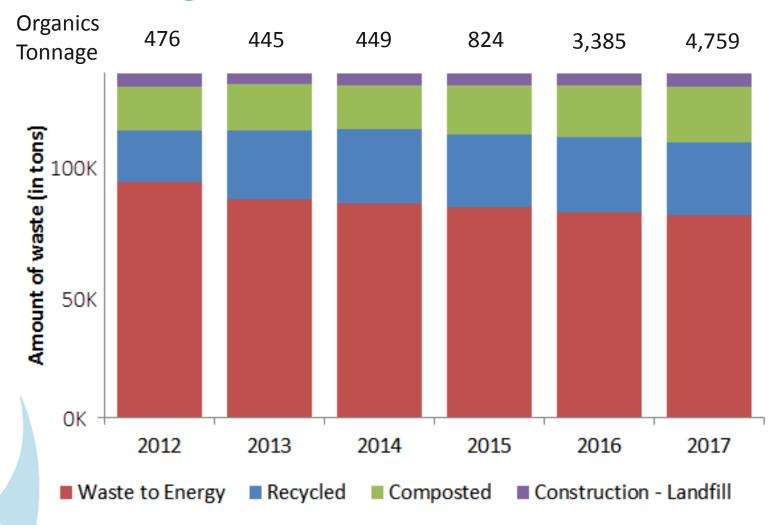
- Coffee grounds and filters
- Hair and nail clippings
- Cotton balls and swabs with paper stems
- Houseplants and flowers
- Tea bags
- Wooden items such as chopsticks, popsicle sticks and toothpicks

Not accepted: Yard waste • diapers and sanitary products • animal and pet waste, litter or bedding • cleaning or baby wipes • grease or oil • Styrofoam** dryer lint and dryer sheets • recyclable items (cartons, glass, metal, paper, plastic) • frozen food boxes • microwave popcorn bags • gum • fast food wrappers • products labeled * biodegradable*





Tonnage overview



Annual statistics available at: minneapolismn.gov/solid-waste/about/stats

Educational methods

- Direct mail
- City and Solid Waste & Recycling's website
- City Social media
- City TV channels, YouTube
 - Videos (English, Spanish, Hmong, Somali)
- Council Member newsletters
- City On-hold messages
- Internal call center (7 FTEs)
- Neighborhood & community education
 - Events, recycling block leaders, intern work, tours
- Field staff education





Educational methods (cont.)

- 2016 Advertising campaign:
 - Truck signage
 - Bus and bus shelter ads
 - Print ads
 - Digital still ads and pre-roll videos
 - Social media (low cost and large reach)
 - Radio ads (expensive and reach not known)
 - Direct mail
 - Events
 - Door-to-door through interns
 - 2018 PSAs starting in April





Messaging

- Good for the environment
- It's easy
- Save money













Direct mail



(idioma preferido, hom lus, af doorbidayso)



nedor de reciclaie de materia orgánic

de basura y de reciclale en su día recular de

materiales orgánicos?

Tan fácil como 1, 2, 3

Pre-translated into Spanish, Hmong, Somali





- Yes, I want to participate in the organics recycling program
- · Si, quiero participar en el programme de reciclaje de materia orgánica.
- · Yog, kuv xav mus koom nyob rau hauv lub organics ub kev pab cuam.
- Haa, waxaan doonayaa in aan ka gayb gaato barnaamijka dib u war shadaynta organics ah.

Name: (nombre, lub bpe, magaca)	
Address:	
(direccion, chaw nyob, cinwaanka)	
Phone:	
(telefono, xov tooj, lambarka taleefanka)	
rred language. English Spanish Henorg Somali	

first mailing (no translations)

2% increase in sign-ups 1 month after second (translated) mailing (37.2% - 39.2%)

"Sign Up Now" Postage Paid Reply Card

7.5% signup to 25% signup within 1 month of

Welcome kit



Educational pieces

- Detailed yes/no lists
- Home Setup Tips
 - Indoor
 - Outdoor
 - Tips for bags
- Container stickers









Education at events

Staff attend 100 neighborhood and community events each year















Education at the door

- Door-to-door in areas with lower than average sign-up rates
- Answer questions and provide resources
 - Yes/No lists
 - Stickers

2017 door-knocking results:

 36% average sign-up rate of residents spoken to through doorknocking







Community based education

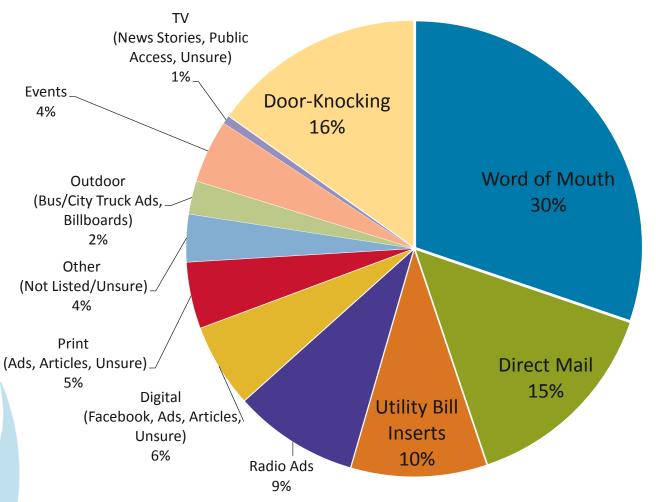
- Recycling Block Leader Program
 - Receive regular email updates, access to training and tours
 - Provided brochures, stickers, etc. to share with neighbors
 - Share City recycling updates with neighbors







Ad campaign summary (2016)



Ad campaign stats:

- Over 26.5 million impressions
- 5 hours of radio time
- Over 1,740 new sign-ups for program during measurement period

Ad Campaign Measurement Period: 5/23/16 - 7/17/16

Education through field staff

- Tags left on carts for contamination or other issues
 - Follow-up notification mailed to resident
- Seasonal reminder cart hangers (educational only - left on all carts)
 - Yard waste not accepted in organics carts
 - Not all paper products are accepted









Organics tag (front)

Minneapolis

ORGANICS RECYCLING

Your organics recycling a was a was not collected today. Please correct the items marked below and we will continue service on the next scheduled pickup day. If you have questions, please call Solid Waste & Recycling

- 1. The organics cart must be placed at the alley line or curb line by 6 a.m.
- 2. Organics were not contained. Organics must be bagged in compostable (paper grocery or certified compostable plastic) bags or wrapped in newspaper.
- ☐ 3. Organics were not in an accepted compostable bag. Compostable plastic bags must have this COMPOSTABLE logo to be accepted.

Paper grocery or lawn and leaf bags are also accepted.

- 4. Yard waste is not accepted in your green organics recycling cart. Yard waste is collected separately. See www.minneapolismn.gov/solid-waste/yardwaste for more information.
- ☐ 5 Contaminants in cart. These include items such as plastic bags, milk cartons or paper ice cream tubs, plastic-lined paper products, frozen food boxes, diapers and sanitary products, animal waste, litter or bedding, cleaning or baby wipes, grease or cooking oil, Styrofoam™, dryer lint and dryer sheets, and recyclable items (cartons,
- ☐ 6. Snow and/or ice must be removed from your organics collection point. (City Ordinance 225.680)

glass, metal, paper, plastic).

3 7.	Other	

www.minneapolismn.gov/organics					
Division of Solid W	7/2016 - ORG				
Route #					
Address					
Organics Rec	ycling collected?	YES	NO		
1	2	3	4		
5	6	7	DCP		

ivision of Solid Waste and Recycling

Organics tag (back)

YES! Please include:

Food Scraps:

- · Fruits and vegetables
- Meat, fish and bones
- Bread, pasta and baked goods
- Eggs and egg shells
- Dairy products

Food-Soiled Paper:

- · Napkins, paper towels and tissues
- Unlined paper plates, cups and bowls
- Pizza boxes from delivery
- Paper egg cartons
- Boxes that are not lined with plastic

Other Compostable Items:

- Coffee grounds and filters
- Hair and nail clippings
- Compostable bags
- Compostable cups, plates and bowls & containers

COMPOSTABLE

- Compostable utensils and straws
- Cotton balls and paper swabs (paper stem only)
- Wood chopsticks, popsicle sticks, stir sticks, and
- · Indoor houseplant trimmings

NO! Do not include:

- Yard waste (grass clippings, leaves, brush)
- Dirt, soil and rocks
- Plastic bags
- Plastic lined paper products: Milk cartons, juice boxes, paper ice cream tubs, Chinese food containers, frozen food boxes
- Styrofoam Th
- Animal waste, litter or bedding
- Diapers and sanitary products
- Cleaning or baby wipes
- Grease or cooking oil
- Dryer lint or dryer sheets
- Vacuum cleaner bags or contents
- Parchment or wax paper

Division of Solid Waste & Recycling

Recyclable items (cartons, glass, metal, paper, plastic)

Alternative Formats:

Hearing impaired can use a relay service to call 311 at 612-673-3000. TTY users call 612-673-2157 or 612-673-2626

Para asistencia 612-673-2700 Rau kev pab 612-673-2800 Hadii aad Caawimaad u baahantahay 612-673-3500

QUESTIONS? Call 612-673-2917 or visit www.minneapolismn.gov/organics

Organics topic specific cart hangers



Organics Recycling Collection

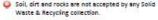
Reminder: Yard waste is not accepted in the green Organics Recycling cart



Yard waste items not accepted include:



Grass clippings Grass and tree trimmings Garden plants



For more information on yard waste collection, call Solid Waste and Recycling at 612-673-2917, email us at SWRcustomer@minneapolismn.gov or visit www.minneapolismn.gov/solid-waste/yardwaste



What is accepted in the green Organics Recycling cart?

Food, non-recyclable paper and other compostable items





For more information on organics recycling call Solid Waste and Recycling at 612-673-2917, email us at SWRcustomer@minneapolismn.gov or visit www.minneapolismn.gov/organics

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Reminder: Not all paper products belong in organics recycling

This citywide reminder has been placed on all organics recycling carts; it does not mean that we found a problem with the contents of your cart.

The following paper items are lined with plastic or wax and belong in the garbage. They are not recyclable or compostable.

Coffee cups and cold cups

Decorative paper plates





Paper ice cream tubs, Chinese take out boxes Wax paper, butcher wrap, butter wrappers





How do I tell if a paper product belongs in the organics recycling cart?

Any paper food-service item that has a shiny lining, like coffee cups and to-go containers, must have the BPI or Cedar Grove logo on it for it to be placed in the green organics recycling cart.



Non-recyclable paper items without a shiny lining (ex. non-shiny paper plates napkins, paper towels, pizza boxes from delivery, paper egg cartons) are compostable and can be placed in the green organics cart.



For more information call Solid Waste and Recycling at 612-673-2917 or visit www.minneapolismn.gov/organics

Organics audits 2017

- Sorted a load presumed to be clean and a load presumed to likely have more contamination
 - Presumed clean load: 0.57% contamination
 - Contamination after cart hanger distribution: **0.47**%
 - Presumed not as clean: 1.45% contamination
 - Contamination after cart hanger distribution: 0.79%
- Contaminants:
 - Plastic lined paper products (plates, cups, soup and to-go containers, freezer boxes) – ¾ of weight
 - Non-compostable plastic bags (produce bags)









Summary

- Get people talking!!!
 - increases awareness, support and participation
 - helps reduce contamination
- Use multiple outreach methods
 - direct mailings are necessary, but they're not enough
- Continuously monitor programs and use feedback from staff, processors and customers to improve program and educational materials
- No need to re-invent the wheel, ask for information and assistance from other communities
 - collaborate with neighboring communities to have a consistent message

Minneapolis Solid Waste & Recycling

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minneapolismn.gov/organics

Studies and Reports available at: minneapolismn.gov/solid-waste/about/studies-and-reports



