



Food Scrap Diversion and Your Bottom Line

ECONOMIC FACTS

Food scraps aren't *waste*—they're the necessary ingredients for making compost! **And diverting food scraps to composting can provide some sound economic benefits for your business, too.**

- Diverting food scraps to composting can reduce the amount of trash you pay to have hauled to the landfill.
- We'll train your staff and supply all the materials you need to get started for FREE—including transportation and compost tipping fee costs for the first month you take part in the program.
- Diverting food scraps offers your restaurant/cafe/teria/school a “green” image—influencing customers, staff and/or families.

How you can benefit from the CVSWMD Business Organics Program:

- The opportunity to reduce your trash disposal costs.
- Promotion of your restaurant/cafe/teria/school! There are “table talkers” for placing on restaurant and cafeteria tables which explain your participation to your patrons; and “We Compost!” window stickers to let everyone know you're composting!
- Environmental benefits! See the *Food Scrap Diversion and Your Environment* fact sheet for details.



Questions?

Call the Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District at 802-229-9383 ext.106, or e-mail ORGANICS@CVSWMD.ORG

Here are some of the facts:

FACT: Reducing the amount of trash you produce can reduce your trash bill. Food scraps make up between 56% and 60% of restaurant waste, by weight.* By diverting all those food scraps to composting, your dumpster won't fill up as often and your garbage won't be as smelly! Both factors can reduce the number of dumpster “pulls” you'll need—which could reduce your trash bill.

FACT: It costs nothing to try the program! We provide everything you need to get started—staff training; educational signs to post in the kitchen and wait staff areas; free transportation and coverage of food scrap tipping fees for the first month; help in understanding and renegotiating your trash contract; and sturdy 48-gallon totes for collecting food scraps.

After the one-month trial period, you'll be billed for food scrap hauling based on the number of totes you fill. But the fees are lower than the trash tipping fees. District staff can help you figure out your costs and how the program can impact your business for the better.

FACT: Local agriculture has strong supporters in central Vermont, and composting helps to complete that cycle—returning food scraps to the soil to grow more food. A “green” image can be positive for your business, too!

* Source: *Vermont Waste Composition Study: Final Report*, June 2002; prepared by DSM Environmental Services for Vermont Dept. of Environmental Conservation Solid Waste Program.

