Using Compostable Plastics to Enhance Food Scraps Collection
Purpose

- Advance composting technologies, practices, and beneficial uses that support resource conservation and economic and environmental sustainability

501(c)3 non-profit providing charitable tax benefits to those that donate to its research and projects.

Recent projects include:
- Compostable Plastics Toolkit
- Curb to Compost Toolkit
A few logistics

Everyone is on mute

Ask Questions!

- Type your question into the question box in GoToWebinar control panel
- We will get to as many questions as we can during the Q&A session at the end
Today’s agenda:

- Introduction
- Real life experience
  - City of San Francisco *Jack Macy*
  - City of Austin *Jessica Kingpetcharat-Bittner*
  - Zero Waste events *Leslie Lukacs, L2 Environmental*
- CP Toolkit Overview
- Developing a Food Scrap Collection system
  - Components *Matt Cotton, IWM Consulting*
  - Toolkit resources
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Navigating Compostable Plastics

This toolkit is designed to help determine if a compostable plastics program is appropriate for your organization and to guide in properly managing your compostable plastics.

Explore our toolkit by category

- Backgrounds & Definitions
- Policies & Legislation
- Education & Outreach
- Analysis & Field Research
- Certified & Accepted Products
Why Create a Toolkit?

Compostable Plastics:

- Offer Opportunities
  - Maximize Food Waste Capture
  - Save Non-Renewable Resources
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Pose Challenges
Challenges Identified by CPTF

• Consumer Education
• Identification /Labeling
• Enforcement / Legislation
• Application of ASTM Standards
• Composting Practices
• Contamination of traditional recycling streams
USDN Funding

- Urban Sustainability Directors Network
  - Network across U.S. and Canada
- Phase 1: Innovation Fund Grant: $50,000
- Phase 2: Innovation Opportunity Fund Grant: $25,000
Compostable Plastic Toolkit Team

- USDN and Partner Cities- San Jose, CA, Gaithersburg, MD & Asheville, NC
- US Composting Council (USCC) & Composting Council Research and Education Foundation (CCREF)
- CP Task Force - participants represent all industry stakeholders
  - Manufacturers
  - Distributors
  - Buyers/Users
  - Public Sector
  - Compost Operators
  - Legislators, Educators
- 2plus2
Creating the Toolkit

- Survey of municipalities
  - 153 responses
- Compilation of resources
  - CP Task Force members
  - Local governments
  - Composters, non-profits
- Designed the toolkit
  - Hosted on CCREF site
- Debuted at USCC 2014 Conference in Oakland
- Toolkit went live March 2014
- Updates underway
Tools

- Currently the CP Toolkit contains 75 tools
- Maintain neutrality
- Educational – not promotional
- Peer reviewed
  - Vetted by the CP Task Force
    - Credibility
    - Relevance
    - Neutrality
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Next Steps

• Keep the conversation going
  • Add more tools
  • Rate and refine current tools
  • Add keyword search functionality to further improve user experience

• Compostable Plastics Task Force – USCC
  • Three Specialized Working Groups:
    Legislation and Enforcement
    Labeling and Education
    Standards and Operations
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