

EDMONSTON FOOD COMPOSTING COLLABORATIVE POST-GRANT PROGRAM OPTIONS



OBJECTIVES

- Continue momentum for food scrap composting in the five towns started by the USDA grant
- Keep processing of collected food scraps locally to minimize traffic & emissions
- Continue to give the Collaborative a valuable, locally-produced soil enrichment product
- Come up with a financial model that works for the towns, the residents & Compost Crew



CURRENT PROGRAM

- **The service residents get today, which is currently funded by the USDA grant, is priced at a flat rate**
- After the grant to continue weekly collection & processing it would take a minimum of 220 households across the towns to keep the per home price within reason
- The finished compost would continue to be used at ECO City Farms. Some amount of compost may be offered for purchase by residents (or towns) at a discounted rate.



CURRENT PARTICIPATION LEVELS

Town	# of homes
Edmonston	34
Cheverly	62
Cottage City	14
Bladensburg	27
Colmar Manor	14
Total	151



POST-GRANT PROGRAM

- After the grant to continue weekly collection & processing, to get to a manageable per home cost, we will need at least 220 households to participate
- The Compost Outpost capacity is currently ~220 homes
- Over 220 households is ok; some of the food scraps would be hauled to the Prince George's County Organics Composting facility
- Expanding above 220 would bring down the per home cost.



POST-GRANT PROGRAM PRICING

- After the grant to continue weekly collection & processing for 220 homes, the monthly cost per home would be \$34.40
- This is higher than Compost Crew's list rate because it also includes the local processing.
- We have several options for reducing that rate.



TO REDUCE PROGRAM COST - OPTION #1

- **Edmonston sells the shipping containers at the Outpost to Compost Crew**
 - Compost Crew would purchase the containers used at the Compost Outpost for a depreciated price (80% of original cost)
 - Purchase would happen over 2-3 years, via a reduction in monthly service fees
 - The per home monthly rate for service would be reduced to:
 - \$27.28 over two years
 - \$30.00 over three years



TO REDUCE PROGRAM COST - OPTION #2

- **Change to a partially-subsidized program**
 - The towns could choose to have residents pay a small monthly fee for the service, reducing the amount paid by the towns
 - City of Alexandria introduced a \$5 / month fee; Falls Church charges \$8 / month; Greenbelt charges \$10 / month
 - Charging a fee may reduce participation. A monthly fee of \$5 or less would limit attrition.
 - This subsidy may be different for each town.