



Food Scraps Recycling: City Mouse/Country Mouse

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Tompkins County

Overview

Mission: To manage the solid waste of Tompkins County in a manner that is:

- Environmentally sound
- Cost-effective
- Socially responsible
- Safe

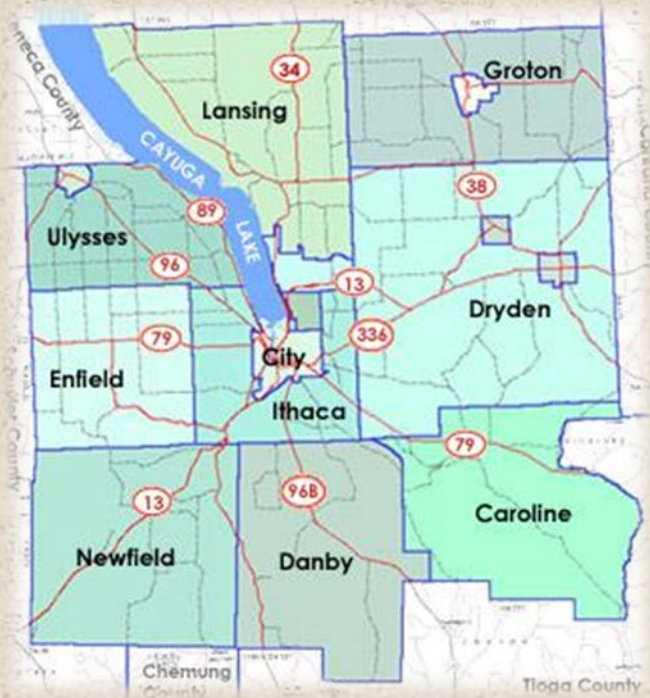


Goals:

- 85% waste diversion by 2030



Tompkins County



Population

- City of Ithaca: 30,014
- Total County: 101,564
- 41,674 Households
- 476 Square miles
- PAYT Trash

Partnership with Cayuga Compost

- 3-year contract with local excavating/topsoil company
- Operates windrow composting for food scraps, yard waste
- DEC Permit Modification received (5,000 TPY food scraps)
- Empire State Development Grant (equipment)
- \$55/ton tipping fee



Marketing and Uses for Compost

- Market growth in the Finger Lakes Region; bulk suppliers
- Compost products include topsoil blends, pure compost, and mulch
- Compost uses include:
 - Stormwater and erosion control
 - Landscaping
 - Soil amendments
 - Nursery beds
 - Fruit & vegetable production



Curbside Food Scraps Collection Overview

- Weekly collection, on recycling day
- Partnership with Casella for collection in modified pickup truck
- Kick-off event and mailings to introduce the program
- Free toolkit
 - Tested several options
- Ongoing data collection



Curbside Collection Pilot

Phase 1

- 450 homes
- Launched November 15, 2013

Phase 2

- 1,250 homes
- Launched May 21, 2014
- Ended December 31, 2016
- Average weight per household: 10.87 lbs/week
- Set out rate: 24%
- Integrate with garbage collection



Drop Spots

- First launched 2012
- Locations- 11 as of January 2017
 - 14 by the end of 2017
 - Recycling & Solid Waste Center
 - Cayuga Compost
 - Municipalities
 - Community partners
- Over 31,000 drops in 2016
- Approximately 275 tons diverted in 2016

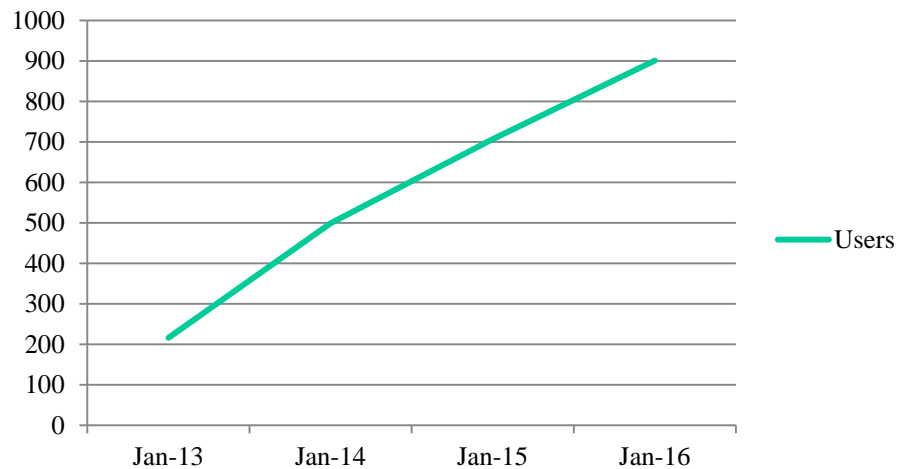


RSWC Drop Spot

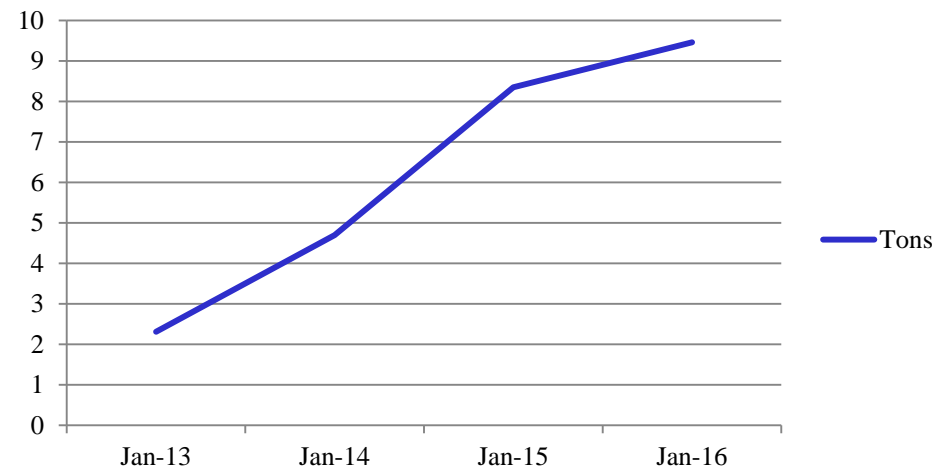
- First pilot location: 2012
- 38,133 users, Apr '12 – Dec '16
- 381.39 tons, Apr '12 - Dec '16



Users 2013-2016



Tons 2013-2016



Off-Site Stationary Drop Spots



- 16,500 Drops in 2016
- 121 Tons in 2016



Mobile Unit

- 15 tons in 2016
 - Two locations, opened in March and July
- Average 1 ton/month
- 2,500 drops in 2016
- Average 143 drops/month



Key Elements of Drop Spots

- Free Toolkits
 - Transportation containers
 - Kitchen caddies
 - Compostable liners
 - Education materials
- Staffed
- Operating hours vary by site
- Promotion and outreach



**FOOD
SCRAPS
RECYCLING**
Fork 'em over!

DROPPING OFF YOUR FOOD SCRAPS

Residents can bring food scraps and compostable disposable items, free of charge, to the Drop-off Area at the Recycling and Solid Waste Center (RSWC).

IT'S EASY:

Kitchen Caddy
Collect your food scraps in your kitchen caddy. For added convenience, use a compostable bag. Kitchen caddies and compostable bags are available for free at the Solid Waste Office.



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5-Gallon Bucket
Empty your kitchen caddy into a 5-gallon bucket with a secure lid.



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Drop-Off Tote
Bring your bucket to the RSWC and place food scraps - compostable bag and all - into the tote. You may bring up to 10 gallons per day.



How to Use Drop Spots

- https://youtube/JINyU0tS_i4

Lessons Learned



Drop Spots

- Develop partnerships
 - Local resources
 - Contracts
- Site maintenance
 - Plowing, mowing, litter
- Adequate attendants
- Communications & outreach methods
- Weather
 - Open same time, 52 weeks a year
 - Residents going home with an empty bucket





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