

Bob Gedert, ARR Department Director

Organics Collection Discussion



ZWAC Presentation
February 11, 2015



Organics = 30% of Municipal Solid Waste Stream



DEFINING
**ZERO
WASTE**



Food Waste = 14.5% of Municipal Solid Waste Stream

Source: US EPA 2012 Municipal Solid Waste Report

Yard Trimmings Collection



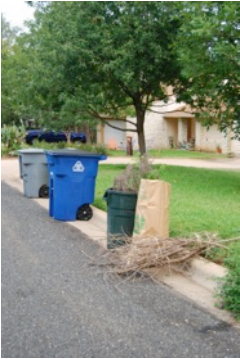
**Current Weekly Service:
Bagged Grass Clippings, Leaves, Small Branches**



Residential Services

Transitioning to food waste collection

2 cart service vs. 3 cart service

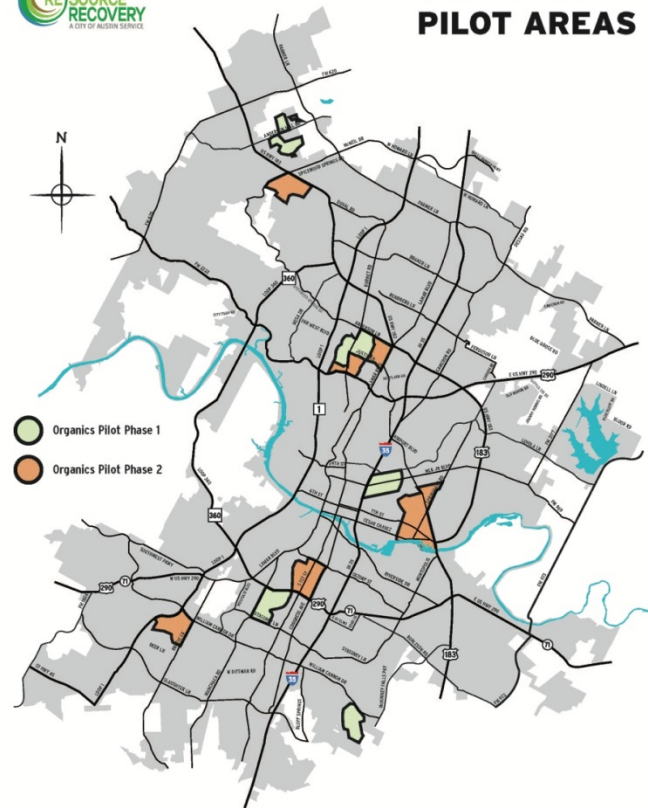


Curbside Organics Collection Pilot

- Began January 2013
- 14,000 Households
- Ten geographic areas = Two areas serviced per day
- Weekly curbside service for yard trimmings and food scraps
- City deployment in planning stage



ORGANICS PILOT AREAS



This product is for informational purposes and may not have been prepared for or be suitable for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes. It does not represent an on-the-ground survey and represents only the approximate relative location of property boundaries. This product has been produced by Austin Resource Recovery for the sole purpose of geographic reference. No warranty is made by the City of Austin regarding specific accuracy or completeness.



Curbside Organics Collection Pilot

Transition to Single-Stream Organics Collection

- Promote Residential Backyard Composting
- Collect yard trimmings in 96 gal carts
- Add food scraps and compostable paper





Curbside Organics Collection Pilot

- Distributed: Kitchen food scrap containers
- Distributed: 96 gal Green Organic carts
- Literature, Instructions, Website, Videos
Community Meetings, Door-to-Door Notices
- Add yard trimmings, food scraps and
compostable paper to Green Organics



Curbside Organics Collection Pilot

- Container Labeling
- Do's and Don'ts Literature
- Call 3-1-1 for info
- AustinRecycles.com



CARTS AT THE CURB BY 6:30 A.M.
CONTENEDORES AL BORDILLO PARA LAS 6:30 A.M.

ORGANICS ONLY / PILOT PROGRAM
SÓLO ORGÁNICOS / PROGRAMA PILOTO

YARD DEBRIS
ESCOMBROS DE YARDA

3 in. diameter
3-5 ft.

SOILED PAPER
PAPEL SUCIO

FOOD SCRAPS
PEDACITOS DE ALIMENTO

DO NOT PUT THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN THIS CART
No ponga los artículos siguientes en este carrito

RECYCLABLES Reciclables
TRASH Basura
PLASTIC BAGS Bolsas de plástico
STYROFOAM Espuma de poliestireno
METAL Metal
TREATED WOOD Madera tratada
PAINTED WOOD Madera pintada
LIQUIDS Liquids

Material will be composted and made into soil.
Materiales serán convertidos en abono y convertidos en tierra.

ALL FOOD CONTAINERS MUST BE EMPTY BEFORE PLACING THEM IN THE CART.
Todos los contenedores de alimento deben ser vacíos antes de colocarlos en el carrito.

PLACE ALL FOOD SCRAPS IN A PAPER BAG
Spanish spanish spanish spanish

CITY OF AUSTIN • 3-1-1 • austinrecycles.com



Curbside Organics Collection Pilot

Learned Lessons

- **Varied Set Out Rates**
- **Routing Challenges**
- **Contamination Challenges**
- **The “Yuck” Factor**
- **Processor Challenges**
- **Customer Education – Varied Needs**
- **9.94 Pounds per Week per Household**
(Potential 12.5 pounds / week / household)
- **Truck Styles – Automated vs. Semi-Auto**
- **Container Sizing – 96 Gal too large**



Curbside Organics Collection City-Wide Roll-Out Proposed Expansion

- **Weekly Service**
- **Co-mingled carts and bag service**
- **Kitchen food scrap containers**
- **24 gal Green Organic carts**
- **Certified Compostable Bags**
- **Literature, Instructions, Website,
Community Meetings, Door-to-Door**
- **Semi-Automated Rear Loaders**
- **Processing: Competitive Bid Contracts**
- **Five Year Roll-out Schedule**
- **Opt-Out Opportunities**



Curbside Organics Collection City-Wide Roll-Out Proposed Expansion

- **FY2015-16 Ramp Up, Planning, purchase of vehicles & carts for year two.**
- **FY2016-17 Conversion of 3 YT routes to 8 Organic routes**
- **FY2017-18 Conversion of 3 YT routes to 8 Organic routes**
- **FY2018-19 Conversion of 3 YT routes to 8 Organic routes**
- **FY2019-20 Conversion of 3 YT routes to 8 Organic routes**

**Total of 32 weekly Organics Routes to service
210,600 Households**



Curbside Organics Collection City-Wide Roll-Out

Accommodate Alternatives

- **Encourage Back-Yard Composting**
 - **Continue Rebates / Vouchers Program**
- **City Centralized Co-Mingled Collection**
 - **Small collection container plus bags**
- **Community Service Programs**
 - **Alternative Organics Collection by Rule**
 - **Documentation of tonnage collected**
 - **Encourage community agriculture & gardens**
 - **Provide a replacement service that reduces carbon footprint and supports community**
 - **Requires Rules Adoption (see proposed rules)**



Curbside Organics Collection City-Wide Roll-Out

ZWAC Discussion

- **Proposed City-Wide Rollout – Discussion**
 - **Service Provided, Roll-out Schedule**
 - **Community Input Meetings**
 - **ZWAC & Council Committee**
- **Organic Food Waste Management Program**
 - **Intent Document – Action Requested**
 - **Next Step: City Legal Review**
- **Timeline**
 - **FY2015-16 Budget Timeline (May ZWAC)**
 - **Rules; ZWAC & Council Adoption**

Bob Gedert, ARR Department Director

Organics Collection Discussion



ZWAC Presentation
February 11, 2015

