

Organics Newsletter

June/July 2022

Glacial Ridge Compost Facility

Class A Compost in West Central MN

There are 12 permitted large food composting facilities across MN, with a large portion of them centered around the Metro & St. Cloud areas. Pope Douglas Solid Waste Management is adding to rural MN's compost resource with their construction of a bio-Covered Aerated Static Pile compost facility. The Glacial Ridge Compost Facility's (GRCF) engineering incorporates aeration and ventilation through piping incorporated in the flooring of the facility. The design reduces the need for pile mixing and labor, meaning the facility will require less long-term maintenance and financial costs. Constructed directly East of Hoffman, MN in Douglas County, the facility is built with organics recycling capacity for a 5-county partnership including: Pope, Douglas, Stevens, Grant, and Ottertail counties. Each county is working with a team to educate the public, set up organics pickups, and engage local businesses and institutions in putting waste in its place!



GRCF aerial snapshot of the tipping floor (top) and the bunker/aeration areas (bottom) before concrete was poured, showing the aeration piping embedded in the floor.



Organics Kits

Through MPCA Grant Funding, Stevens County Organics will be providing Household Organics Starter Kits to interested households. These kits will include: a three-gallon countertop container, a box of BPI certified bags, informational brochures on the program, and stickers to label your trash, recycling, and organics containers at home! These will be given away at the Dropsite Kickoff once the first dropsite is completed in August!



Do you already have a household kit set up? Send us a picture! We would love to share your ideas!

Are you interested in utilizing Stevens County funding to get your organization set up for Organics success?

Contact Sydney at (320) 208-6574 or
sydneybauer@co.stevens.mn.us

Local Success Stories

Super Compost at SuperValu!

One business in Stevens County that has been a champion of organics recycling is Willie's SuperValu. With staff in multiple departments taking on organics recycling, they successfully fill five to six organics carts of compost per week that would otherwise be going into the trash.

The Willie's team has participated in organics pickup since it began in December of 2021 and have only grown how much organic material they are diverting from the trash.

When the program first started up, Willie's worked with Stevens County Organics to acquire bins, signage, stickers, and bags. Departments now have bins and signage that work for their specific needs.

Staff in the meat department toss their scraps and bones, the deli composts old food and paper waste, and the bakery now turns the previous day's pastries and goodies into nutrient dense compost!

It is exciting to see the team at Willie's SuperValu be a leader in this county-wide program, supporting waste efforts across West Central MN. Thank you to the staff and leadership at Willie's SuperValu in Morris!



**Stevens
County
Organics**

Sydney Bauer- Coordinator
sydneybauer@co.stevens.mn.us

Office: (320) 208-6574

Website: www.co.stevens.mn.us/organics