

Curbside Residential Organics Collection and Processing in Madison and Fitchburg



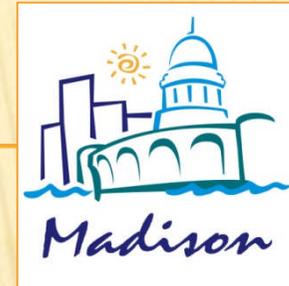
George Dreckmann,
Madison's Recycling Coordinator

Rick Eilertson, P.E.,
Fitchburg Environmental Engineer

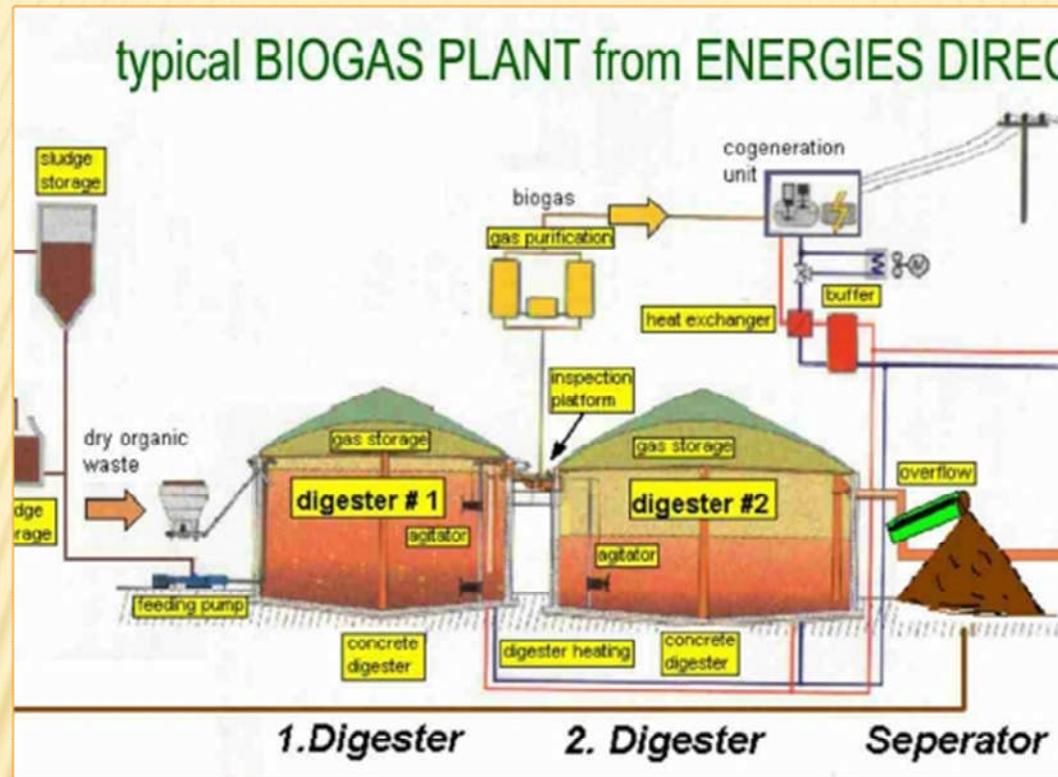


Presentation at WDNR's Solid Waste Interested Parties Meeting – May 8, 2012, 9:35am

OUR VISION

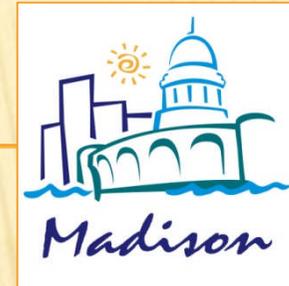


- ✘ Zero Waste Goal
- ✘ Targeting Organics
 - + Largest remaining segment of our residential stream
- ✘ Build a 21st Century Infrastructure
 - + Landfill & MRF
 - + Digester next step
 - ✘ Renewable energy and compost



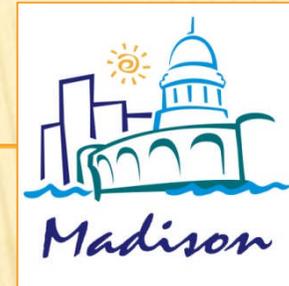
ANAEROBIC DIGESTER

2010-2011 RECAP



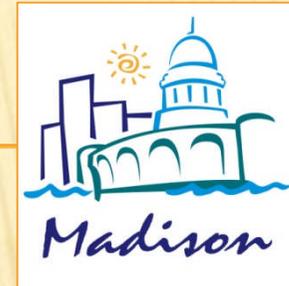
- ✘ Waste sort on trash done in 2010
 - + Targeted Organics and Recyclables
- ✘ Pilot started June 6, 2011
- ✘ 485 households and 1 business in the pilot
- ✘ Source Separated Organics being diverted to Columbia County compost system.

RECENT ACTIVITY



- ✘ Pilot program continues for 2012
- ✘ Adding 100 households on the west side
- ✘ Consultant selected for economic feasibility study for an anaerobic digester
 - + Organic Waste Systems Inc.
- ✘ Staff visit to European digesters planned

NEXT STEPS



- ✘ Expand Pilot by 100 HH's this summer
- ✘ Collection Cost Estimate by July 1.
- ✘ Consultant Study Finished in August
 - + Go or No Go Decision
- ✘ Include Planning Funds in 2013 Capital Budget
- ✘ Expand Pilot
- ✘ Finalize Location



What's in our Carts?

2009 Solid Waste Sort (Refuse & Recycling Carts collected from 40 homes)

Recycling Findings (% by weight)

- Actual Recycling Rate = 33%
- Potential Recycling Rate = 48%
- Recommendations:** Recycling Cart Stickers, Advertise Recycling Guide





What's in our Carts?

Refuse Carts

Refuse Findings (% by weight)

• Food waste = 27%

• Soiled paper = 15%

Total Compostable Organics = **42%**

Goal: Divert Organics from Landfill





Why Collect Organics?



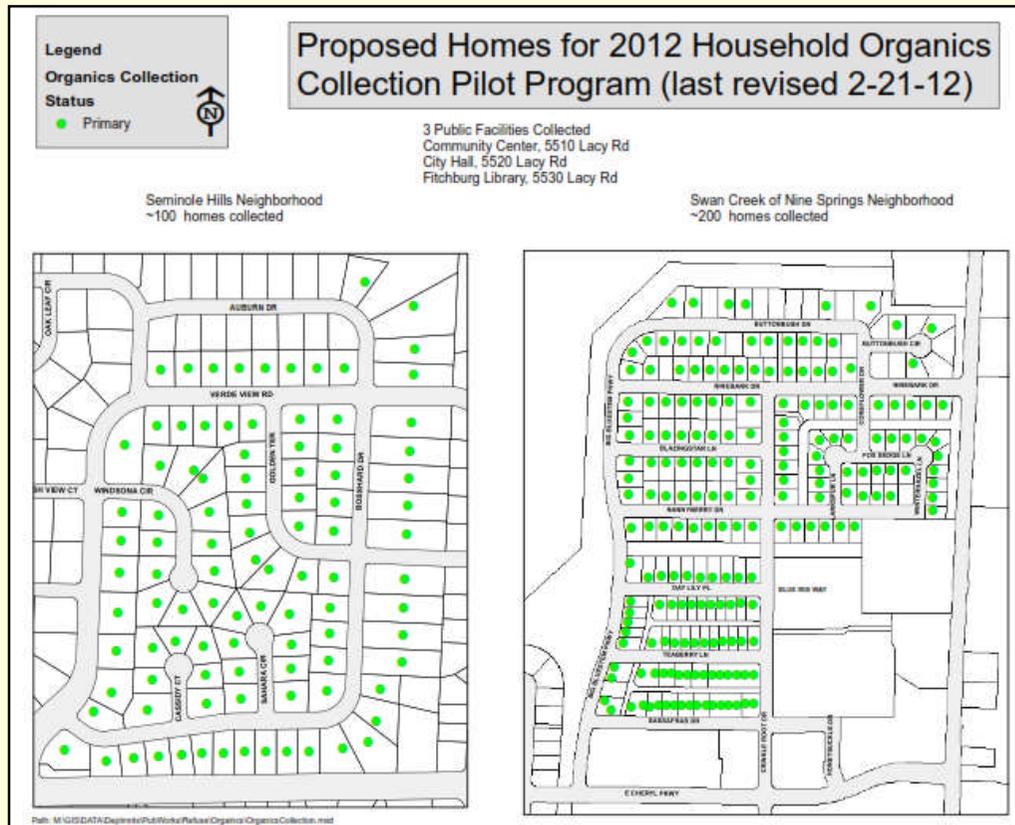
1. Reduces waste disposal costs
2. Saves landfill space
3. Keeps nutrients in "The Loop"





Organics Collection Pilot Details

- ~300 Households Invited



CITY OF FITCHBURG
Administrative Offices
5520 Lacy Road
Fitchburg, WI 53711-5318
Phone: (608) 270-4200 Fax: (608) 270-4212
www.city.fitchburg.wi.us

February 3, 2012

Resident
Fitchburg Organics Collection Pilot Area
Fitchburg, WI 53711

RE: Fitchburg's Organics Collection Pilot

Dear Resident,

As you may have read in the January Fitchburg Update, Fitchburg is starting an Organics Collection Pilot beginning on April 3, 2012. Your household is in the area selected for the Pilot. We are excited to begin this Pilot which we hope will lead to a viable way to reduce landfilled waste and at the same time produce a useable product.

A handout detailing the Pilot and describing the Pilot supplies, which will be delivered to you in early March, is attached to this letter. We will be holding an Organics Collection Pilot Workshop on Thursday, March 8, 2012, at the Fitchburg Library (5530 Lacy Road, in Meeting Rooms A & B). There will be two presentations to further explain the program and answer any questions. The first presentation will start at 5:30 pm, followed by a "Hands-on" demonstration of the Pilot supplies at 6:15pm. The second presentation will start at 7:00pm and be a repeat of the first.

The City appreciates your participation in this Pilot, however, participation is voluntary. If you prefer not to participate, you may "opt out" of the program by contacting me prior to March 1st. This will allow us to allocate your cart and Pilot supplies to the next interested household.

Since this is a new program, things may change during the Pilot period. We've created a web page (www.city.fitchburg.wi.us/Organics) to help answer questions, and keep participants and other interested residents updated. You can also subscribe to email updates on this program by visiting the above web page and following the steps noted. If you have any questions, comments or suggestions, please feel free to contact me at rick.eliertson@city.fitchburg.wi.us or 270-4264.

Again, we appreciate your participation and look forward to working with you on the Organics Collection Pilot. Thank you!

Sincerely,
City of Fitchburg

Rick Eliertson, P.E.
Environmental Engineer

<http://www.city.fitchburg.wi.us/Organics>



Organics Collection Pilot Details

Organics Collection Pilot Handout

Q: Why does Fitchburg want to collect organics separately?

The main reason for a Curbside Organics Collection program is to reduce the amount of waste going to the landfill. Approximately 42% of waste collected in Fitchburg's refuse carts is considered organic and is readily compostable (based on the 2009 Fitchburg Waste Sort). If we can reduce that number to 10% throughout the entire city we will keep over 1,000 tons of trash out of the landfill annually. That will extend the life of the landfills and save a significant amount of money by reducing tipping fees at the landfill. In addition, the organics collected will be turned into a useable soil supplement as stabilized compost.

Q: Why is Fitchburg conducting this Pilot?

This Pilot will help identify issues that need to be addressed before possible expansion City-wide. The information obtained from this Pilot will be very helpful in Fitchburg's efforts to minimize waste disposal costs.

Q: What do I need to do as a Pilot participant?

As a participant of this Pilot, we would like you to separate your organic waste (defined below) from your refuse and put it in a separate Organics cart. Your Organics cart will be collected weekly on the same day as your refuse cart, starting April 3rd. So just set your Organics cart curbside on your refuse collection day.

Q: What Organics Collection Pilot supplies will I receive between March 2nd and 7th?

- 35 gallon brown Cart (on loan from Pellitteri) with "Organics Only" sticker (Figure 1 below)
- 2 gallon kitchen Compost Pail (either Sure-Close in Fig. 2 or Norseman in Fig. 3 below)
- Sample compostable bags (GLAD and/or EcoSafe brands)
- Program literature with further information on the Pilot and the Workshops



Figure 1: 35-gallon "Organics Only" Cart



Figure 2: Kitchen Pail, Option A - Sure-Close



Figure 3: Kitchen Pail, Option B - Norseman

P:\Engineering\Environmental\Recycling and Refuse\Organics\Pilot\Pilot Letter to 300.doc

Q: What "Organics" are allowed in my brown "Organics Only" carts for this pilot?

Fruit and Vegetable scraps
Grains (e.g. bread, bagels, tortillas, etc)
Table scraps, including Meats, Fats, Bones
Dairy products (e.g. milk, cheese, butter, ice cream)
Coffee grounds & filters
Dirty Paper-based items (e.g. paper cups and plates, napkins, paper towels, dirty portions of cardboard pizza boxes)
Pet waste (from dogs, cats, and other pets, including newspaper liners and kitty litter but any bags must be biodegradable.)
Compostable bags (Note: must be appropriately labeled as "Compostable" with BPI and US Composting Council logo)



Q: How is the Organics Collection different from backyard composting?

The Organics Collection includes many more items such as table scraps, meats, fats, bones and pet waste which are not suitable for backyard composting. In addition, for this Pilot, yardwaste should not be put in your brown Organics cart.

Q: What's the timeframe for this Pilot?

You can begin separating your organics as soon as you receive your Organics cart, but the first organics collection will be on Tues., April 3rd. The Pilot will continue at least through the end of December 2012.

P:\Engineering\Environmental\Recycling and Refuse\Organics\Pilot\Pilot Letter to 300.doc



Organics Collection Pilot Details

What Can go in the Carts

- Fruit and Vegetable scraps
- Grains (eg. bread, bagels, tortillas, etc)
- Meats, Fats, Bones
- Coffee grounds & filters
- Soiled Paper Items (eg. Soiled napkins, paper towels, pizza boxes)
- Pet waste (currently can include kitty litter)



What Can't go in the Carts

- Non-Compostable Plastic bags
- Dirty diapers (this may change during the course of the Pilot)
- Other household refuse or recyclables



Organics Collection Pilot Details

- Where do I put the supplies?
- How do I use the supplies?
- Calling the Superkids Hotline 270-4264

- http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=LgTwDOckvoo





Organics Collection Pilot Details





Food Waste Disposers? no.



&



=

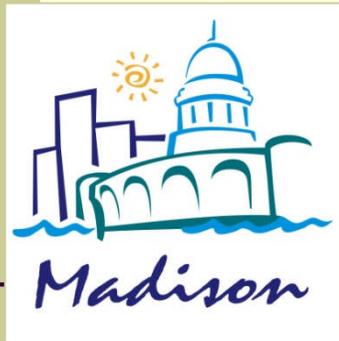


1. Uses Electricity at Home & WWTP (\$)
2. Uses Water (\$)
3. Can clog home and public sanitary sewer pipes (\$)
4. WWTF needs to dispose of solids (\$)



Home Composting? Yes!





Questions?



Contact Information:

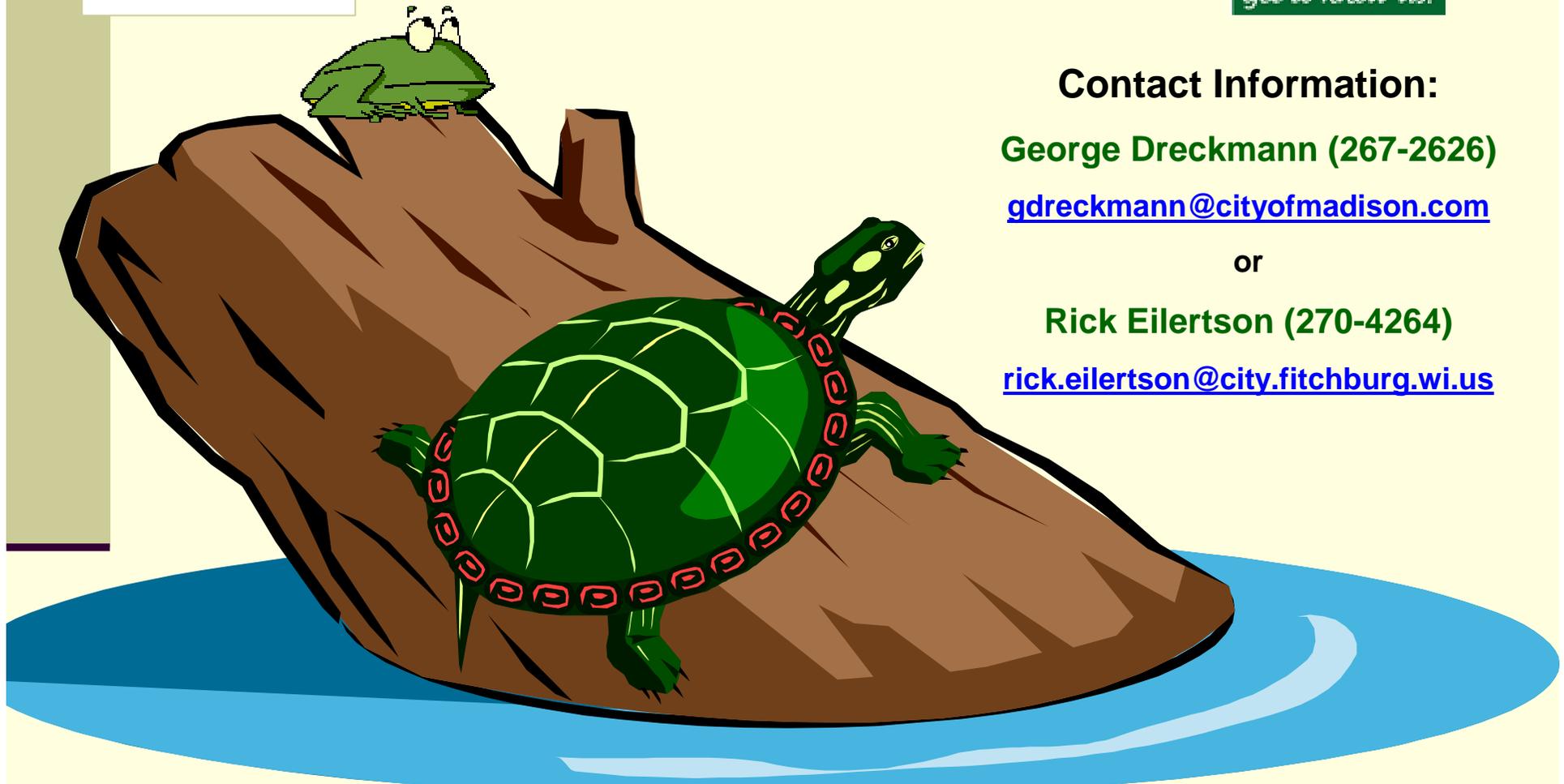
George Dreckmann (267-2626)

gdreckmann@cityofmadison.com

or

Rick Eilertson (270-4264)

rick.eilertson@city.fitchburg.wi.us



www.cityofmadison.com/streets and www.city.fitchburg.wi.us/Organics