Ramsey/Washington County Resource Recovery Project

East Metro Organic
Waste Management Project
Board Update



August 23, 2012

Technical Assistance and Website Development

- Minnesota Waste Wise (high-volume businesses)
- JL Taitt and Associates (institutions)
- The Minnesota Technical Assistance Program (MnTAP) (replicable models for businesses)
- Risdall (web)

<u>Purpose</u>

- Increased awareness of organics recovery opportunities
- Increased organics recovery and recycling practices
- Build a greater understanding of barriers and opportunities to organics recovery and nonresidential recycling.

Areas of focus

- Completed targeted outreach in 3 clusters in May: White Bear Lake, Stillwater, 55102 zip code (western downtown St. Paul)
- Expanded outreach to other areas in two counties in May
- Engaged assistance of cultural consultants to assist in outreach to Spanish and Hmong speaking restaurant owners in St. Paul

Activities Summary

Reporting Categories	Year To Date
Total Outreach	208
Total New Projects Opened	38
Total Technical Assistance Contacts	127
Total Site Visits	30
Total Businesses Assisted (Completed	17
Initial Services)	

Experiences & Findings

- Barriers
 - Cost
 - Space
 - Availability of service options
 - Unfamiliarity with organics recycling
 - Lack of commitment
- Significant interest in organics management, but issue competes for attention
- Need to make it easy, bring down cost, and expand service options to improve potential for implementation

- Provide assistance to engaged businesses—target is at least 60 businesses assisted
- Contact remaining 280 businesses on the target list
- Prepare 5-10 success stories for use in further promotional efforts
- Provide year-end evaluation of outreach and technical assistance efforts, issues and successes

JL Taitt and Associates

<u>Purpose</u>

Provide organic waste management outreach and technical assistance to:

- K-12 public, private & charter schools
- Colleges and universities
- Long-term care, assisted living and health care facilities

JL Taitt and Associates

Accomplishments and Findings

- Implemented food waste recycling programs at all Forest Lake Area Schools in Washington County
- Technical assistance to Hamline University
 - ➤ Completing construction of a new university food service center
 - > Resolved space and storage issues at loading docks
 - Implementing recommendations for enhancements and expansion to program
- Hospitals
 - ➤ On-site assessment of United Hospital's main kitchen
 - ➤ Presentation to decision makers an on-site assessment of main kitchen at Woodwinds

JL Taitt and Associates

- Presentation to the Associated Colleges (ACTC)
 Facilities Services group featuring the new trash and recycling system at Hamline University (Fall)
- Food waste recycling workshop for health care facilities - Rethink Your Bottom Line at Boutwells Landing in October

MnTAP

<u>Purpose</u>

Identify methodology for managing organic waste in restaurants and food processing facilities.

- Evaluation
- Measurement
- Recommendations
- Replication

MnTAP

Accomplishments

Restaurants

- Evaluated 10 restaurants
- Random sampling
 - 5 bags per restaurant
 - 7 restaurants
 - Single day sort
- Findings support other regional studies
 - Used to prepare replication model and individual reports

Food Processing

- Land O' Lakes campus
- Recorded daily waste composition and weight
 - 5,300 lbs.
 - 25 days (five work weeks)
- Findings support implementation
 - 80% potential diversion (no package)
 - 95% potential diversion (packaged)

MnTAP

- Deliver individual reports to companies
- Finalize replication model
- Share results

Risdall

<u>Purpose</u>

- Raise awareness
- Provide local relevant tool kits for businesses
- Coordinate Project and County resources
- Provide connections to other waste management resources

Homepage Concept



Risdall

- Content placement
- Test site
- Launch Date: TBD