

# **Organics Program Diversion Report Fall 2017**

## **University of Guelph Sustainability Office**

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## Industrial Composting

The implementation of the Industrial Composting program at the University of Guelph has exceeded our expectations, both in volume of waste diverted, and the ease with which the university community has adapted to a new waste stream. Staff at Creelman Hall are enthusiastic and supportive of this program, and have remarked that their garbage dumpsters now contain very little waste.

### Sample run (October 19<sup>th</sup>):

Bin #	Bin Capacity (L)	Weight (kg)	Moisture Content	Contents	Contaminants	Odor
1	10/10	51.9	Low	Few small moldy pumpkins, mostly veg skin/peels	none	None
2	9/10	44.3	Med	Peels of: Cantaloupe, sweet potato, pineapple	1 straw, 1 piece of <u>clingwrap</u>	none
3	4/10	29.7	Med	75% pasta	none	none
4	5/10	32.6	High	Soup	None	none
5	5/10	33.2	High	Peels of: Watermelon, onion, tomato, pepper, whole peeled potatoes	none	none
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>330/500 (L)</b>	<b>191.7 kg</b>	<b>Med-High</b>	<b>Low Food Waste</b>	<b>Very Low</b>	<b>None</b>

### Troubleshooting

The two main problems that we had anticipated were odor and contamination. So far, both have proven to be a non-issue. The main problem we have encountered are under-filled bins (see “bin capacity” in above table). We have addressed this problem by discussing it with staff and providing Creelman Hall with smaller bins that they now dump into the larger ones in low-traffic areas. We now receive bins that are mostly full, which has resulted in much faster processing time on our end. High moisture content has been remedied with increased use shredded paper, which Housekeeping is now setting aside for our use. High nitrogen volume has been remedied with the increased carbon-rich materials (woodchips provided by grounds). Below are the total weights from October 19<sup>th</sup> to November 29<sup>th</sup>:

Total Numbers (2017-2018)							
Semester	Coffee Grounds (kg)	Food Scraps (kg)	Total Diverted Organics (kg)	Number of Weeks	Weekly Average Coffee (kg)	Weekly Average Food (kg)	Total Weekly Average (kg)
Summer 2017	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fall 2017	3321	2985	6306	6	554	497	1051
Winter 2018	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Yearly Total</b>	<b>3321</b>	<b>2985</b>	<b>6306</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>554</b>	<b>497</b>	<b>1051</b>

Thus far, we have diverted 6.3 Tonnes of waste through the Industrial Composting program.

## Coffee to Compost

The Coffee to Compost program partners with the following Coffee Shops on campus:

- The Bullring
- Tim Hortons - University Centre
- Tim Hortons - Thornburgh
- Tim Hortons - Athletic Centre
- Second Cup – Science Complex
- Pages Coffee House - Macnaughton
- The Daily Grind- University Centre
- Macks - Mackinnon
- Windows - Mountain Residence
- Starbucks - Library

This program runs with the help of 23 volunteers who pick up coffee grinds daily from the above locations and take them to the Coffee Room in Macnaughton. Office staff weigh the bins and bring them to the Guelph Centre for Urban Organic Farming. This program is especially valuable to our office as it allows for increased visibility on campus and direct student engagement through volunteering. Below are the total weights of waste diverted through Coffee to Compost so far this year:

<b>Total Numbers (2017-2018)</b>			
<b>Semester</b>	<b>Total Diverted Grounds (kg)</b>	<b>Number of Weeks</b>	<b>Weekly Average (kg)</b>
Summer 2017	5170	17	304
Fall 2017	9381	14	670
Winter 2018	0	0	0
<b>Yearly Total</b>	<b>14551</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>469</b>

**Totals:**

<b>Number of Volunteers for Fall Semester:</b>	23
<b># of Locations Serviced:</b>	10
<b>Total Waste Diverted this Fall:</b>	9.38 Tonnes of Waste Diverted

## Overview

This fall, our Coffee to Compost program has diverted 9.4 Tonnes of waste from landfill. Industrial Composting has allowed us to divert 6.3 tonnes. In total, our composting programs have diverted 15.68 Tonnes of waste from landfill this semester.

Program	Total Weight
Coffee to Compost	9381
Industrial Composting	6306
Total:	15687

We began organics collection at Creelman Hall on October 19<sup>th</sup>. With the addition of the Bullring Front of House waste this winter, we anticipate that approximately 26 tonnes will be diverted in the winter semester between the two programs.