



Who sponsors Save Organic Scraps?

This program is a cooperative effort between Clark County Department of Environmental Services, the school districts of Clark County, and Waste Connections.

In addition, the Washington State Department of Ecology has provided grant funding for the program.

Since the start of the Save Organic Scraps program in 2005, the county has diverted over 500 tons of organic waste from schools. It was all turned into compost!

SAVE ORGANIC SCRAPS PROGRAM

CLARK COUNTY SCHOOLS

TURN ORGANIC WASTE INTO



WHY COMPOST?

Composting reduces greenhouse gas emissions by keeping organic material from decomposing in a landfill. Compost is a valuable product and has many beneficial uses, including:

- As a soil enhancement, helping plants grow larger and stronger.
- When used for erosion control, it helps keep streams cool for salmon.

For information please visit www.recyclExtreme.com, or contact Clark County Environmental Services at (360) 397-2121 ext. 4452.

For other formats, contact the Clark County ADA Office: Voice (360) 397-2000; Relay 711 or (800) 833-6388; Fax (360) 397-6165; E-mail ADA@clark.wa.gov



Save Organic Scraps
Clark County Environmental Services
www.recyclExtreme.com





SAVE ORGANIC SCRAPS

The Save Organic Scraps program collects food and paper scraps from school cafeterias across Clark County. Over 80 schools in Vancouver, Evergreen, Camas, Battleground, and Ridgefield School Districts are participating in the program. This is the largest school composting program in the Pacific Northwest. Through innovative curriculum, students learn about how their food and paper scraps are turned into compost.

Since the program's inception in 2005, over 500 tons have been diverted from the landfill and turned into compost. Students and school staff at all participating schools have been an integral part of implementing the program.



HOW DOES "SOS" WORK?

At lunchtime, students learn how to recycle their food in the cafeteria. After eating, they walk to the recycle station where there is an area for them to:

- Drain out excess liquid and recycle their milk or juice cartons.
- Empty recyclable food and paper products into a separate container with a compostable liner.
- Empty the rest of their trash and foil into the garbage can.

All of the leftover food and paper in the recycle station is collected and taken to an offsite facility where it is turned into compost.

Learning about Leadership

Students and teachers are the key to the success of this program. Students are able to see measurable results through their involvement with SOS. Also, they learn leadership skills by developing the implementation plan for their schools and by training and educating their peers about the importance of composting.

Available Resources

Schools are able to receive a variety of resources for program implementation and to improve all areas of recycling and waste reduction throughout their school. Many resources are available, including:

- Classroom presentations.
- Assembly programs.
- Waste audits.
- Field trips.
- Support for service learning projects.

