

HOME COMPOST PROGRAM UPDATE

Environmental Quality and Public Works Committee

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Goals

- Provide alternative organic material disposal option for households in the Urban Services Tax District
 - Landfill
 - (Yard waste) mulching
- Encourage at-home food composting



Program Overview

- Three workshops @ McConnell Springs
 - February & March
 - Facilitated by Seedleaf
- Demonstration site installed at McConnell Springs (last FY)
- 100 households max, 30-35 per workshop
- \$60 credit toward a composter
 - Worm
 - Stationary
 - Tumbling



Results: By the Numbers

- Number of households (HH): 95
- Number of participants: 135
- Number of no shows: 10
- % of HH already composting: 32%
- Composters ordered*: 44
 - Worm bins: 2
 - Stationary composter: 17
 - Tumbling composter: 21
 - From participating nursery: 1
 - None/Doing their own thing: 3

*as of 5/11; have until end of May to redeem voucher



Successes

- McConnell Springs and Seedleaf were both amazing partners (again!)
- There is significant demand; workshops filled up before the promotion cycle was complete
- 95 households are better equipped to compost at home for a total cost of around \$12,000 (ongoing benefit)



Challenges

- Workshops filled up quickly
- Partnership with local nurseries to sell composters didn't play out as hoped
 - Only one nursery came through, at a high price point
 - Ended up doing the order and pickup system like last year
 - Time consuming!
 - Logistically complicated – not set up to take money; limited storage space for composters; Government Center/Phoenix Building not ideal locations for pickup



Looking Ahead

- Keep number of workshops and numbers in the workshop the same
- Continue to hold workshops in late winter
- Continue to partner with Seedleaf and McConnell Springs
- Install compost signage at McConnell Springs
- Explore online partner who will sell direct to participants using our vouchers

Questions?



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