

# HOME COMPOST PILOT PROPOSAL

*Environmental Quality and Public Works Committee*

*May 18, 2021*



**LEXINGTON**



## **Purpose**

- Provide alternative disposal option for organic materials
  - Landfill
  - (Yard waste) mulching
- Encourage at-home food composting



## Program Overview

- Workshop
- Free/discounted composter
  - Worm (free)
  - Stationary backyard (discounted)
  - Tumbler (discounted)
- Pre and post surveys



## Participant Requirements

- Residents with city waste service
- (pilot) Homeowners, limit one composter per HH
- Participate in the full, 2 – 2.5 hour workshop
- Complete short surveys:
  - When registering
  - Immediately after the workshop
  - Six months after the workshop
  - One year after the workshop
- Use the composter



## Workshops

- 2 – 2.5 hours
- Facilitated by Seedleaf
- All members of a participating household invited; one required
- Topics:
  - Compost overview: What is compost? How does it happen? What are the environmental benefits?
  - Reducing food waste
  - How to compost – cover basics as well as info specific to worm bins, backyard bins and tumblers;
  - DIY compost options
  - Troubleshooting
  - Using compost



## Compost Bins

- Purchased by the city and sold to workshop participants
- Option to buy at workshop or submit a request within 3 months of completing the workshop
- Types:
  - Vermicompost bin: estimated cost, \$50; free to participants
  - Stationary backyard composter: estimated cost, \$85; participants pay actual cost less \$50
  - Tumbling composter: estimated cost, \$100; participants pay actual cost less \$50



## Workshop Budget

Seedleaf	\$300
Snack stipend (40 ppl)	\$400
Counter compost unit (20)	\$240
City-funded portion of composters (20)	\$1,000
Handouts	printed in house
Promotional expenses	flexible
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,940</b>

\*There would need to be a one-time expense of approximately \$400 to have demonstration compost units and a composting display. These can be used at workshops and taken to events at which composting is promoted.



## Pilot Budget

Program promotion	\$300
Demo/display	\$400
August workshop	\$1,940
September workshop	\$1,940
October workshop	\$1,940
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$6,520</b>



# Questions?



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