



seeds
Ecology & Education Centers

GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY

Organic waste diversion solutions

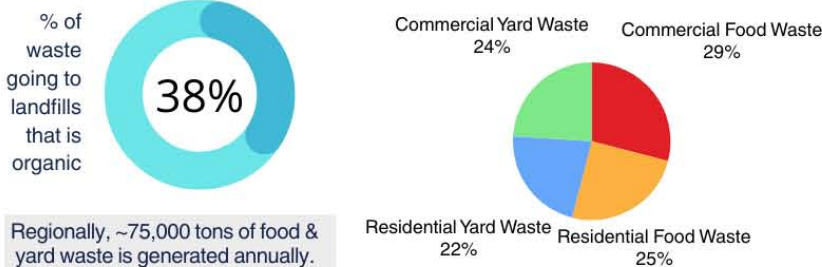
Our goal is to see one third of the organics currently going to landfills diverted into higher and better uses by 2030. That means diverting 26,000 more tons per year, mostly food scraps, across the 10-county region.



STRATEGIC GOALS FOR THE REGION

The goal of the 10-county Organic Waste Diversion Advisory Partnership, convened by SEEDS, is to reduce organic material going to landfills by over a third across northwest lower Michigan by 2030. Reducing and recycling organic waste streams can generate many benefits, including feeding hungry people, generating soil, supporting local farms, and supporting the local economy. In the U.S., residents spend ~\$2000/year on food that gets thrown away. The State of Michigan's recent mandate for counties to update their Materials Management Plans (MMPs) presents the perfect mechanism for embedding an effective and pragmatic plan for organic waste management into each county's strategic plan.

10-COUNTY REGIONAL TRENDS



OUR RECOMMENDATIONS

- Establish a centralized composting site, possibly at the existing Keystone site.
- Work with local non-profit organizations & progressive food establishments to expand organic waste recovery.
- As the county generating the most organic waste in the region, work with neighboring counties such as Antrim, Benzie, and Leelanau on regional solutions.

WHAT CAN YOU DO? Use the MMP planning process to develop and right-size strategies and incentives that work for Grand Traverse County residents and institutions.

GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY STATISTICS

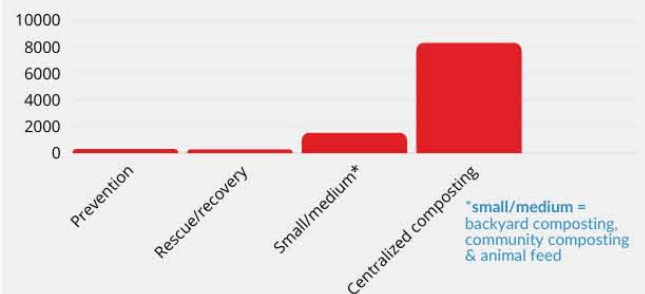
ORGANIC WASTE IN TONS/YEAR

WASTE GENERATED	CURRENTLY DIVERTED	TARGET DIVERSION
19,074	4,003	10,472

GENERATION OF FOOD WASTE IN TONS/YEAR



2030 DIVERSION TARGETS IN TONS/YEAR



HOW GT COUNTY COMPARES IN THE REGION

Of the 10 counties in northwest Michigan, Grand Traverse County is 1 of:

- 4 with at least 1 municipality that has an ordinance affecting organic waste diversion.
- 7 whose Solid Waste Management Plan states that they will develop a yard waste drop-off for county-wide use.
- 3 who actually have developed a county-wide drop-off site for yard waste.



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