

2023 Food Scrap Recycling Program Proposal

January 23, 2023



Town of Lewisboro Sustainability Advisory Committee

Introduction

In April of 2022 the Town of Lewisboro Sustainability Advisory Committee, under authorization from the Town Board started a free and voluntary community food scrap recycling program that allows town residents to drop off their food scraps in secured collection bins which are regularly collected and used to produce high-quality compost. Food scraps are one of the largest proportions of household trash sent to landfills and incinerators. But they're not trash! They are a resource that can be turned into useful compost. In a landfill, food scraps break down and create methane, a potent greenhouse gas, that traps heat and contributes to global warming.

2022 Successes

- Over 25,000 pounds of food scraps in only 9 months were recycled last year rather than incinerated or landfilled
- The program is a free, voluntary opportunity for residents to recycle their food scraps 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
- No animal nuisance issues were reported
- Composting starter kits sold out which demonstrates the community's strong interest!

2023 Proposal

Based on feedback from the community requesting additional drop off locations, composting kits, and an opportunity to purchase compost from the food scrap recycler we proposed expanding the program for 2023. The Sustainability Advisory Committee recommends the Town Board to approve item 1 under each of the following categories to maximize the value and functionality of the food scrap recycling program for town residents.

Drop off locations

- 1. Expand the food scrap recycling program to include Onatru Farm Park, and Fox Valley Park as drop off locations and keep the current town hall drop off location. This proposal includes the contract for the hauler, bins, and signage \$9,610
- 2. Renew the existing contract with the current hauler and keep the only town drop off location at its current location \$4,000

Composting Kits

- Purchase 100 composting kits for a fee of \$3,205.58 and sell those kits to residents at a price of \$25, resulting in a net cost to the town of \$705.58 when fully sold. This \$25 per-unit price is consistent with the price of kits sold previously but would result in a net cost of \$7 per kit to the town.
- 2. Purchase 100 composting kits for a fee of \$3,205.58 and sell those kits to residents at a price of \$32, resulting in a net cost to the town of \$5.58 when fully sold.

Compost Give Back

- 1. The town shall pay the upfront cost of \$625 for 15 yards of compost that is supplied by the food scrap hauler. The town will make this compost free to town residents for a total cost to the town of \$625.
- 2. The town shall pay the upfront cost of \$625 for 15 yards of compost that is supplied by the food scrap hauler. The town will sell the compost to residents at a price of \$1 per 5 gallon bucket for a total cost to the town of \$20.