

Growing Organics Collections in NYC

The Evolution of the GrowNYC Food Scrap Collection Program & More



David Hurd, Director
Office of Recycling Outreach & Education



Learn. Volunteer. Support.

www.GrowNYC.org

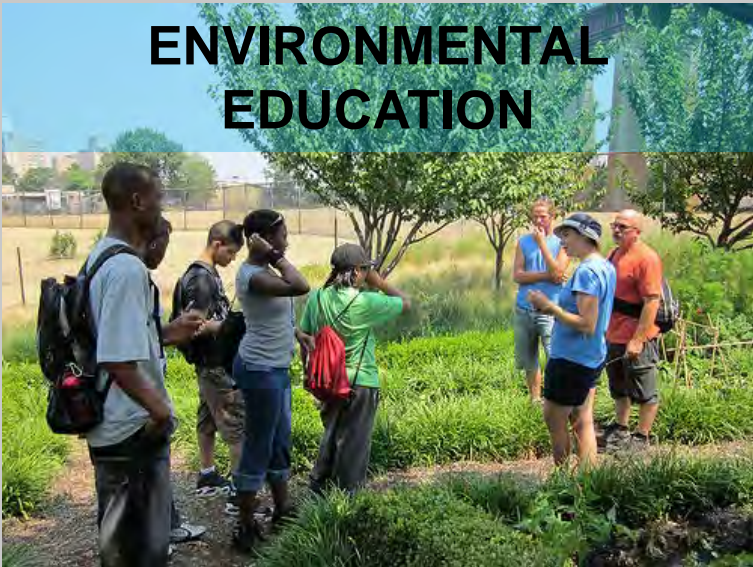
GREENMARKET



GARDENING



ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION



RECYCLING



RECYCLING WORKSHOPS



SPECIAL COLLECTIONS



PUBLIC EVENTS



EVENT RECYCLING



STOP 'N' SWAP[®]



COMPOST

YOUR FOOD SCRAPS

at GREENMARKET



GROWN NYC AND DSNY
FOOD SCRAP COMPOST PROGRAM



YES: fruit and vegetable scraps, non-greasy food scraps (rice, pasta, bread, cereal, etc.), coffee grounds and filters, tea bags, egg and nut shells, pits, cut or dried flowers, houseplants, potting soil.

NO: meat, fish, bones, greasy food scraps, fat oil, dairy, animal waste, litter or bedding, coal or charcoal, coconuts, diseased and/or insect-infested houseplants/soil, or biodegradable/compostable plastics.

Store items in your freezer or refrigerator to reduce odors.

www.GROWNyc.org/compost | 212.788.7964

A program partnership between the City of New York, the NYC Department of Sanitation, GrowNYC, and community partners.

Lower East Side Ecology Center began collecting food scraps for composting at GrowNYC's Union Square Greenmarket in 1994



Christine Datz-Romero at the Union Square compost drop-off



And continues today ... 20 years later!!



The Fort Greene Compost Project began collecting food scraps for composting at our Greenmarket in 2005





Western Queens Compost Initiative (now BIG!Compost) began collecting food scraps for composting at 3 Queens Greenmarkets in 2010

7 Pilot Sites established in March 2011



We started like this ...















GrowNYC
Sustainability Center

GREENMARKET
DIRT
USDA
Certified
Organic

WHENEVER POSSIBLE
PLEASE FREEZE
YOUR SCRAPS

INVEST IN YOUR BLACK OIL

FOOD SCRAPS HERE
INVEST IN YOUR BLACK OIL

SUGGESTED
DONATION
\$1 PER BAG

POST DROP-OFF
WWW.GROWNYC.ORG

SAMY'S DELI GROCER
HOT & COLD SANDWICHES ICE CREAM COFFEE COLA
CIGARETTES NEWSPAPERS CHIPS CAKE NATURAL
FRESH FLOWERS



WHAT HAPPENS TO FOOD SCRAPS DROPPED OFF AT GREENMARKET?

The ends are just the beginning

Commercial produce is sold in large quantities. Some of it is sold to restaurants, some to grocery stores, and some to food banks. The rest is often discarded.

Food scraps are collected and taken to a composting facility. They are then processed into a nutrient-rich soil amendment that can be used in agriculture and landscaping.

From spoiled to soil in 8 weeks

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WHENEVER POSSIBLE PLEASE FREEZE ★ YOUR SCRAPS ★

Freezing your food scraps helps to preserve their nutrients and makes them easier to handle. It also helps to reduce the amount of food waste that is sent to the landfill.

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INVEST IN YOUR ★ BLACK GOLD ★

Investing in your food scraps is a smart way to reduce your carbon footprint and support local agriculture. It's a win-win for everyone.

HELP SUSTAIN ★ COMPOST AT GREENMARKET





Peninsula Compost Company/Wilmington Organic Recycling Center, Delaware



On December 3, 2011, GrowNYC stopped shipping to Delaware and started “keeping it all local” within the 5 boroughs

And evolved into this ...



***Expanded from 7 to 21 sites in April 2012
in partnership with the NYC Department of Sanitation***

TURN SPOILS INTO SOIL



GROWN NYC & DSNY FOOD SCRAP COMPOST PROGRAM









DSNY Food Waste Drop-Off Program
You drop it off and we'll compost it locally.

DSNY Food Waste Drop-Off Program
You drop it off and we'll compost it locally.

KUMC
718-797-1944

NEW YORK
N-50851
OFFICIAL

Grow NYC Sustainability Center



www.GrowNYC.org



WARNING
...
NYC
...
NYC



FOOD SCRAPS DROP-OFF

WWW.GROWNYC.ORG





***Expanded again in 2013 & 2014
Now collecting at 33 locations, 36 times/week***



***Lower East Side Ecology Center and BIG!Compost collecting at
an additional 5 Greenmarket locations, 8 times/week***







**On February 1, 2014, Grand Army Plaza collected 6,358 pounds of food scraps for composting in 7.5 hours
Almost 850 lbs/hr!!**





"GrowNYC continues to build a foundation for a citywide curbside organics program by demonstrating the popularity of the Greenmarket drop off programs," said Ron Gonen, Deputy Commissioner of Recycling and Sustainability at NYC Department of Sanitation.



“My family has been composting at Grand Army [Plaza] since GrowNYC began collecting there. My two sons, ages 3 and 6, enjoy coming along and helping scrape out our buckets while we catch up on the composting news. We think it’s fantastic to turn our food waste into something useful, rather than carting it several states away to a landfill.”

- Steven O'Neill, Brooklyn, NY

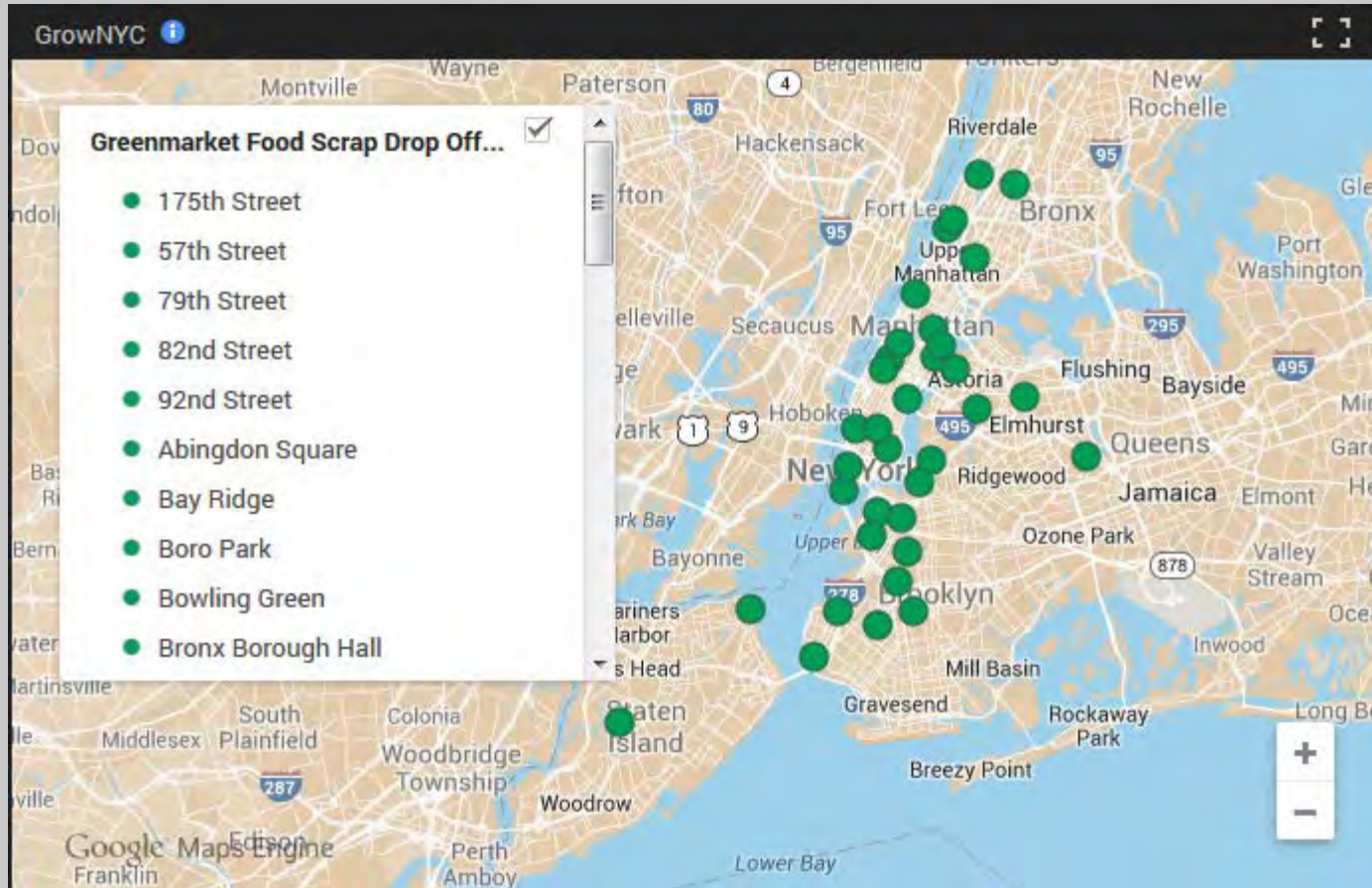
On December 3, 2011, we started to keep it all LOCAL



Gowanus Canal Conservancy

A PROGRAM OF PARTNERS

www.GrowNYC.org/compost



ADDED VALUE









Added Value/Red Hook Community Farm









Earth Matter, Governors Island







Active Citizen Project/Project EATS, Wards Island







BIG!Compost, Queens







2013 welcomed our newest community composting partner, Battery Conservancy and the Battery Urban Farm collecting at Bowling Green



1 Million Pound Milestone on 12/23/12

3 Million Pound Milestone on 7/10/14



HOW ARE WE DOING (by the numbers)?

2 million pounds of food scraps diverted on 10/27/13

3 million pounds diverted on July 4, 2014

2011: 318,216 lbs. of food scraps diverted from disposal

2012: 698,925 lbs. of food scraps diverted from disposal

2013: 1,240,945 lbs. of food scraps diverted from disposal

2014 (thru 9/12/14): 1,100,120 lbs. of food scraps diverted

Projections for 2014 = 1,600,000 pounds!!

Current Program Total (as of 9/12/14) – 3,358,206 pounds and counting

Now averaging 70 tons/month

120,000 individual food scrap “donations” in 2013

190,000 food scrap “donations” projected for 2014

BOTTOM LINE: The program is growing!
(and public/private partnerships work!)



NYC Organics Collection

Your building is receiving organic waste collection. Organic waste includes food scraps, food-soiled paper, and plants (turn this flyer over for more detailed information). Sanitation recycles this waste by turning it into renewable energy or compost, a natural fertilizer.

Join your neighbors to help NYC reduce waste sent to costly landfills and deter pests by keeping food waste in secure bins.

How to participate:

1 Collect organic waste separately from your trash and other recyclables.

Collect your food scraps, food-soiled paper, and plants in any container or bag.



yogurt tub



plastic shopping bag



paper bag



specially made organics container



certified-compostable bag (look for the logo above)

Store container or bag in your kitchen wherever is convenient.



2 Discard organic waste according to your building manager's instructions.

Do not discard containers or plastic shopping bags in your building's organics bin.



You can discard newspaper, paper bags, and certified compostable bags in your building's organics bin.



How does GrowNYC assist DSNY on the Organics Collection Program?

We RECRUIT!!

There's still a great future in plastics.

Recycle everything. Visit nyc.gov to learn more.



Morningside Gardens Composts!

Organics Collection



RESIDENTIAL ORGANICS COLLECTION

Morningside Gardens





There's still a great future in plastics.

Recycle everything
Call 311 or visit nyc.gov to

NYC Recycles

NATURAL INGREDIENTS



Give new life to old

Recycle everything
Call 311 or visit nyc.gov to

NYC Recycles







First day of organics collection by DSNY





Since Morningside Gardens came on line in June 2013, OROE staff have recruited 10 additional multi-unit properties into the DSNY Organics Collection Program, with dozens more coming on line by November.









ORGANIC ONLY

MIXED PAPER AND MICROFIBER

TRASH ONLY NO FOOD

Zappos
POWERED BY SERVICE

RECYCLING CENTER

NO PLASTIC BAGS ALLOWED

What about Public Schools?

GrowNYC's Recycling Champions Program assists the DSNY School Organics Collection Program by educating students through Engagement and troubleshooting schools in the program









Liquids



NYC Recycles

Metal Plastic



Glass Cartons

NYC Recycles

Food Scraps Soiled Paper

Food waste – like fruit, vegetables, rice, bread, meat, chicken, cheese, and pasta – goes in this bin.



Food-soiled paper – like paper lunch sacks and napkins – goes in this bin.



Recyclable items: Paper, cardboard, metal, plastic, glass, and cartons.

NYC Recycles

Introducing organics recycling.

Landfill



NYC Recycles

Call 212 or visit nyc.gov/recycles for more information.



Organics Recovery in the Big Apple

Rotten to the Core!!



Thank you very much

David Hurd, Director
Office of Recycling Outreach and Education
GrowNYC
212-341-9894 dhurd@grownyc.org