# Unlocking the Value: Transforming the Connecticut Materials Economy



Lorenzo Macaluso, Green Business Manager



# Who is CET?

The Center for EcoTechnology helps people carry out their daily life with less environmental impact. We find practical ways to improve environmental performance for residents, businesses, and institutions.

- Energy Efficiency and Green Building
- Green Homes and Businesses
- Our retail store EcoBuilding Bargains





### What is Composting?



# Composting begins in the kitchen







- Employee Education
- Clear Signage
- Support from Management
- Program Champion



#### **COMPOSTABLE ITEMS**



#### COMPÔST

please; do not put biodegradable plates cups, or paper towels in compost bins.

- all food waste (no bones, please)
- bananas
- jell-o
- marshmallows
- cereal

- fruits
- vegetables
- baked goods
- dairy products
- coffee grounds
- coffee filters
- meat

please rinse all containers before recycling them. **no** tissues, paper towels, or plastic bags please.

- paper, newspapers, magazines
- wine bottles and other glass containers
- flattened cardboard
- plastic food & beverage containers
- aluminum cans/pans/foil
- empty aerosol cans
- make-up containers

note: toilet paper from the show is recyclable, but house staff should collect and store it as usual.

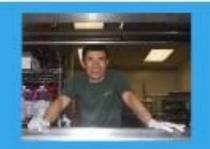


BLUE MAN GROUP GROUP COMPOST AND RECYCLING PROGRAM

#### single-stream RECYCLE



#### **Shriners Hospital Table Tent**



LEAVE FOOD & NAPKINS ON YOUR TRAY WE COMPOST

 Include food scraps, bones, fruit peels and pits



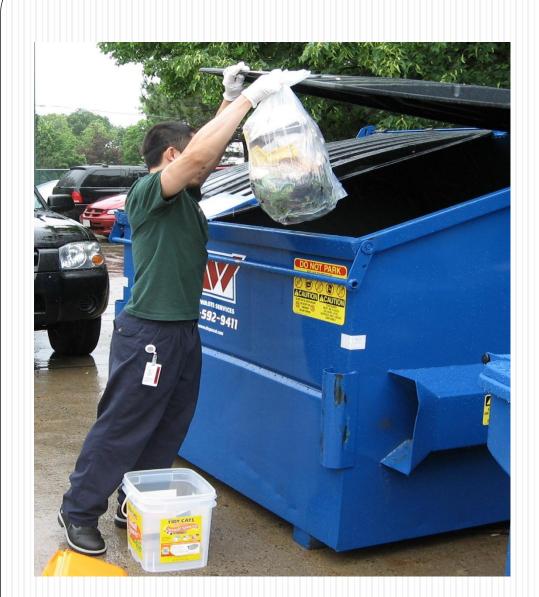
#### THROW AWAY THESE ITEMS IN THE TRASH BARREL

- Food Packaging
- Plastic wrap & bags
- Plastic tableware
- Styrofoam containers
- Coffee cups & sleeves
- Snack wrappers
- Ketchup, mustard, salad dressing packets



#### **BLUE RECYCLE BIN**

- Aluminum soda cana
- Glass soft drink bottles
- Plastic water and soft drink bottles
- Tent top juice containers



## Collection





# Hauling







### Processing







#### **Business Sectors**



- Restaurants and Coffee Shops
- Hospitals and Large Caterers
- Corporate Cafeteria
- Venues
- Supermarkets
- Universities/Colleges
- Food Processors



# Why should you Compost?

- Possible cost savings
- Meet sustainability goals
- Local processing option/support farms
- High state priority and regulatory compliance
- Customer demand





#### **Regulatory Compliance**







- Mass DEP existing bans
- Proposed ban on food waste: July, 2014
- CT DEEP ban took effect October, 2011
- Mandatory Recycling laws



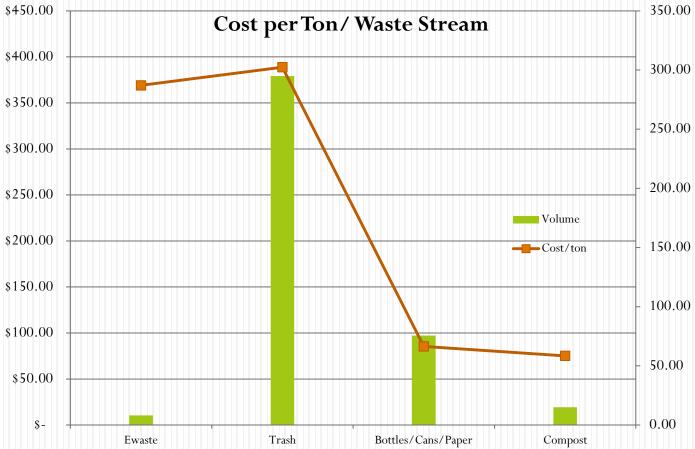
## Cost Effectiveness

- Cost effectiveness is dependant on the overall systems in place (eg. amount of waste)
- Evaluation creates opportunities to find other efficiencies in the system.





### Williams College Cost Analysis





# Composting at Big Y

- Results in ~\$99,000 in savings from 28 locations
- Has become part of the employee training
- Marketing has brought good publicity to store
- \$2.9M in savings and revenue from composting/recycling in 2011







# Blue Man Group

•Pay close attention to waste/recycling invoices

•Maximize recycling and composting

•Reduce trash service – size and/or frequency



Original Disposal Costs	Approximate new disposal costs	Aprox Annual Savings
\$50,000	\$12,480	\$37,520

Saving 75% on disposal costs!



## **Success Stories**

- Lord Jeffrey Inn
- Yum!Brands
- Del Monte
- Lathrop Communities











#### 1 (800) 254-5525 info@recyclingworksma.com

www.RecyclingWorksMa.com

- Designed to help businesses and institutions maximize recycling, reuse, and composting through:
- Technical Assistance
- Events and Workshops
- Educational Support
- WasteWise





## For More Information:

#### www.cetonline.org

#### Lorenzo Macaluso Iorenzo.macaluso@cetonline.org

413-586-7350x248

