Organics Recycling in Boston

Erik Levy
Founder, President
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=15ds3VgS5gI
Previously: Composting at Farms

Aerobic windrow decomposition & In-vessel aerobic decomposition ➞ compost & soil amendments
Now: Anaerobic Digestion

Anaerobic digestion of slurry $\rightarrow$ methane $\rightarrow$ electricity

Aerobic composting of biosolids $\rightarrow$ fertilizer & soil amendment
WASTE-GAS-TO-GRID PROJECT

Source-Separated Organics

Residue

CORE®

Engineered Slurry (EBS™) Transport

Grid

Wastewater Treatment Plant Anaerobic Digester

Biosolids
How Anaerobic Digestion works

Biodegradable waste → Depacking and pre-treatment → Anaerobic digestion → Digestate storage → Biofertiliser

Combined heat and power → Converted for use as district/industrial/commercial heating

Electricity

• Process absent of air (anaerobic)
• Series of biological processes
• Microorganisms break down organic material
• Generate Biogas (renewable energy)
  • Methane (CH4) = ~60%
  • Carbon Dioxide (CO2) = ~38%
  • Others (Nitrogen, hydrogen, hydrogen sulphide) = ~2%
• Digestate (effluent)
  • Solids – utilize for soil enhancement or landfill
  • Liquid – returns to headworks of treatment
• Most efficient at ~95 -100F
• WM Boston CORe™ Facility Accepts Only Source Separated Organic Food Material Suitable for Production of an Engineered Bioslurry (EBS) for Co-Digestion

Acceptable Materials Include:

• Pre-consumer Food Scraps
• Post-consumer Food Scraps
• Fruits & Vegetables
• Pre-qualified Expired Foods
• Pre-qualified Food Processing Liquids

Unacceptable Wastes Include:

• Municipal Solid Waste
• Hazardous Waste
• Construction & Demolition Debris
• Tires, Batteries & Electronic Wastes
• Wood & Yard Waste
FOOD WASTE + PAPER PLATES
+ PAPER NAPKINS

FOOD + FRUITS
comida + frutas

MEAT + CHEESE
carne + queso

PLANT SCRAPs
desechos de plantas

PAPER NAPKINS + PAPER PLATES

NO

PLASTICS
plásticos

GLOVES
guantes

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One goal. Zero waste. 617-241-9998
info@savethatstuff.com www.savethatstuff.com
Materials that will be removed via the screening process:

• Waxed cardboard
• Eating utensils
• Plastic bags & food wrapping/film plastics (both petro-plastic and compostable/biodegradable)
• Plastic clamshells (#1 PETE)
• Bones
• Hard fruit pits & seeds (mango, peaches, etc.)
Questions?
Erik Levy
Founder & President
Save That Stuff, Inc.
200 Terminal Street
Charlestown, MA 02129
(617) 241-9998
erik@savethatstuff.com
www.savethatstuff.com