

Measuring your Food Waste Program Surveys and How to Measure

Description:

As a participant in the Lakes Region Food Waste Composting Pilot Program, we are asking you to provide us with usable data that we can analyze for the growth of this program. We want to know if our training helped you, if our additional resources after the training are helpful, if you are utilizing the composting tumbler regularly and if composting has been a success, as a few examples. This data is very valuable for the success of this pilot program and for informing our grantor USDA. Please try to be as accurate as possible and contact Matt Rose, LRPC Environmental Planner at 603-279-5336 or mrose@lakesrpc.nh.gov for assistance.

The Process:

Lakes Region Planning Commission will be asking you to fill out a total of four (4) surveys for the pilot program. One of the surveys will be conducted during the training event you attend, and the remaining three (3) will be sent to you via email with a link to our online survey program, Survey 123.

What we are Asking you to Measure:

Simply put, we want to know how much food waste is going into your composting tumbler each month and in the last month (August), we want to know if you made any compost. We understand compost can take some time to make, do not worry, just do the best that you can, follow the training and grow some plants with your organic “Black Gold”!

How to Measure:

Simply use a 1-gallon milk or water jug. Or any jug that is equal to 1 gallon. Once empty, cut the top of the milk jug off and fill it up with your food waste to measure a $\frac{1}{4}$ gallon, $\frac{1}{2}$ gallon, $\frac{3}{4}$ gallons or 1 gallon. If you want to store your food waste in a different container that is fine. Use the same jug to measure out the amount of “Brown (carbon) Material” you add as well.

When cutting your milk jug, choose one of the two options shown here. You can either cut the top off or the bottom, which ever you prefer. Choose only one method.



Just measure out your food waste and Brown material using the gallon jug before you put the food waste and Brown material into your Jora tumbler. Make sure to track your measurements in gallons each time you put food waste into the tumbler using the tracking worksheet.

Tip: If you don't buy milk or water, ask your solid waste attendant for a jug.

How to Document:

You will be provided with a tracking worksheet for your food waste, which includes weekly entry spaces for your measurements. Each time you put food waste into the compost bin, measure the amount of food waste, document it and place your food waste into the tumbler. At the end of each week, tally up the total amount of food waste and carbon material added to your Jora and record that total on your tracking worksheet. Your results will be used for the monthly surveys sent to you via email.

If you lose your work sheet or need a second one, we will have the worksheet and other related documents, hints, tips available on the LRPC Composting Pilot Program landing page:

Website link: <https://lakesrpc.nh.gov/food-waste-composting-pilot-program/>

Or Scan the QR code below:

