

Mosier Community School receives a grant for \$1,271 to upgrade their composting



Mosier School is the first recipient of our small grants program, which currently focuses on composting in area schools. Great timing. Announcement of the grant award coincided with a complaint of obnoxious odor from the existing compost system at the school, which we replaced with two double-bin composters, thermometers, and moisture sensors. Compost is now consistently cooking at 140 degrees (hot composting!).

Mosier Community School successfully composts daily food waste from 150 students plus staff. The resulting loamy compost is rich in microbes and nutrients. It goes directly into the adjacent school garden, whereby food begets food. This project easily exemplifies more traditional, efficient “circular” ways of handling food and waste in a beneficial manner.

The new composting set-up has been adopted by teacher Leslie’s environmental science class. These fifth and sixth graders will not only take responsibility for the well-being of the compost, but they get to monitor and study the utter complexity of that compost-in-action, using special thermometers and moisture probes provided by this grant to quantifiably track the health of the “pile”.

Want Support to start composting in your school?

Our program offers small grants totaling \$15,000 annually for this purpose. To find out more about our grant program for composting in local schools, go to <http://www.tricountyrecycle.com/Grants.asp>