



BLOOMINGTON  
ENTERTAINMENT  
& ARTS DISTRICT

# COMPOST UP DOWN TOWN



INFORMATION SESSION- MARCH 7



**The City of Bloomington's Department of Economic & Sustainable Development** fosters a livable and economically resilient community through partnerships, collaboration, and strategic initiatives that expand economic opportunities.

**Lauren Clemens, Assistant Director of Sustainability, is the program administrator for the Compost Up, Downtown Program**

- Lauren will provide application review and assistance for program participants and serve as the point of contact for general questions

Funding for this program is available through the City's Recover Forward initiative. Find out more about Recover Forward at: [www.bloomington.in.gov/recoverforward](http://www.bloomington.in.gov/recoverforward)





**EarthKeepers** is a Bloomington-based Benefit Corporation that is woman-owned, minority-owned, and a living-wage employer.

Our mission is to educate and activate the Bloomington and Monroe County community around the importance of reducing food waste and increasing composting, for a healthier planet and a happier Bloomington.

**Andrea & Ryan Conway from EarthKeepers** will be the program composting contractor and work directly with the restaurants on the waste audit, composting set-up, and composting collection.



<https://youtu.be/s3MWKrzrJHw>



## PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY

- Retail food establishments must be located in the **Bloomington Entertainment and Arts District** (Downtown Bloomington) to be eligible for this program.
- Businesses must also hold a valid Monroe County Health Department permanent retail food establishment license.
- Businesses must not be current EarthKeepers customer.

**Mobile food vendors are not eligible for this program at this point in time.**





## PROGRAM INCENTIVE

Participating restaurant and retail food establishments in the program will receive the following during the three month trial:

- **Weekly collection** of hot-stamped rollers (32-gallons each) and delivery of sanitized replacement rollers. Rollers may be collected two or three times per week, depending on assessed needs
- **5-gallon buckets and 1.5-gallon pails**, with lids, for internal use
- **Waste audit**
- **Window decals** for participant
- **Personalized web-profile** on the EarthKeepers website
- **Mixed-media promotions** of participating restaurants as EarthKeepers partners.

**The program incentive is valued at \$5,000 per participating establishment.**



## WASTE AUDIT

### In Person Site Visits

#### Audit Includes:

- Presentation and Q&A for owners and staff
- Staff training session
- Discussions with staff to identify common composting contaminants
- Custom signage and bin placement







**NOT ELIGIBLE?**

**Ready to start composting, but not eligible for this program?**

- **Complete the EarthKeepers inquiry form** at: [www.earthkeeperscompost.com](http://www.earthkeeperscompost.com)



### Application Process and Timeline:

- March 1: Funding announcement and applications open
- March 7: Information Session

### Cohort Dates and Application Deadlines:

- Cohort 1: April 2022 - July 2022- applications due March 25<sup>th</sup>
- Cohort 2: June 2022 - October 2022- applications due June 10<sup>th</sup>
- Cohort 3: September 2022 - January 2023- applications due September 9<sup>th</sup>
- Cohort 4: January 2023 - May 2023- applications due January 13, 2023

Find application at:  
[bloomington.in.gov/sustainability/compost](https://bloomington.in.gov/sustainability/compost)

### What is a Cohort?

City of Bloomington has funding availability for 16 restaurants to participate in 2022-2023.

Organizations will be selected in four groups of four to participate in the program.



## CURRENT EARTHKEEPERS RESTAURANT CUSTOMERS

- Chick-fil-a
- Bloomingfoods
- Hopscotch
- Switchyard
- The Tap
- Two Sticks
- Small Favors

### 2021 IMPACT

**300**

TONS OF FOOD WASTE DIVERTED

**75.1**

TONS OF METHANE PREVENTED

**1,703**

EQUIVALENT TONS OF CO<sub>2</sub> AVOIDED



## STEPS TO PARTICIPATE

1. **Ask any questions**
2. **Complete the application form by the deadline**
3. **Get approved for participation**
4. **Start the program and receive waste audit/ staff training**
5. **Three month trial period ends- receive discounted quotes**
6. **Provide program feedback**



## QUESTIONS

**Put questions in the chat or raise your hand**

- For questions about the program, contact Lauren Clemens, Assistant Director of Sustainability, at [lauren.clemens@bloomington.in.gov](mailto:lauren.clemens@bloomington.in.gov).
- Visit the City of Bloomington website for more information: [bloomington.in.gov/sustainability/compost](http://bloomington.in.gov/sustainability/compost)

**Thank you for attending this information session! We look forward to working with you!**