

Green Team

NEWSLETTER

June, 2019

Introducing COMPOSTING in MASCO cafeterias - 2019



We need you to support a culture shift at Masco!

A newly formed Green Team has secured funding and other resources to introduce a cafeteria composting program at Masco, because food scraps and paper goods do not belong in the garbage! When put into landfills, compostable waste will combine with other trash, where it does not biodegrade, but instead produces methane, a potent greenhouse gas. However if composted, it will replenish our soil, which has been depleted over recent decades.

Starting in the fall of 2019, Masco will have sorting stations for separating compost, recycling, and trash at both cafeterias and at Java.

RED is going GREEN!

WHO ARE WE?

The Green Team consists of stakeholders who will firmly support green initiatives at Masco. This team has been meeting regularly since the fall of 2018, and chose to introduce this composting initiative as our first major task together. Among other things, participants visited several other schools where they already compost (including Topsfield's elementary schools, Ipswich, Lexington, and Manchester-Essex), and student members applied for and received a private grant toward the initiative. Progress has been rapid for this committed team!

Participants to date: Karen Trevenen - Health Services Director, Carrie Murphy- Director of Food Services, Doug Batchelder - Director of Facilities, Gavin Monagle - MS Asst. Principal, Alyssa Schatzel - HS Asst. Principal, Laura Greeley - Environmental Club Advisor, Student Environmental Club officers, Zillie Bhaju - GREEN Topsfield & School Committee, Jessica Zaniewski - Medical Secretary, April Cochran - HS Guidance, Nicko Tzortzis, MS Student Council Advisor, MS Student Council representatives, Tammy Fay - Science Department Head, Meredith Shaw - Tri-Town Council.

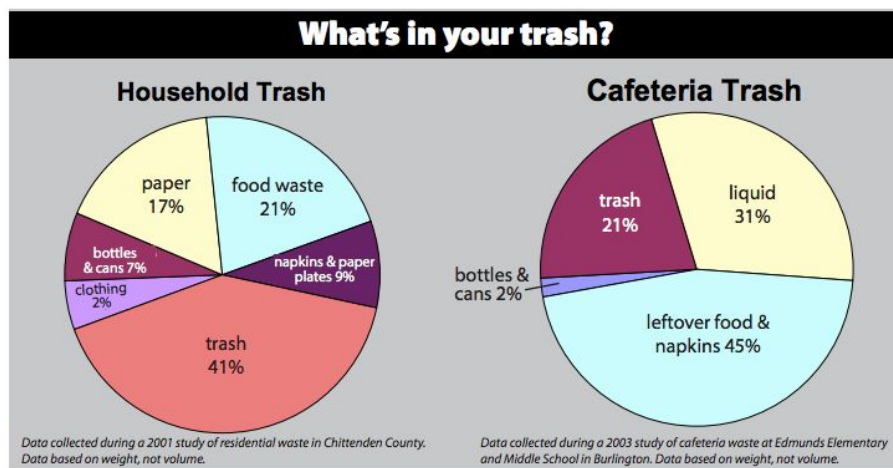
WHAT WILL CHANGE?

When the composting initiative is introduced, there will be no more rolling trash cans throughout the cafeterias and by Java. Several "sorting" kiosks will instead be set up in key locations, and will include bins for compost, recycling, or trash, with visuals and signs to make it clear what goes where.

WHY DOES IT MATTER?

It is our responsibility to support this generation in developing habits whereby they consider the impact of their daily choices on the environment that we all depend on for survival.

One daily habit is choosing to reduce waste at meal times. In the cafeteria, this can have a huge impact!



WHAT WILL COME NEXT?

This is our first major initiative as a Green Team. No doubt, we will build upon this to support an authentic culture of environmental sustainability through real actions on campus. This might include a Green Scholars program, solar panels, other energy innovations, garden projects, and much more. Do you have ideas to share? Let us know! Contact Jessica Zaniewski: JZaniewski@masconomet.org