

WUES Earth Week Composting Pilot 2024

	Weight (Lbs.)							
Week 1	Food Waste	Plastics	Recycling	Milk	Trash	Total	% Diverted	% Diversion – Food Waste ONLY
Monday 4/22	138.64	26.48	7.74	33.06	14.43	220.35	93%	63%
Tuesday 4/23	148.5	22.71	10.23	7.54	6.4	195.38	97%	76%
Thursday 4/25	138.96	20.58	10.89	4.06	3.71	178.2	98%	78%
Friday 4/26	129.96	24.24	11.43	6.38	5.27	177.28	97%	73%
TOTAL	556.06	94.01	40.29	51.04	29.81	771.21	96%	72%

Week 2	Food Waste	Plastics*	Recycling	Milk	Trash	Total	% Diverted	% Diversion – Food Waste ONLY
Monday 4/29	151.91	6.01	9.02	6.38	21.94	195.26	88%	78%
Wednesday 5/1	109.58	5.1	7.6	7.54	23.89	153.7	85%	71%
Thursday 5/2	149.54	4.84	5.89	4.64	19.23	184.14	90%	81%
Friday 5/3	134.19	2.97	14.6	7.54	24.97	184.27	86%	73%
TOTAL	545.22	18.92	37.11	26.1	90.03	717.38	87%	76%

* Styrofoam trays only in Week 2

What We Learned

- Greatest ability to impact overall waste comes from food waste
 - 1101 lbs. in 8 days; estimating approximately 1376 lbs. in 10 days
- Total food waste in a school year would be approximately 24,768 lbs. over 180 calendar days
- Students are throwing away a lot of food – recognize an education opportunity
- Introduced a share table diverting unopened food items
- Students are quick learners, much smoother process in week 2
- Anticipate 6-8 week ramp up time at beginning of school year, then a goal to scale to 2 volunteers/day
- Education plans will be multi-faceted including naturalist and Green Club
- Approval from West U PTO; awaiting final City approval for additional education funding