



# City of Lakeville Organics Drop Site

Turn your waste into something good!

## Overview

In 2019, the City of Lakeville partnered with Dakota County to install an Organics Drop Site location at the Water Treatment Facility. The County is responsible for the cost of the site creation, waste pick up costs, as well as purchasing compostable bags. The City is responsible for day to day operations, maintenance required for the facility, and promotion of the site for Lakeville residents.

The Organics Drop Site, available for to all Dakota County residents, opened on October 1, 2019. Prior to opening, County staff conducted a food waste reduction challenge for area residents to promote wasting less. There were 37 Lakeville residents who participated in the challenge out of 54 participants. Just before the Organics Drop Site opened, the County also held 3 meetings in Lakeville to educate the public on what belongs in the organics bin and what is trash. There were 82 in attendance at those meetings. Before the drop site opened in Lakeville, there were 523 participants signed up to use the site.

Residents are now able to take their organic waste to the drop site, including:

- all food waste (including bones)
- greasy pizza boxes
- pet hair
- compostable plates and utensils
- house plant clippings
- listed items

This waste is picked up twice weekly and taken to be turned into compost at local compost processing sites. Participation is free and compostable bags are provided to the residents at the drop site. Participants are able to reduce their home trash by 1/3 by using this program and instead of more landfill space being taken-up, the waste is turned into nutrient rich soil that is a valuable resource that can be used by many.

## Practices

- ◆ Waste Reduction
- ◆ Compost Creation

## Project Benefits

- ◆ Reducing participant's trash by 1/3
- ◆ Reducing pressure on landfill space
- ◆ Creating nutrient rich compost for soil amendments

## Timeline

- ◆ Began October 1, 2019
- ◆ No end date scheduled

## Partner

- Dakota County

- In 2019, there was approximately 7.5 yards of organics weekly
- This equates to 2,303 lbs/week, or 15 tons of organic waste diverted from landfill in 2019
- At that rate, this site's yearly amount is 59.88 tons



Over 720 people signed-up for the drop-site in 2019



Construction of Drop Site



Bins delivered



Message board near entrance



Red star marks the location of the Organics Drop Site at the Water Treatment Facility