

Businesses Save Money

by Managing Food Waste Through Livestock Feeding

Businesses in Ramsey and Washington Counties are finding that separating food waste from garbage and managing it through **livestock feeding** mean a big savings. When businesses separate food waste and collect it for livestock feeding, the management cost of food waste is not subject to the State Solid Waste Management Tax of 17% or the County Environmental Charge (CEC). The CEC, which started in April 2003, is 53% in Ramsey County and 39.5% in Washington County, and is charged on all commercial garbage generated in the two Counties.

Livestock Feeding 101

Food waste generated from restaurants, schools, hotels, and other similar businesses can be used by livestock producers as animal feed. Under permits issued by the Minnesota Board of Animal Health, livestock producers feed;

- 1) Raw, non-meat food waste, such as fresh produce waste to cattle; and,
- 2) Cooked food waste, including meat, meat by-products, and other food waste that may have come into contact with meat, to hogs.

Knowlan's Super Markets – Reduce costs 48%



Vadnais Heights– based Knowlan's Super Markets discovered the benefits. Previously, Knowlan's used a single garbage compactor for trash, another for loose cardboard, and wheeled carts for food and beverage containers.

Knowlan's now separates heavy, wet food waste in lined plastic wheeled barrels for livestock feeding. Knowlan's diverts 115 tons of food waste per month or 68% of its total garbage volume since the implementation at five of its metro stores. **Garbage hauls have also been reduced from six per month to two, resulting in an estimated savings of 48% in trash hauling and disposal costs at its two Ramsey County stores alone.**

Other Benefits

- Improved workers' safety—reduced lifting of heavy garbage bags
- Increased cleanliness—no liquid waste in garbage
- Reduced odors by eliminating wet food waste from the garbage
- Reduced pest control (flies, wasps) during summer months
- Improved inventory management—separated food waste is more visible



More Businesses Save

These businesses manage food waste through livestock feeding and reduced their costs by:

- 67% - J & J Distributing
- 65% - Saint Paul Radisson Hotels
- 35% - Kozlak's Royal Oak Restaurant
- 20% - Great Waters Brewing Company
- 14% - Hamline University

More About Saving Money

by Managing Food Waste Through Livestock Feeding

Food Waste Collection Services

Current farms collecting food waste in the Twin Cities for livestock feeding are:



Barthold Farms
763-444-7447

Second Harvest Farms
763-434-9044



Farms collect food waste at either dock level or ground level and provide their own collection containers. Special roll-off containers can be used for collection of large volumes of food waste, or barrels for smaller volumes.

Food Waste Guidelines for Livestock Feeding

Acceptable Items

- Food preparation waste
- Plate waste
- Unpackaged spoiled or outdated food
- Unpackaged frozen food

Examples of Acceptable Items Include:

- Unpackaged meat, bones, fat and grease
- Seafood, fish, and fish by-products
 - shells and peels
- Cooled grease or cooking oil
- All unpackaged fruits and vegetables
 - Corn silks, coconut shells, banana peels
- All unpackaged dairy products
 - milk, cheese, eggs and egg shells
- All unpackaged bread and baked goods
 - donuts, cakes, cookies, pies



Plate waste from a restaurant

Unacceptable Items

- Coffee grounds
- Packaging materials:
 - Paper
 - Plastic
 - Glass or metal

Strawberries removed from plastic packaging



For more information...



To find out more information about:

- more case studies
- cost savings work sheets, and
- how to set up a food waste recovery program

Call: 651-266-1194