



RAMSEY/WASHINGTON COUNTY
RESOURCE RECOVERY PROJECT

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**FOOD WASTE MANAGEMENT THROUGH LIVESTOCK FEEDING
COST COMPARISON FOR LOOSE GARBAGE IN DUMPSTERS**

Step I: Calculate the current cost to manage loose garbage in dumpsters.

The cost to manage loose garbage in dumpsters is based on the size and number of garbage dumpsters and the frequency of collection service. Gather the following information from your current garbage hauler and monthly garbage bills:

1. Type of Dumpster Service

Number of Garbage Dumpsters	Size of Garbage Dumpsters ¹ (cubic yards)	Number of Pick-Ups Per Month ²

¹Ask your current hauler.

²Ask your current hauler which days of the week you receive service (M, Tu, W, Th, F, Sa, Su). The number of pick-ups per month is the number of pick-ups per week multiplied by 4.33.

2. Current Cost of Garbage Dumpster Service

From your monthly garbage bills, calculate the following:

Cubic Yards Garbage Per Month ¹	Collection Service Charge Per Month	State Tax (17%)	County Environmental Charge ² (53% or 39.5%)	Average Total Monthly Garbage Costs (A)

¹Size of garbage dumpster x Number of garbage dumpsters x Number of pick-ups per month.

²The 2005 County Environmental Charge is 53% in Ramsey County and 39.5% in Washington County.

The current monthly cost to manage loose garbage in dumpsters = _____ **(A)**

LIVESTOCK FEEDING

Step II: Estimate the cost to manage food waste through livestock feeding.

There are two cost components to manage food waste through livestock feeding: (1) number of collection barrels filled per month; and (2) price per food waste collection barrel. Contact a livestock feeding service provider to estimate:

Average Tons Food Waste Your Operation Generates Per Month	Number of Food Waste Collection Barrels Required Per Month	Price Per Collection Barrel	Total Monthly Food Waste Collection Costs (B)

The estimated monthly cost to manage food waste through livestock feeding is _____ (B)

Step III: Compare the cost to manage loose garbage in dumpsters versus the cost to manage food waste through livestock feeding.

While the cost to manage loose garbage in dumpsters is based on the volume (cubic yards) of garbage, the weight per cubic yard of garbage can range from 200 to 500 pounds per cubic yard. Because food waste is wet and heavy material, separating food waste from garbage and managing it through livestock feeding can decrease the weight of garbage to approximately 125 pounds per cubic yard. Depending on the type of foodservice operation, the volume of garbage can decrease from 35 to 80 percent.

To compare the cost to manage garbage versus the cost to manage food waste through livestock feeding, request a 30-day trial period from a livestock feeding service provider to determine if there is:

1. A reduction in the size of your garbage dumpsters and/or a reduction in the frequency of collection service on your existing garbage dumpsters.
2. A reduction in the weight of your garbage per cubic yard.

Based on the results of this 30-day trial, add together:

1. The reduced cost of managing loose garbage in dumpsters using the method in Step I.
2. The cost of managing food waste using the method in Step II.

Compare your original cost of managing garbage calculated in Step I to the cost of managing food waste through livestock feeding and your remaining garbage in Step III.