

Managing Waste Organics

City of Spokane Solid Waste Department





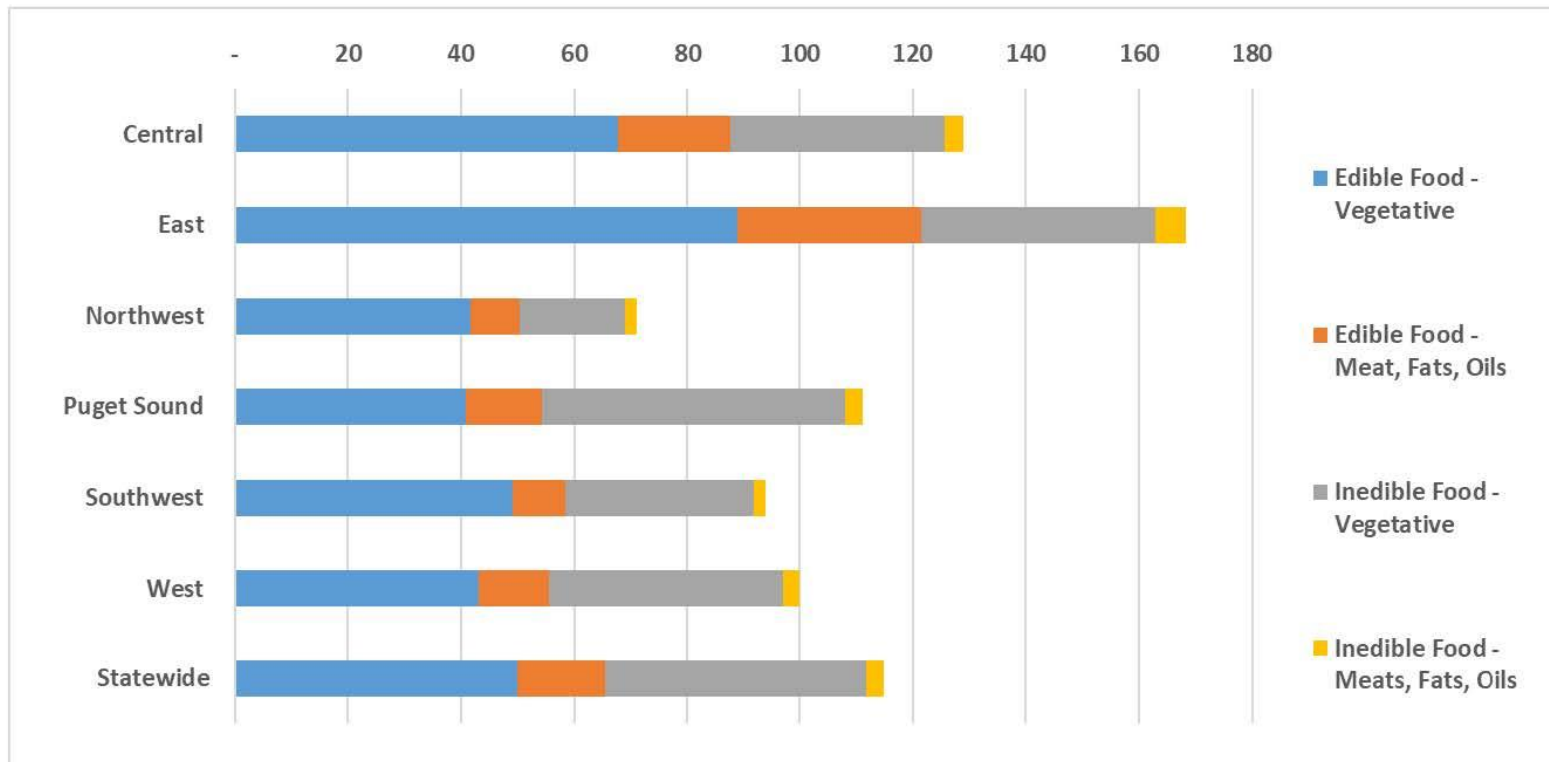
City of Spokane

- City of 230,000 with 70,000 single-family residential accounts
 - Run our own collections department
 - Own and manage the state's only Waste to Energy facility
 - Weekly trash pick up with EOW recycling
- City is politically moderate in a conservative part of the state



Reasons we care about organics

Residential Food Disposed by Waste Generation Area, 2020-21 per capita



History of program



Began “Clean Green” curbside collection in 1991

- Weekly collection of 90-gallon yard waste cart by subscription only
- Carts only serviced nine months (Mar. through Nov.)
- Self-haul drop off, year-round, at WTE transfer station
- Yard waste only
- City-owned compost facility closed in 2002 due to clopyralid and odor complaints from new neighbors
- Yard waste then taken to Royal City Organics



More about the program



- Food and food-soiled paper added to program in 2010 when Barr-Tech took over contract
- Barr-Tech is 30 miles from city in Lincoln County
- Spokane operates 5 automated and 1 rear load truck, 5 days a week to service routes
- No multi-family or commercial organics collection unless serviced with a cart (city does allow other haulers to service commercial accounts within city limits)
- If residents put out green carts in winter, garbage trucks empty as trash





What is accepted

- Yard waste including branches up to 3” diameter
- Food and food-soiled, non-shiny paper
- Christmas trees for 2 weeks after holiday

SPOKANE COUNTY
YARD AND FOOD WASTE

Spokane County Regional Solid Waste System

For more information, please call the Recycling Hotline 509.477.6800 or visit TalkTrashSpokane.com.

 YARD DEBRIS Grass, Leaves and Weeds Pine Needles and Cones Plant Trimmings & Thatch Small Amounts of Sod (no rocks) Branches Less than 3” Around & 6’ Long	 FOOD SCRAPS Meat, Poultry, Fish and Beans Dairy Products Fruit and Vegetables Bread, Grains and Pasta Eggshells and Nutshells Coffee Grounds and Tea Bags
 FOOD-SOILED PAPER Greasy Pizza Delivery Boxes Paper Towels and Napkins Non-Shiny Paper Plates & Cups Paper Egg Cartons Coffee Filters	

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NOT ACCEPTED: Garbage and Diapers; Plastic Bags and Liners; Animal Feces and Litter; Animal Remains; Rocks, Dirt and Concrete; Stumps and Roots; Painted and Treated Wood; Glass, Metal and Plastic; Shiny Paper Plates and Cups; Styrofoam™; Milk and Juice Cartons; Grease and Liquids; Hazardous Waste; Cart Weight Over 200 lbs



By the numbers

Organics

- **41,266** out of 70,000 single-family accounts choose this service
 - That's **58%** of residents who pay **\$19** a month for 9 months of service
- In 2022, **20,000** tons of organics were collected from curbside customers
 - **5,300** tons were collected same year at city's transfer station
- **All** collected organics from city go to Barr-Tech for commercial composting





Challenges to increasing organics service

- Upfront costs of purchasing trucks, fuel, carts and adding labor-- estimated \$14 million capital investment, \$8 million annual operating expenses
- Contamination—anticipated increase with mandatory collection program which would also increase cost of education and outreach as well as possible increased processing costs from Barr-Tech
- Seasonality of collection- cold/freezing winter temperatures and the resources of fuel and labor committed to collect minimal volumes Dec. - Feb.



By the numbers

C&D Waste

- **4,400** tons of C&D hauled to WTE in 2022 was by-passed to landfill
 - C&D is separated from other waste at WTE as it often contains non-flammable or treated materials that could adversely impact emissions
 - WM-owned inert landfill at Graham Road also takes C&D waste so city doesn't track
 - No diversion ordinances in place for C&D





QUESTIONS

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