

# Offal Waste



DEPARTMENT OF  
**ECOLOGY**  
State of Washington

## Organics Workgroup

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# Meat Processing Waste Management

Essential to Washington's Organics Management Strategy

*Sarah Lemon, WSDA – Meat & Poultry Assistance Program*



Washington  
State Department of  
Agriculture

# Why It Matters



## Economic & Food Security Impacts

20,000 small farms, ranches, and families in Washington raising livestock for meat depend on these processors

Meat producers and processors are often rural, underserved, in high poverty communities, and cornerstones of their local economies



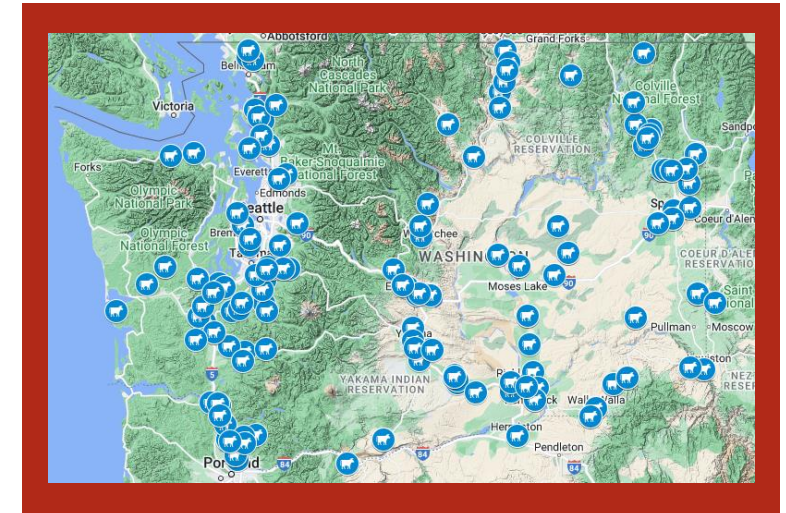
## Climate Impacts

Offal can be methanogenic, but is also:

A sought after cultural food

Highly nutrient dense

An important feedstock for rendered products & compost



## A Sizeable Impact Opportunity

~150 small processors

70 % of processors are landfilling

Avg. 6,000lbs of waste produced per week

>50% have experienced recent limitations

# Likely Multiple Solutions are Needed



**New Market Development**  
Human food, pet food, hides, fertilizers.

**Rendering**  
Ensuring access and fair competition.

**Composting\***  
Commercial, Municipal, On-site options.

**Biodigestion**  
Aerobic & Anaerobic options.

\*WSDA decision package pending!

# Input straight from processors:

- Solutions MUST be economically viable
- Staffing new enterprises is hard in an already labor challenged industry
- Hands-on, personalized technical assistance is crucial for start up and troubleshooting
- The need is NOW – many processors are one landfill or hauler or transfer station call away from shutting down



# OFFAL Composting Workshop

Learn how to use composting as a waste management strategy for meat processors & producers

**WHEN:**

July 10, 2024  
8:30-4:30

**WHERE:**

Grant County Fairgrounds  
Moses Lake, WA

**QUESTIONS:**

rachel.wieme@wsu.edu  
509-524-2685

**REGISTER:**

<https://forms.office.com/r/ppmUtEhEwe>  
or use the QR code



# Small & Mid-Size Meat Processors left without disposal options

- Lack of renderers that match their scale
- Examples of meat processors rejected at the landfill gate, citing organics management goals
- Lack of space and/or knowledge about how to properly manage on-site composting at their facilities
- Partnership with DOT Roadkill Composting Facilities? Lack of resources an issue.