

Organics Task Force Recommendation and Findings

September 2011

Task Force Background

With direction from the Executive Committee of the Macalester-Groveland Community Council (MGCC), an Organics Task Force was created in June 2011 to review the MGCC's options for organizing collection of organic (or compostable) materials within the neighborhood, the costs associated with each option, and report back to the board in the fall.

Background on Organics/Composting in Macalester Groveland

Over the past several years, MGCC has had ongoing involvement in efforts to organize the collection of organic materials throughout the neighborhood. Macalester-Groveland is a motivated, grassroots-based community. There is strong ongoing support for expanded collection of organic materials throughout the neighborhood as evidenced through funding awarded to MGCC to explore collection options, residential surveys, and calls to the office, and events.

Survey Results

The Organics Task Force created and distributed a residential survey as part of its research. The survey was available digitally as well as in paper form. Task Force members organized three door-knocking events to increase participation.

The trends of the survey include the following:

- Residents are clearly eager/ excited for organics collection services.
- Motivation for participating in an organics collection program include environmental benefit, want to reduce household waste, desire to support local neighborhood initiative, desire to reduce carbon footprint.
- Cost is an important factor for participation in a collection program.

Recommendation

Macalester Groveland Community Council (MGCC) pursues the necessary actions needed to establish a neighborhood drop site for the collection of organic materials. This ongoing work will be undertaken by the Organics Task Force. The Task Force will conduct an RFP and report back to the MGCC board with a proposal by early 2012.