

City of  
**Gainesville**

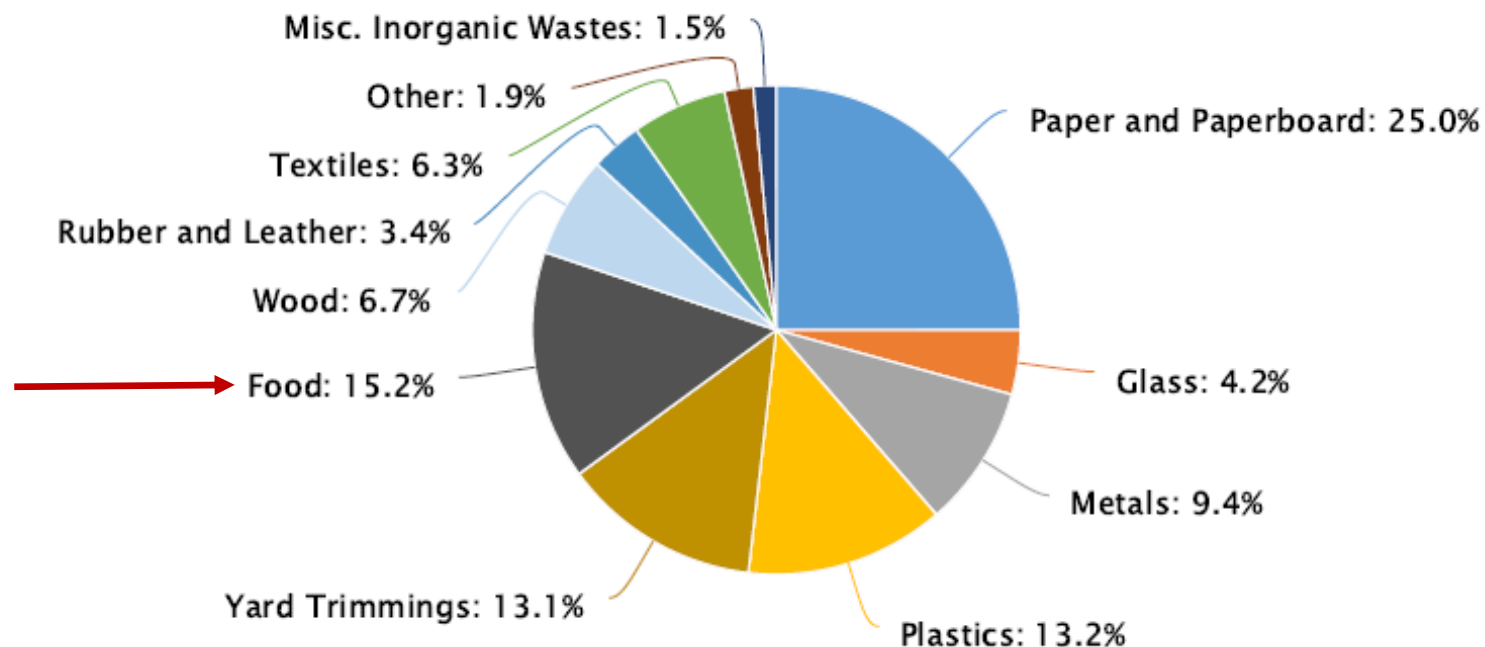
ID# 200381A

Mike Heimbach  
Sustainability Manager  
Public Works Department

**Zero Waste Subcommittee**  
October, 2020

# Total MSW Generated by Material, 2017

267.8 million tons





# Food Recovery Hierarchy

Most Preferred

## Source Reduction

Reduce the volume of surplus food generated

## Feed Hungry People

Donate extra food to food banks, soup kitchens and shelters

## Feed Animals

Divert food scraps to animal food

## Industrial Uses

Provide waste oils for rendering and fuel conversion and food scraps for digestion to recover energy.

## Composting

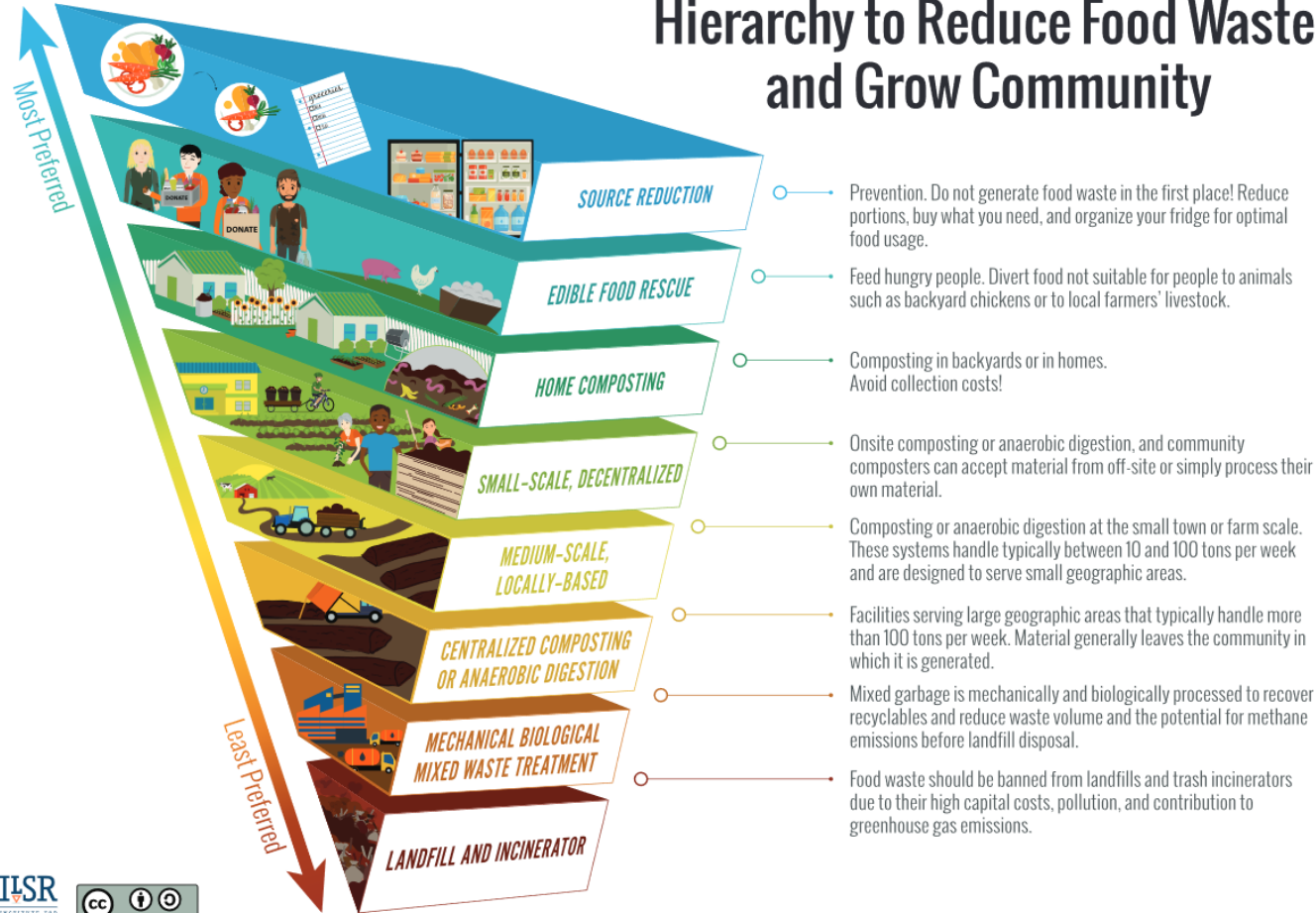
Create a nutrient-rich soil amendment

## Landfill/ Incineration

Last resort to disposal

Least Preferred

# Hierarchy to Reduce Food Waste and Grow Community



# Current Infrastructure- Food Diversion Alachua County



## Organix

- Delivers to Pre-Consumer Food Waste to Market
- Only Customer is Walmart

## Bread of the Mighty Food Bank

- Customers include Publix, Whole Foods
- 15 million pounds placed
- 100 collection stops per week
- Volunteers collect from Restaurants

## Current Infrastructure- Food Waste Composters Alachua County

### Watson

- UF is only customer
- Challenges Marketing Compost

### Beaten Path Compost

- Small Community Composter
- Offers Drop Off and Pickup Service
- Residential and Commercial
- Demand Greater than Supply

# Future Infrastructure- Food Waste Composting Alachua County



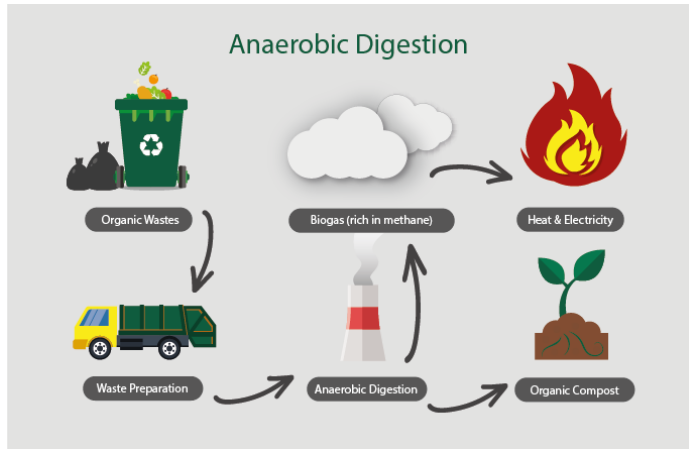
## Life Soils

- Seeking to locate to Newberry
- Primarily Bio-Solids and Yard Waste
- Opportunities for GRU
- Interested in Expanding Food Waste Processing
- High Demand for Product
- Discussing Pilot with Life Soils and WCA
- Customers include UF and Miami Marlins



# Possible Infrastructure- Anaerobic Digester

- Capable of Processing Food Waste and Biosolids
- Creates Renewable Energy (BioGas)
- Creates Compost
- Higher on EPA Pyramid than Composting





# Summary of Food Waste Programs in Gainesville



- Infrastructure in Place to Address Food Diversion and Composting
- Many Organizations and Neighbors are Already Voluntarily Participating in these Programs
- Additional Capacity Becoming Available
- Processors are Looking for More Material

# Ordinances and Policies on Food Waste

**Table 2. Local organic waste bans and recycling laws currently in effect<sup>1</sup>**

	Austin, TX	Boulder, CO	New York City, NY	San Francisco, CA	Seattle, WA
Citation	Austin Code of Ordinances § 15-6-91(E)	Boulder Mun. Code 6-3-13-18	N.Y.C. Admin. Code § 16-306.1	S.F. Env't Code §§ 1901-1912	Seattle Mun. Code 21.36.082(C)-(D); 21.36.083(B)-(C)
Food Waste Generators Covered	All “food enterprises,” i.e., any establishment that serves non-prepackaged food and is required to hold a food permit, e.g., food or beverage distributor, processor, preparation facility, retailer, or service <sup>2</sup>	Any business (including educational institutions and charitable or non-profit organizations), single family homeowner or other property owner or manager, or special event permit holder	Any food service establishment in hotel with 150 or more rooms; food service vendor in arena or stadium with seating capacity of at least 15,000 people; food manufacturer with floor area of at least 25,000 sq. ft.; food wholesaler with floor area of at least 20,000 sq. ft.	All “persons” including any individual, business, association, partnership, corporation or government entity, including the City and County of San Francisco	All single-family and multifamily residences and commercial businesses
Action Required	Covered businesses must provide diversion services to transport organics to composting facility, or food bank, processor, farm, garden or other facility	Property or business owners must provide separate compostable material containers and collection service <sup>3</sup>	Covered entities must separate their organic material and either send to a composting, AD, or other processing facility, or process it on-site <sup>4</sup>	All persons must separate food scraps and subscribe to composting collection services. Owners of multifamily dwellings, food vendors, and event sites must provide organics bins <sup>5</sup>	Businesses and households must separate food waste into bins and subscribe to composting collection services. Property owners must provide organics bins.

# Food Diversion/ Composting Options to Consider



- Size or Volume Exemption for Small Businesses
- Would Food Donators Also be Required to Compost
- Which Facilities are Covered-Restaurants, Grocery Stores, Schools, Food Distributors, Hospitals, Multifamily
- Single Family-Optional or Mandatory, Home Composting Exception

# Soil Amendment Ordinance

- Zero Waste Plan-Encourages Policy to Create Markets for Compost
- Alachua County Ordinance on Hold
- Soil Amendment Helps Meet Other Environmental Goals-Water, Fertilizer Use, Storm Water Runoff



# City Collection Contract Provisions

- Food Waste for Composting will be Exempt from Exclusive Contract
- Pricing for the Collection of Food Waste in Carts with Yard Waste at Single Family

**Thank You.**