

# Improving Organic Materials Management in WA

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**Composting Facilities**  
**58** permitted  
 composting facilities  
 located in **28**  
 counties (out of 39)  
 processed **1.28**  
**million tons**  
 (2018)

**Anaerobic Digesters**  
**42** anaerobic  
 digesters producing  
 biogas from organic  
 materials  
**33** at wastewater  
 treatment facilities and  
**9** farm-based  
**44,467 tons/ year**  
 through 2017

**Other:**  
 Vermicultur,e  
 Black Soldier  
 Flies, Land  
 application sites

There are **15**  
 permitted land  
 application

**Incineration &  
 Energy  
 Recovery**  
**<12 tons/day**

**Landfills**  
 14 landfills which received **4.03**  
**million tons** of municipal solid  
 waste during 2017. Total includes  
 both organic and inorganic waste.

*What remains:*  
**Organics = 28.5% (1,306,136 tons/yr.)**  
 of disposed materials by weight

## Feedstock generated: West & East



## Barriers

Barriers to organic materials management include:

- Funds:** Represented by a money bag icon.
- Skepticism/contamination:** Represented by a magnifying glass over a 'PROOF' sign.
- Emission factors:** Represented by three upward-pointing wavy arrows.
- Clopyralid:** Represented by a bottle of the herbicide.
- Silos/Awareness:** Represented by a megaphone and a sign that says 'ATTENTION please'.
- Apple maggot:** Represented by a map of Washington with a red apple and a maggot on it.
- Equipment:** Represented by a red trailer.
- Regulatory consistency:** Represented by a yellow pushpin on a 'REGULATION' sign.

## Capacity & Markets Expansion

- Connect RNG facilities to pipelines & e-grid
- Fund pilot strategies, such as co-digestion
  - Expand markets for organics products
  - Incentivize anaerobic digestion
  - Foster community-based composting

## Standards Improvement

- Update toxics list
- Set standards for digestate application
- Make spreading equipment available
- Require compostable foodservice products to be distinguishable

## Performance Improvement

- Industrial symbiosis: Use excess steam for apple maggot
- Increase (training) requirements
- Update the state's manual

## Systemic Changes

- Price GHG emissions
- Foster biogas markets
- Ban organics in landfills
- Ban clopyralid and other herbicides
- Expand renewable portfolio
- Increase landfill tipping fees

## Innovation Support

- Create an innovation center
- Incentivize anaerobic digestion projects
- Encourage new technologies
- Fund facilities that manage food waste
- Fund purchase of products



## Permitting Revision

- Coordinate permits
- Establish VOC emissions testing standards
  - Increase funding for training & monitoring
  - Define standard odor measurement methods
  - Proactively define zoning for organics facilities
- Focus compliance on key performance indicators



## Contractual Processes Improvement

- Standardize government contracts
- Set bid preferences for RNG for heavy duty vehicles
- Incentivize & sanction for better source separation
- Pilot Pay-As-You-Throw based on weight not volume

## Collaboration Improvement

- Establish policy working group
- Require education in contracts
  - Define compostable products
  - Improve data

# Policy Road Map