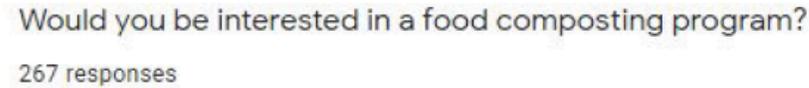
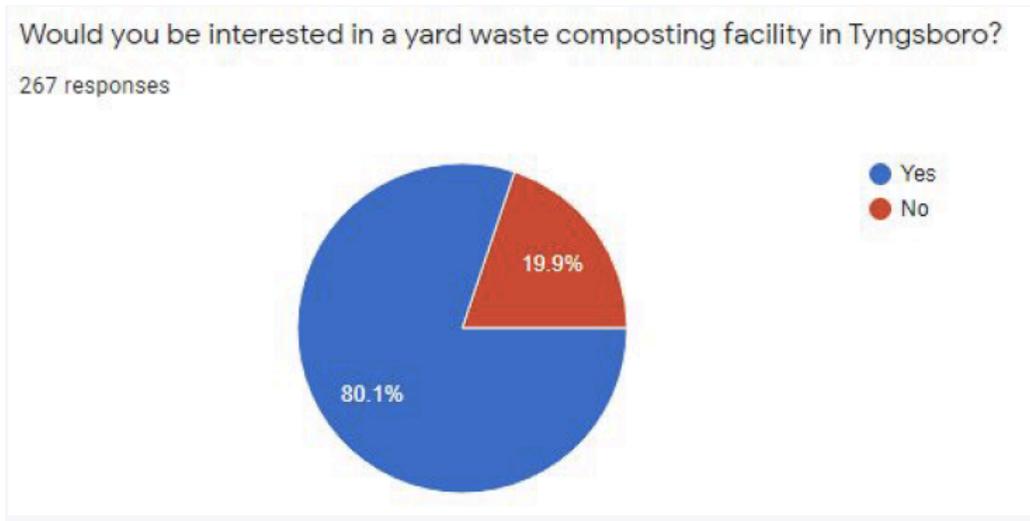


The Sustainability Committee published a three question poll from August 2019 until early May 2020. Below is the raw data from the poll, with any personal information left in the comments removed. 267 responses were recorded.

Respondents were asked the following:

1. Would you be interested in a yard waste composting facility in Tyngsboro?
2. Would you be interested in a food composting program?
3. Do you have any other questions or comments for the Sustainability Committee?



I would like to see curbside organic material pick up. I'm currently using Off Beet but I'm paying a monthly fee. I would not object to paying something but really want to see Tyngsboro benefit from composting.

Low emission or electric town vehicles. Waterless urinals

Upcycle program or Teracycle

Better access to hazardous waste collection, like batteries, paint, mercury filled products, etc.

You are doing a great job!!!!

Would like to see the Sustainability committee take the lead role in recycling as it's the reason for the committee. There are seven members and there's tons of questions that residents have on recycling. The SC posts on Facebook about what to recycle (i.e. nothing smaller than a cell phone video) but is that in general or only locally. There's no education going to residents on what exactly to recycle with Republic services. This falls strictly under their purview.

Another suggestion is to have the plastic film recycling area next to all the general recycling dumpsters for example near the middle school.

Very curious to know how the compost would work with individuals. We have a small compost at my place of work and although it has a cover, I avoid using it because there are always fruit flies all around it. Also, I find the information regarding recycling very insightful. It has changed how I've recycled. If it's in the budget, what about a magnet sent to all homes with this info on it so people have it forever? That way the only paper being wasted is the envelope so people are less likely to just toss it. Earth day is coming up, maybe throw in an info card as well with windows about a volunteer earth day event? Trash pickup? Just throwing out ideas. I work for a solar company so I really should just start coming to meetings with my thoughts.

You are all doing a great service for the town! I would be curious if there could be some fun collaborative things to do with the students in our public schools. Maybe the PTO or school committee would have some ideas. Recycling and composting are fun topics for kids. It is always fun to get kids involved.

I would love to have a place to bring yard waste instead of waiting for pick ups two months a year. It would be great to get to pick up compost like our neighbors in Dracut can do. Thank you

We already compost but I think others need an option

How does one join the sustainability Committee of Tyngsborough and what are the weekly requirements?

My old town, Wakefield, took yard waste and composted it. You could go and pick up barrels of the mulch to amend your soil with. It was a great system as long as Round-up doesn't contaminate the waste stream.

Would they pick up weekly?

Would love to learn more about and/or assist with preservation and conservation efforts. Thank you!

What can the schools do with food they don't use? Not waste but uneaten food? Can it be donated rather than thrown away?

I have partners with a woman who started a composting company in the Merrimack Valley, OffBeet Compost. Her name is Kesiah Bascom. She would be an awesome person to contact about starting a composting project or program in Tyngsboro, and could do composting education as well as provide the composting service! She is at: <http://www.offbeetcompost.com/>

Recycling every week and trash every other (the opposite of what we have)! But don't raise taxes for it.

Love this site, more composting tips would be wonderful. We are composting this winter (use to only compost for 3 seasons) already have avoided a large amount in the trash. I would like them to bring this in as school programs . Or after school !

community gardens

Currently I compose 100% of food and yard waste in my garden but would like to have these services for my neighbors

I would love to see a community garden set up at the Sherburne estate area!!

I answered no on #1 because I have woods and dump there.

I only support this program if it is not housed at 130 Sherburne Ave., a.k.a. Willowdale Farms. This area is already overwhelmed with bad odors, turkey vultures, rats and flies.

In Town recycling drop off

Do you have your own compost area? I do, do I think that's an important question to ask the rest of the town as well.

Please do more to announce your committee meeting schedule and locations: the Town Website has had very, very, little info about that, and it has been fairly hard to find. Your committee needs much more on the website than just some kind of minutes-listings. If you would like to contact me for more info about this, email me at ---

Transfer Station / recycling center composting site maybe open twice a month.

More education

I think education is key to increasing composting. My husband and I are dedicated composters we use every bit of it in our gardens so we are self sustaining. We truly support this initiative. I would only be interested in food composting if it was off the beaten path and not around any neighborhoods.

Thank you very much for all your efforts, they are much appreciated! It would be wonderful if the committee could host some informational sessions or perhaps create some info graphic flyers to help educate our community on the benefits of composting.

A community-run composting facility would be great!

Community garden, school gardens, workshops on backyard farming, food preservation, herbal soaps & gifts, etc.

Something like 4H for grown-ups & families :)

Allow more (at least a minimum amount) i.e 2 goats, or 1 horse, etc.. live stalk for people with over .75 of an acre. It seems if you have an acre it's o.k but just shy, it's not as easy. Neighbor approval?? Thoughts?

I'd like to see a TerraCycle drop off location in town. Currently, I need to store those items in my house, then remember to bring them out to the car because I'm never sure when I'll be driving by one of the locations I know I can drop off those items!

Where can I recycle old laptops

How would it be transported to the composting facility?

If the food composting program will be taken out of town to be composed I would be interested. I wouldn't want it composed in or near a neighborhood.

See question 1.. would love to see a yard waste composting facility

Stop raising our taxes

As long as it will NOT cost the town anything. We are being taxed enough!

My only concern is that in a fairly rural area, would the carbon footprint of another truck driving all over town be offset by the compost? Or if it's not a truck and it's individuals will the environmental impact of people driving more, plus I assume some heavy machinery will be used to turn and move compost piles around.

We compost our food scraps and yard waste in our back yard which seems about as carbon neutral as you can get, but I suppose if it gets more people doing it that's a win.

How about a recycling station? And a friend who lives in Vermont says, when they go to the recycling station, there's a place where people can drop off things that aren't broken but are unwanted, and other people can pick up things they might want. Magazines, for example, which can only be recycled but not put into the Friends of the Library book sale, and may be in good condition.

I compost in my yard. I wouldn't switch to a central compost facility but would like local resources to help with composting. Education, supplies, etc. Residents without the space to compost may have a different opinion.

Please do NOT put this facility at 130 Willowdale Road.

Helping people around town set them up!

How about a place to get rid of trash

Sounds like a great idea - I've wanted to compost, but just haven't gotten around to it - assuming we would be responsible for getting the waste to the composting sites - probably asking the general question: would it be open Saturdays?

Would like a recycling center that we can go to so we can recycle the items that may not be accepted in mainstream recycling.

Only not interested in food compost as I did it myself. Would be interested in yard waste composting service.

We have been cutting out a lot of Bittersweet and overgrown Black Locust bushes. Having a place to have those "composted" would be very handy: I am now getting reluctant to burn

them and thus add lots of CO2 to the air (not to mention soot). (That sort of roots, twigs, and branches don't really fit into a composter meant for food-waste.)

I already do both in my yard but I'm sure there are others who may not have the capability to in there. A central place where those who would like to would be great.

Composting facilities on both sides of the river to make it easier for all residents to compost. I think you will find lots of interest in this. Hopefully we can get something moving.

I answered yes because I think it would be great for residents who can't do this in their own yard. I already compost food and yard waste in my own yard

The problem for some is getting yard waste to a location, even in Town. One needs a truck or SUV and that may be a limiting factor in participation. Unless there was a pick up service that was more than just during a Spring and Fall clean up, there might be less interest. I have a large yard and a small SUV that I would not wish to load up to take several trips to dump it somewhere. If I have to bag it and tie up bundles of sticks, it doubles or triples my effort and time. I'm not sure I have the bandwidth for that!

Food waste composting is recognized as solid waste disposal which is licensed and overseen by MA DEP, making sure it is situated and run with environmental and public health in mind and with local by-laws respected. Unfortunately, MA DoAR has decided that if on a farm it is an agricultural activity and they can license it without the town knowing anything about it, they bypass wetlands protection laws, and local zoning and other by-laws. This has happened in town already on Willowdale Farm, and it has created unbearable odors for the neighbors, flocks of turkey vultures flying overhead, rats, and swarms of flying insects. With the 2014 food scraps ban for anything over 1 ton a week for all food based concerns, there will be a lot of pressure to establish these food scrap composting sites, and many will be located in inappropriate places unless the law changes. They can call it composting, but until it is composted, what it really is is a garbage dump in the middle of a residential neighborhood. As a resident of town, I would support an appropriately placed municipal composting facility, but only if it is set up under DEP rules which require hearings as well as adhering to local by-laws, specifically zoning. I absolutely do not support the town becoming a customer of Willowdale Farms composting facility. Dumps don't belong in neighborhoods.

Recycling at the apartments

I have always composted, even having success in the early days of compostable foodware and cups, putting them in my compost pile. I'd like to see compost turned into fuel!

More recycling containers or more often pick up recycling

Is there any possibility that we could have compost sites on each side of the bridge? I think easy access will make a difference in use.

Only if the process is voluntary.

Thanks for organizing the series at the library. Any additional practical programs that show where the problems are and their impact - on people, on animals, on the oceans - who wants to see children surrounded by trash or animals with stomachs filled with plastic? - would be very welcome.

We already compost. We have two large compost bins. They do attract wildlife but we do not mind. I know many citizens fear the wildlife and may like the idea of composting but not in their

own backyard. Maybe a town location would be beneficial to them. We do not use our compost for gardening but would participate in a Town program if it would help the town