



COMPOSTING creates jobs, generates revenue, supports agriculture, protects quality of living, and reduces carbon footprints.

Composting turns food waste into nutritious soil. In Georgia, composting is only available to a select few. To make a statewide impact, curbside or community composting is recommended. City or state-run composting can pay for itself, benefits state agricultural practices, and protects the environment.



are wasted per Georgian, per year on average.

That's 800,000 tons. Georgians throw away the equivalent weight of the Golden Gate Bridge annually.

On average per cubic yard, fertilizer costs



& compost costs



The food wasted in Georgia wastes

 **1.92 billion** each year.

This could be converted to profit through composting!

SUCCESSFUL EXAMPLES

The Athens-Clarke County Landfill composts over 1,000 tons of food waste annually. This facility had an up-front investment of \$1.5M and covers 4.5 acres. It sells its compost for \$20 per cubic yard commercially and for \$2 per 5-gallon bucket. The ACC Landfill consistently sells out of compost and turns a profit annually.

Baltimore, MD, population 2,325,000 The Boston Office of Sustainability has implemented a decentralized community composting system with drop-off locations throughout the city, an education program about reducing food waste, and a food redistribution program. It aims to reduce half of all food waste generated by the city by 2030.

WHY COMPOST?

- Prevents food from releasing harmful chemicals to the environment while decomposing, which is a top personal contributor to climate change
- Facilities create jobs and pay for themselves with compost revenue
- Nourishes Georgia farms, saves growers money, and improves soil structure
- Prevents extra waste and runoff in landfills, which can contribute to poor health in low-income and underserved communities

Georgia, its citizens, and the planet would benefit from curbside or community-based composting programs being implemented by the state or in select communities.