

Curbside Composting Program Analysis

Shana Riviello Austin Resource Recovery





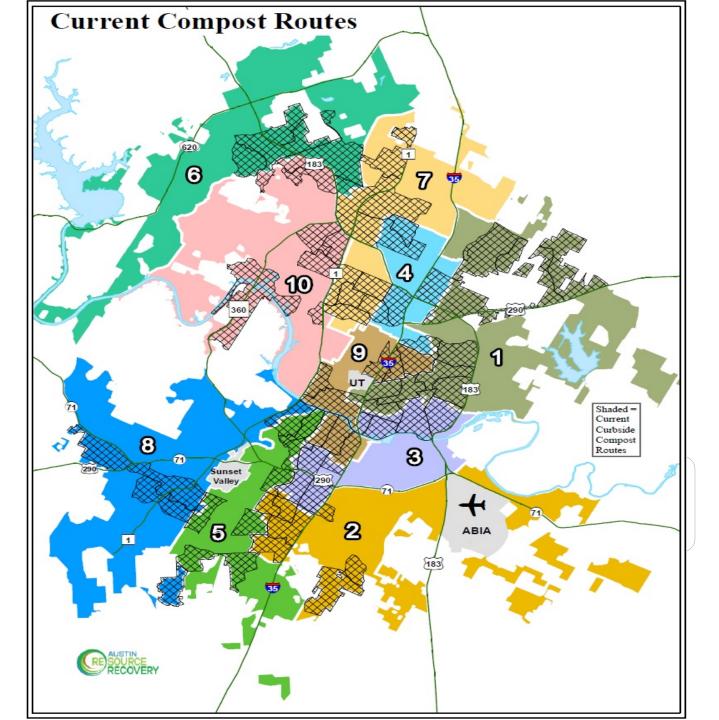


Compost Set-Out Study Compost Material Audit







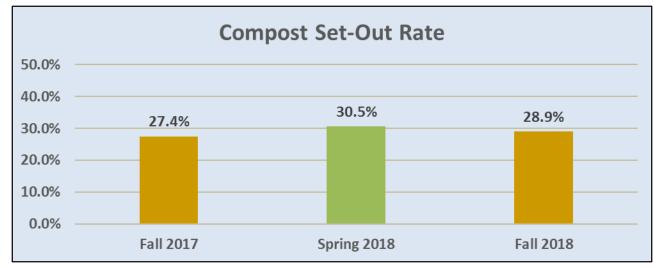






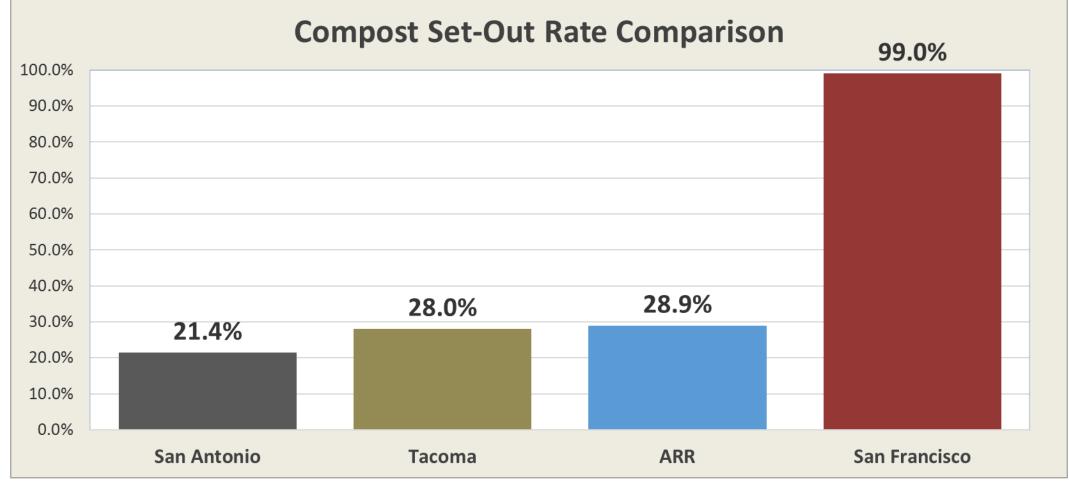
Compost Set-Out Study

- From November 2018 to January 2019, the Residential Quality Services (RQS) team conducted a Compost Set-Out Study
- Inspected 40 Curbside Compost routes twice
- Anomalies were looked at a third time (19 routes)
- Overall set-out rate of 28.9%





Compost Set-Out Rates





Compost Material Audit

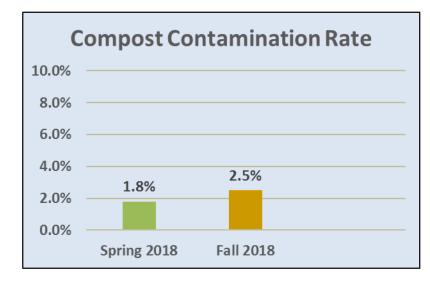
- Compost Material Audit (August 2018)
 - RQS team assessed 54 of 67 compost routes
 - 90% confidence level in data collected
 - Used the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) Standard D 5231-92 Municipal Solid Waste Sampling Method
 - Collected 200-300 pound samples from each compost route
 - Sorted sample contents into categories by material:
 - Food Scraps
 - Soiled Paper
 - Yard Trimmings
 - Garbage
 - Recyclables



6

Compost Material Audit

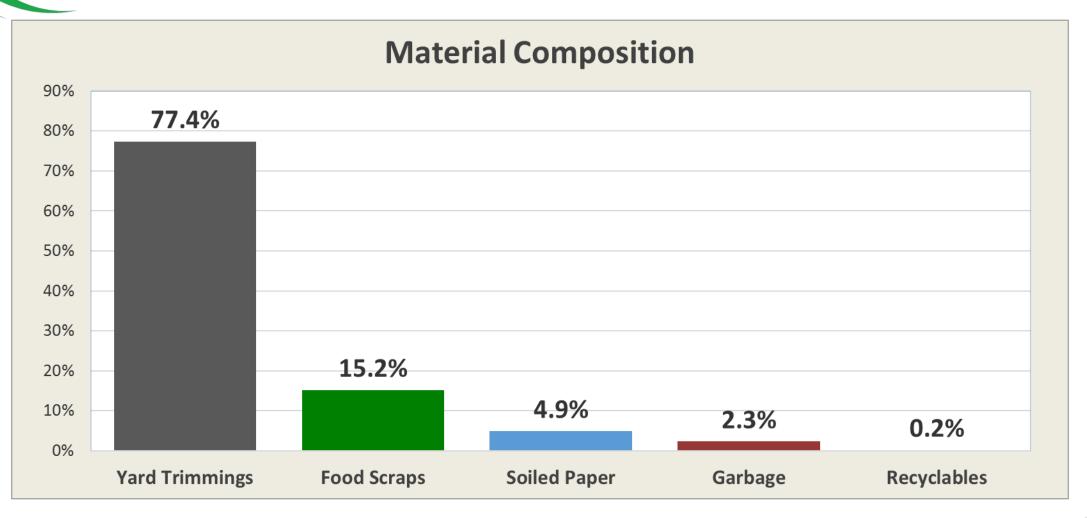
- Weighed each category
- Divided contaminant weight by total weight to identify contamination rate
- 2.5% contamination rate





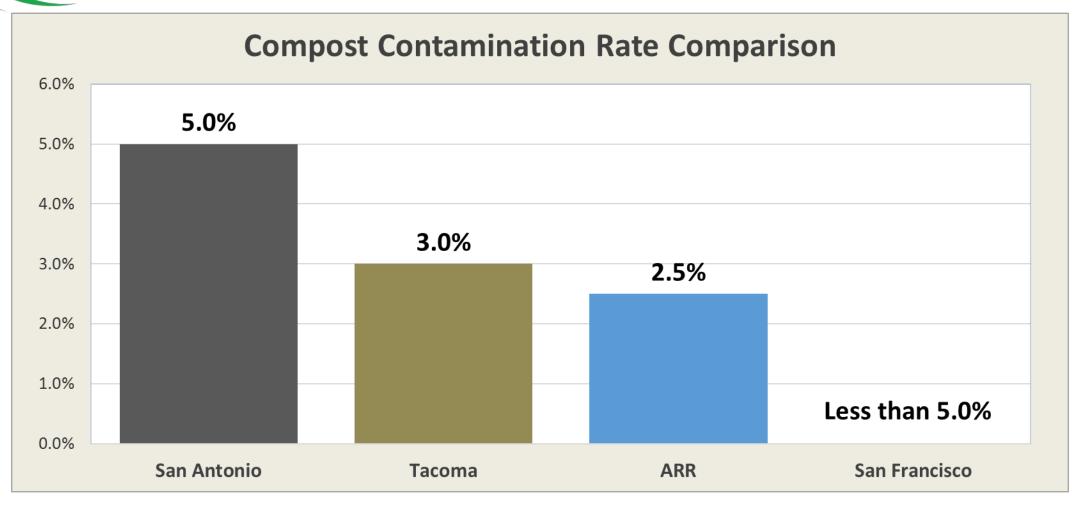


Compost Material Audit





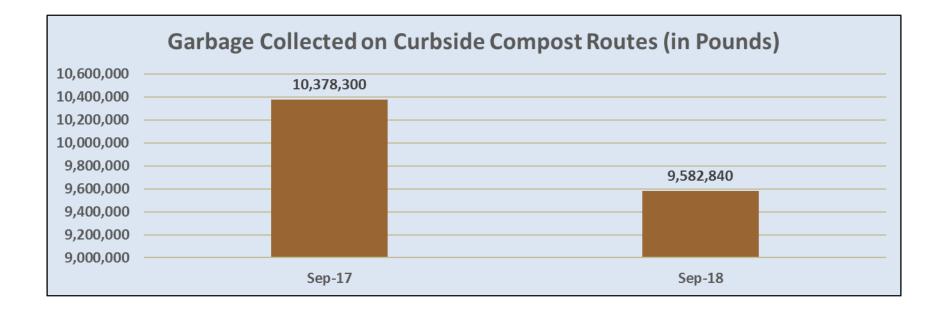
Compost Contamination Rates





The Impact on Garbage Collection

- There are 111 curbside garbage collection routes within the 67 curbside compost collection routes.
- Of the 111 curbside garbage collection routes, 70 of the 111 (63.1%) had a decrease in collection weight.
- Overall, there was a 7.7% decrease in garbage collected (almost 800,000 pounds or 400 tons) on the curbside garbage collection routes with curbside compost collection.







What Happens Next

- RQS will conduct Compost Set-Out Studies and Compost Material Audits on a regular basis to account for seasonal changes and provide a long-term comparison
- Five Year Follow-Up to Characterization Study
 - Internal and External Study Due 2020







QUESTIONS?

