

Food to Flowers

Food Waste Composting at Goshen College



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GOSHEN, IN

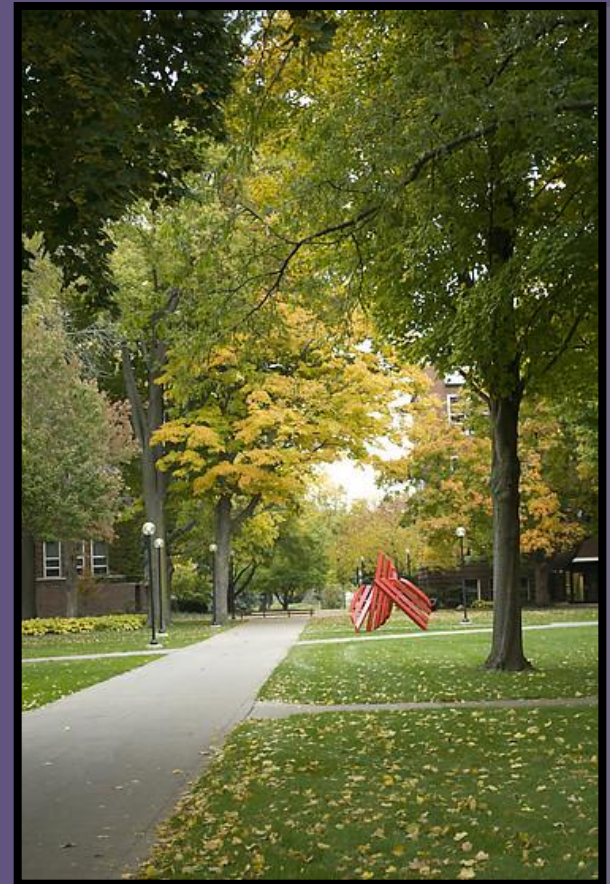
Geographical Location



Goshen College at a Glance



- Small, Christian-Mennonite, liberal arts college.
- 900 undergraduate students
- 135 acres, 19 buildings
- 34 majors and 36 minors
- 13:1 student-to-faculty
- Four year residency



Current Composting Work



- Postconsumer, Preconsumer, Mulch
- 7 student volunteers
- AVI Fresh
- Physical Plant

Beginning Stages



- Faculty & Staff Support
 - Lew Naylor
 - ✦ Adjunct Professor of Chemistry
 - Glenn Gilbert
 - ✦ Sustainability Coordinator
 - Bob Rombach
 - ✦ Dining Hall Director



Compost Requirements

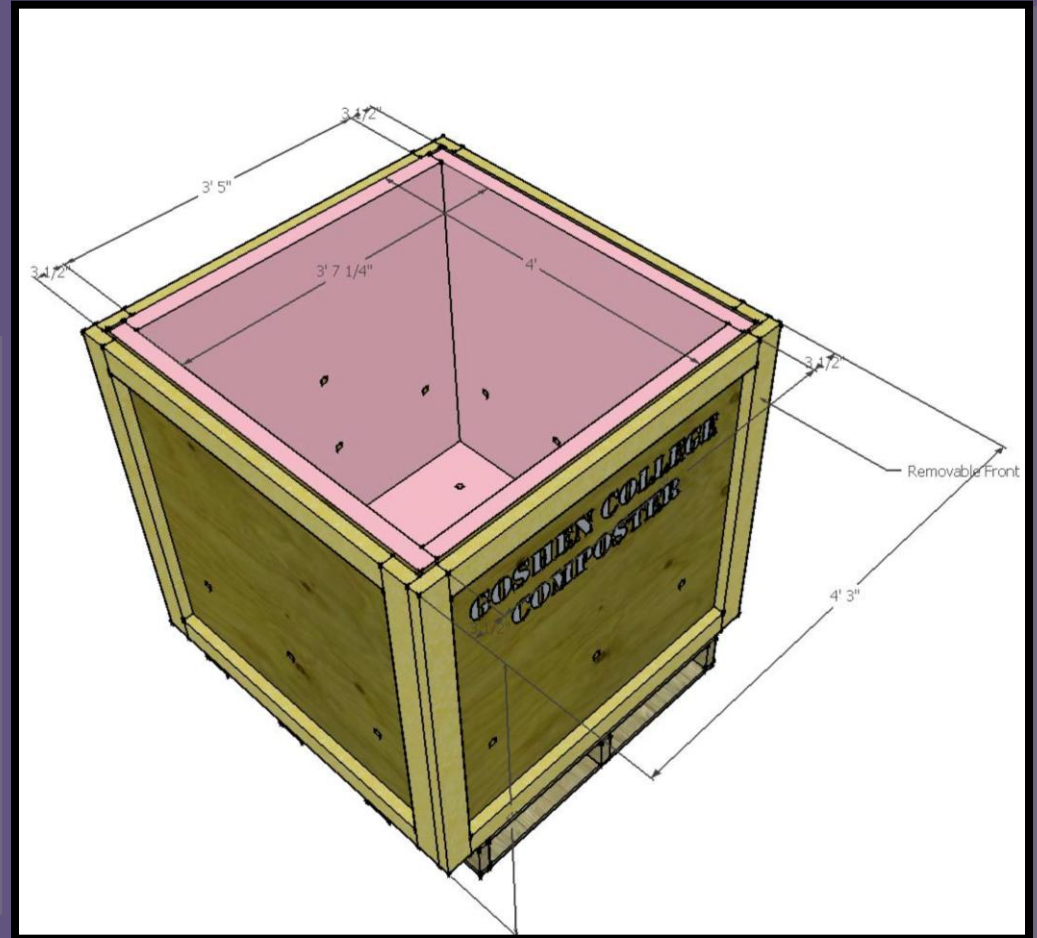


- **Cost**
 - Must be self sustaining
- **Care**
 - Must not require intensive work
- **Choice**
 - Must use volunteer labor
- **Creation**
 - Finished product must be used on campus

Construction



- 4x4x4 plywood box
- Styrofoam lining
- Underlying box



Operation



Operation

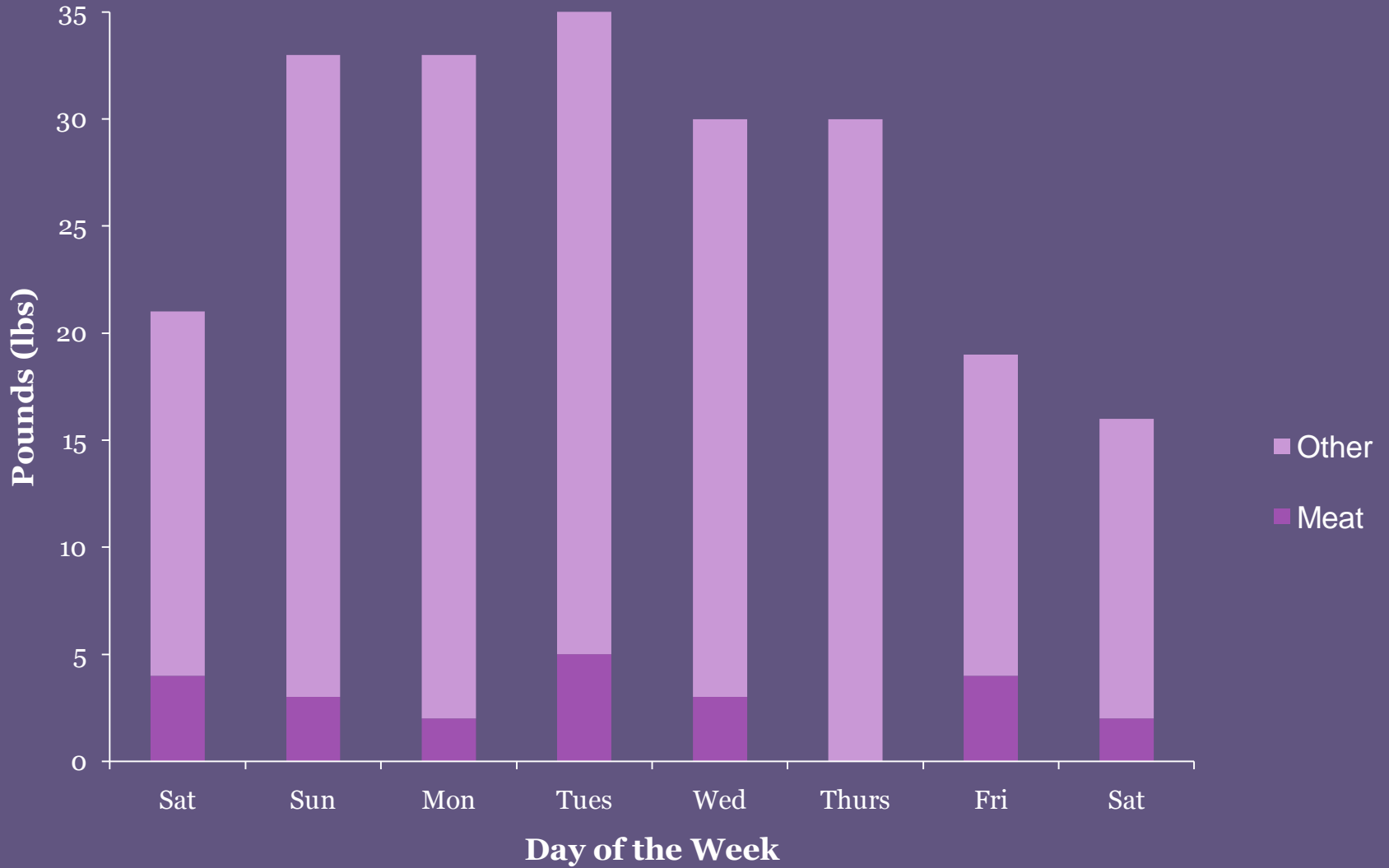


Content



- Preconsumer waste
- Postconsumer waste
- Mulch

Postconsumer Food Waste



Finished Product



Summer work



- Business Internship
- Compost Marketing
- Campus Composting



Compost Composition

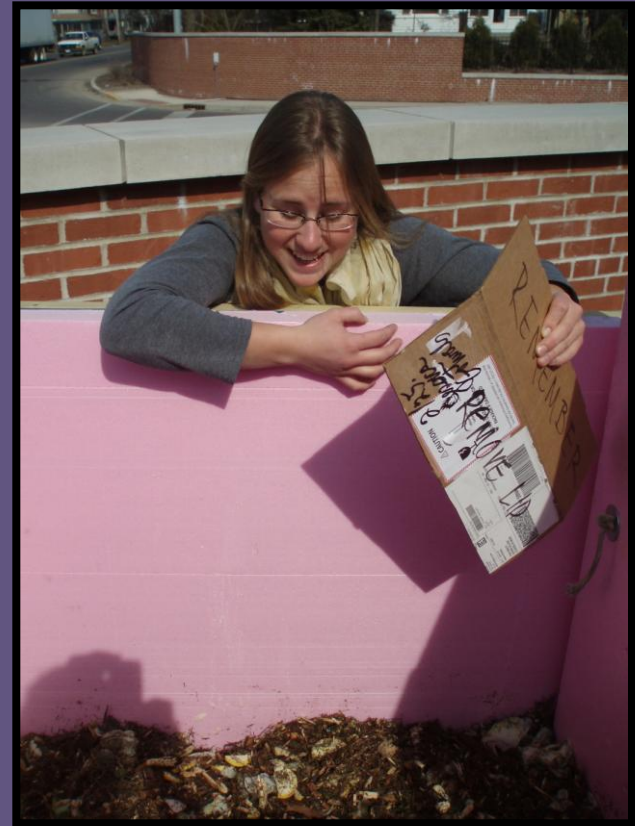


	Box A	Box B
% Moisture	58	49
% Dry Matter	42	51
% Total Nitrogen	1.1	1.5
% Organic Matter	64	73
% Calcium	0.5	5.7
% Phosphorus	0.4	0.4
% Potassium	3.8	1.5
% Sodium	0.1	.14
pH	8.3	8.4
% Nitrates	0.0	0.1

Project Learnings



- **Simplicity**
 - Cost, Care, Choice, Creation
- **Delegation**
- **Teamwork**
 - Students
 - Dining Hall Staff
 - Physical Plant
 - Goshen College Administration



Future Directions



- Cost Benefit Analysis
- Quantify preconsumer compost
- Winter complications

Volunteers

- Erica Grasse
- Maddie Ruth
- Natasha Weisenbeck
- Josh Yoder
- Lydia Yoder
- Tori Yoder
- Lew Naylor
- Glenn Gilbert
- Jim Hestand
- Bob Rombach
- Jeremy Corson
- Clay Shetler

