

# On-Site Food Scrap Composting

St. John's University, New York  
USCC 2013

Peter Moon, P.E.



# Raw Feedstocks



# Aerated Static Pile Composting



“The Beltsville Method”

# A High Quality Finished Product



# US ARMY AT FORT LEWIS



JBLM - Tacoma, WA

# PHILADELPHIA PRISON



Correctional Facilities

# WHITE HOUSE



Washington DC



# MOHICAN FARM



Cooperstown, New York



# BEIJING, CHINA



Rural Village 2-hours from Beijing

# BOGOTA, COLUMBIA



Rural Village



# FOOD SCRAP COMPOSTING



At St. John's University, New York

# BLOWER & AERATION TRENCHES



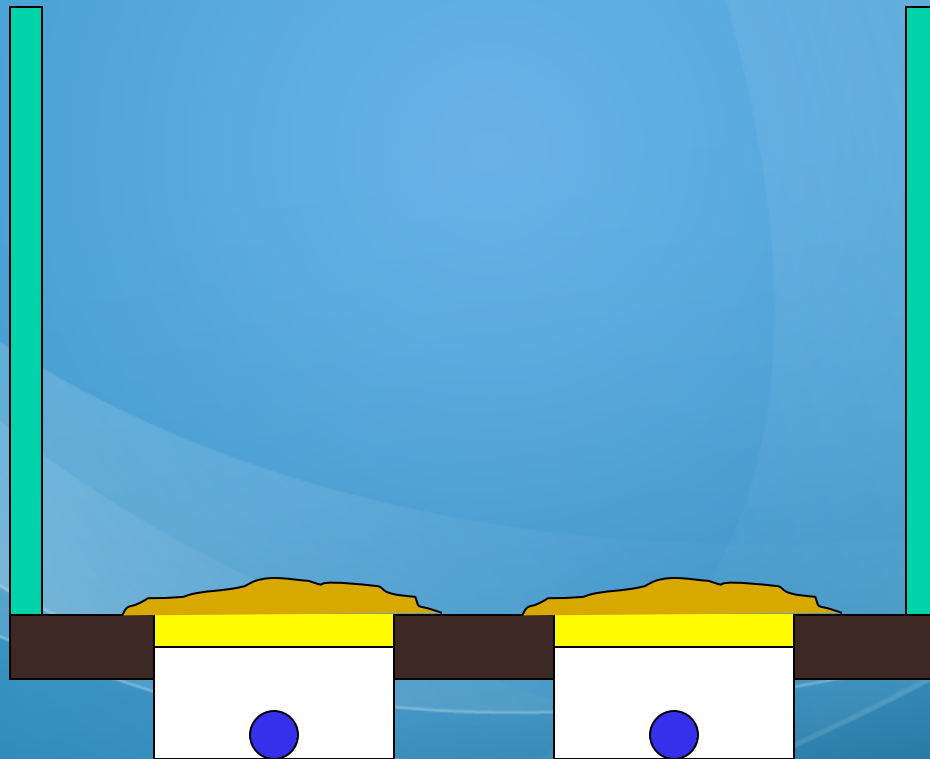
Queens, New York

# ADDING PLENUM LAYER

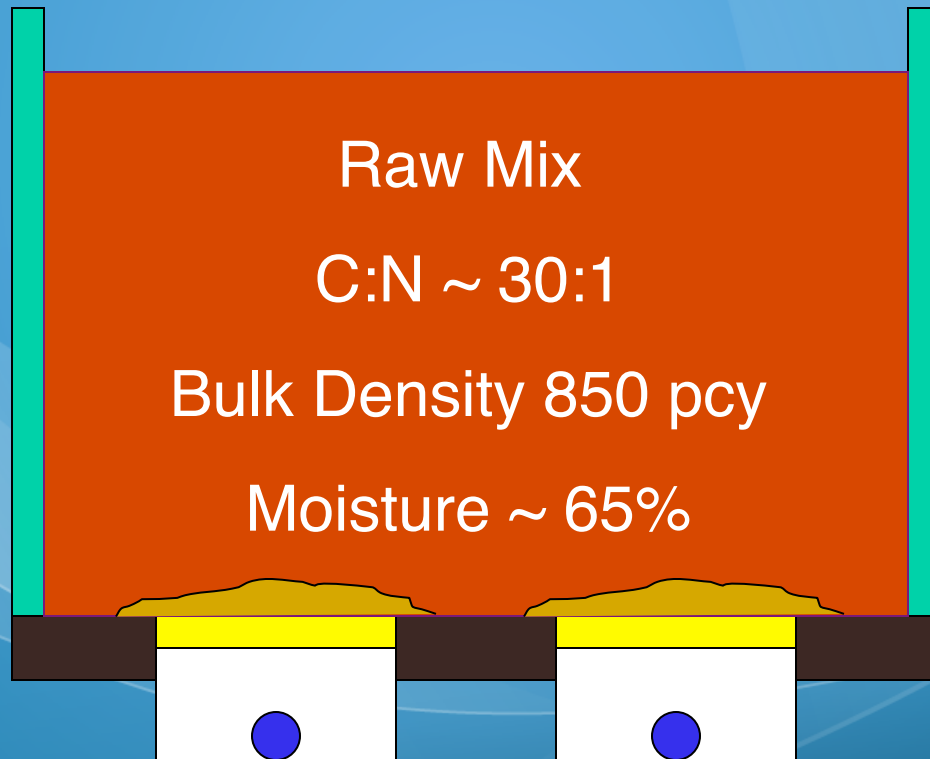


Queens, New York

# Cross Section of an Aerated Bay



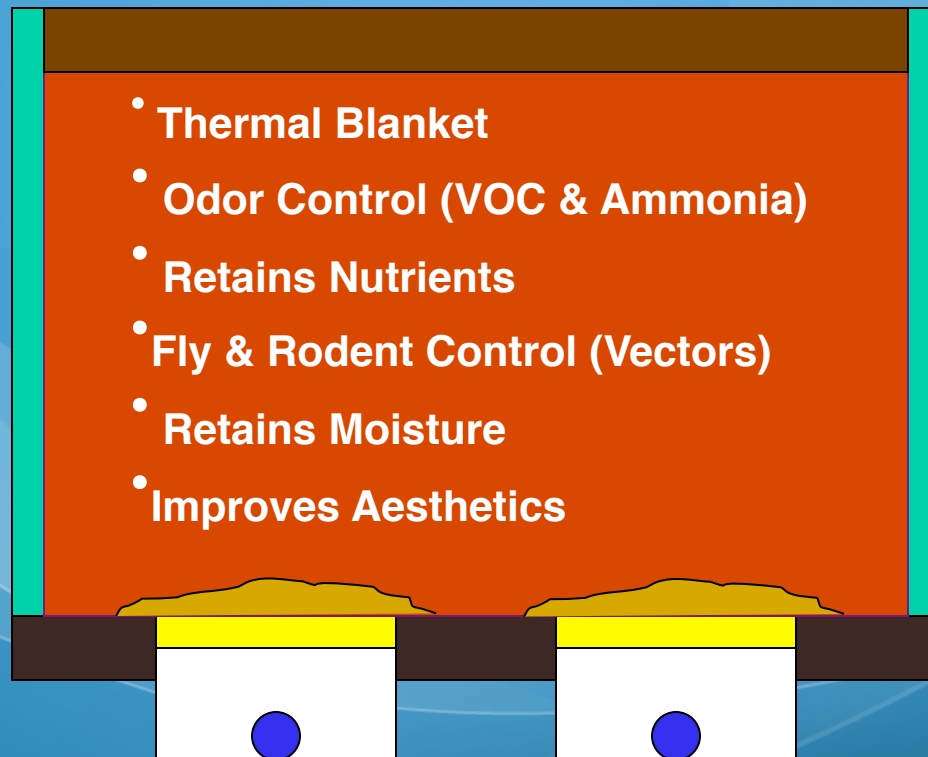
# Filling the Bin





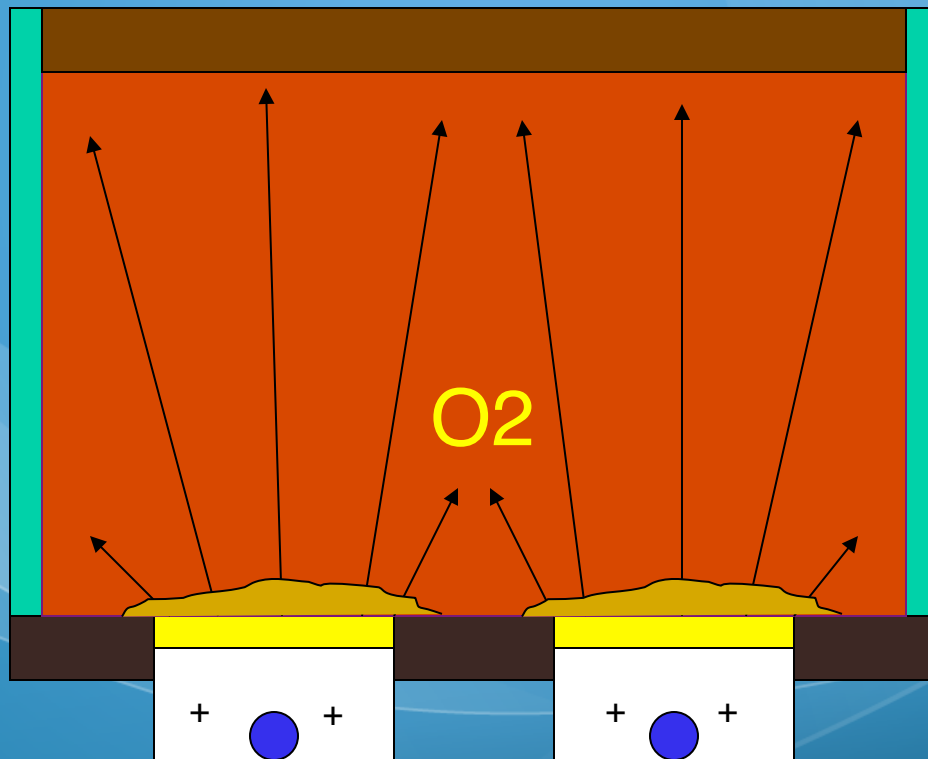
# Placing the Compost Cover

**Compost Cover**



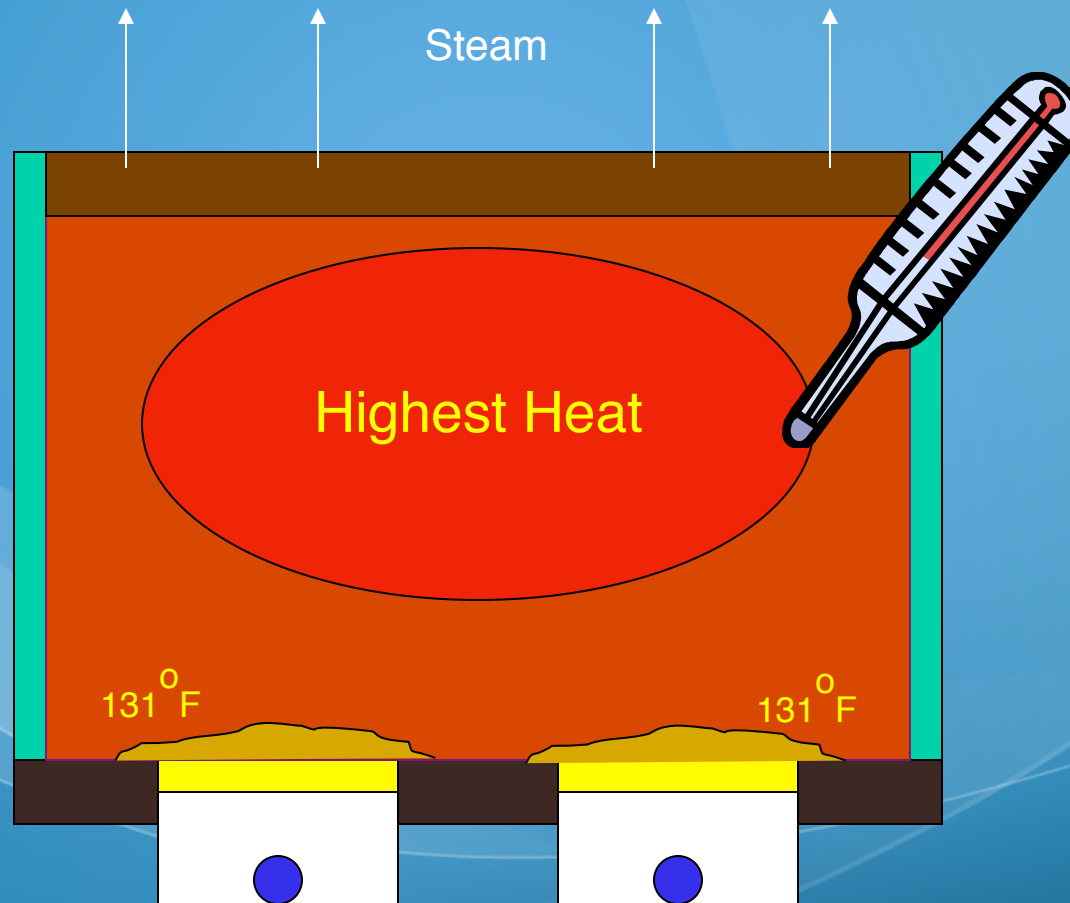
# Turning On the Airflow

Typical Aeration Cycle: 2-min ON & 30-min OFF



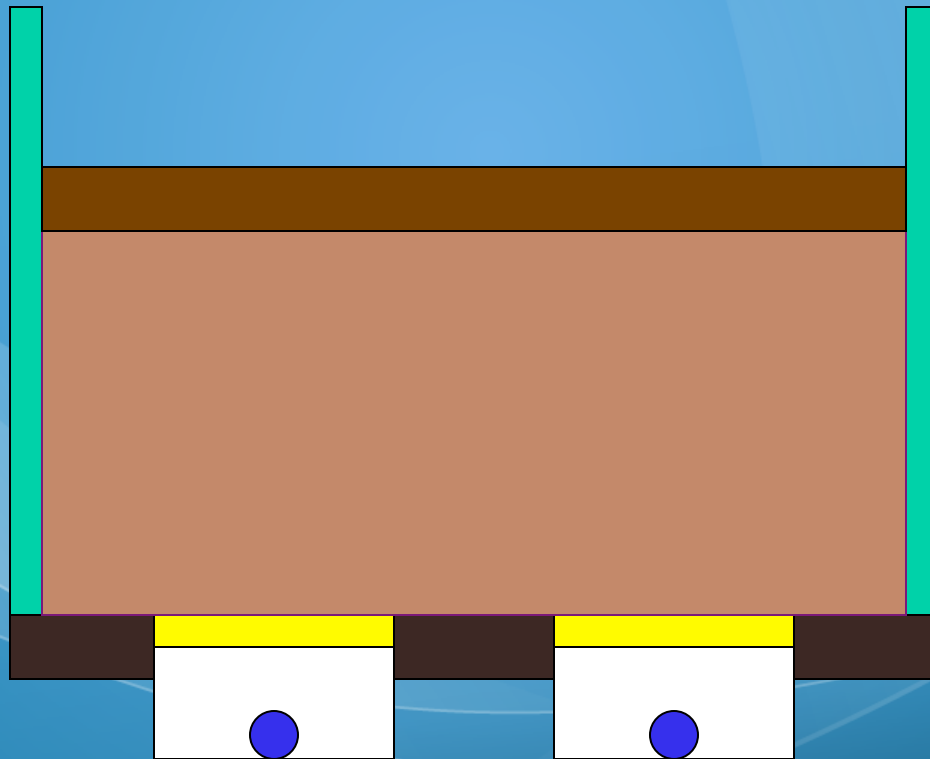
No Turning!

# Monitoring Pile Temperatures



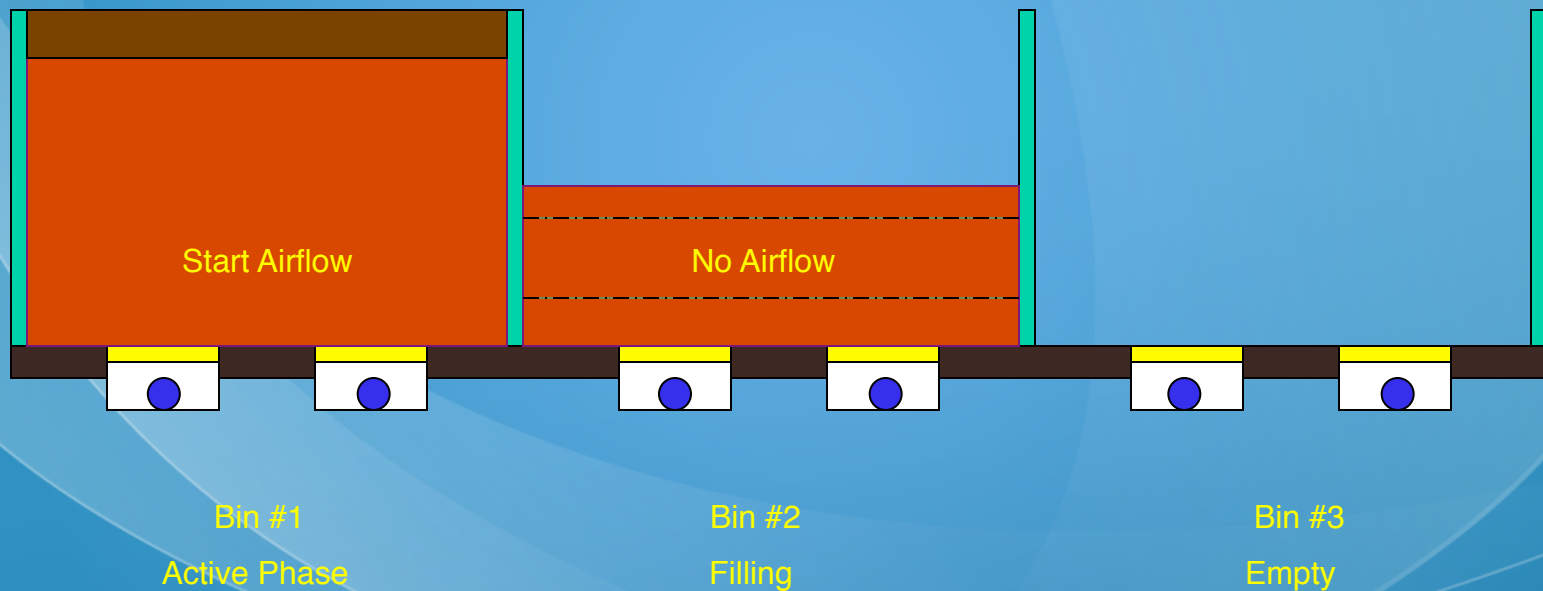
# Active Composting to Curing

**Volume Loss 25% – 40% in 4 weeks**



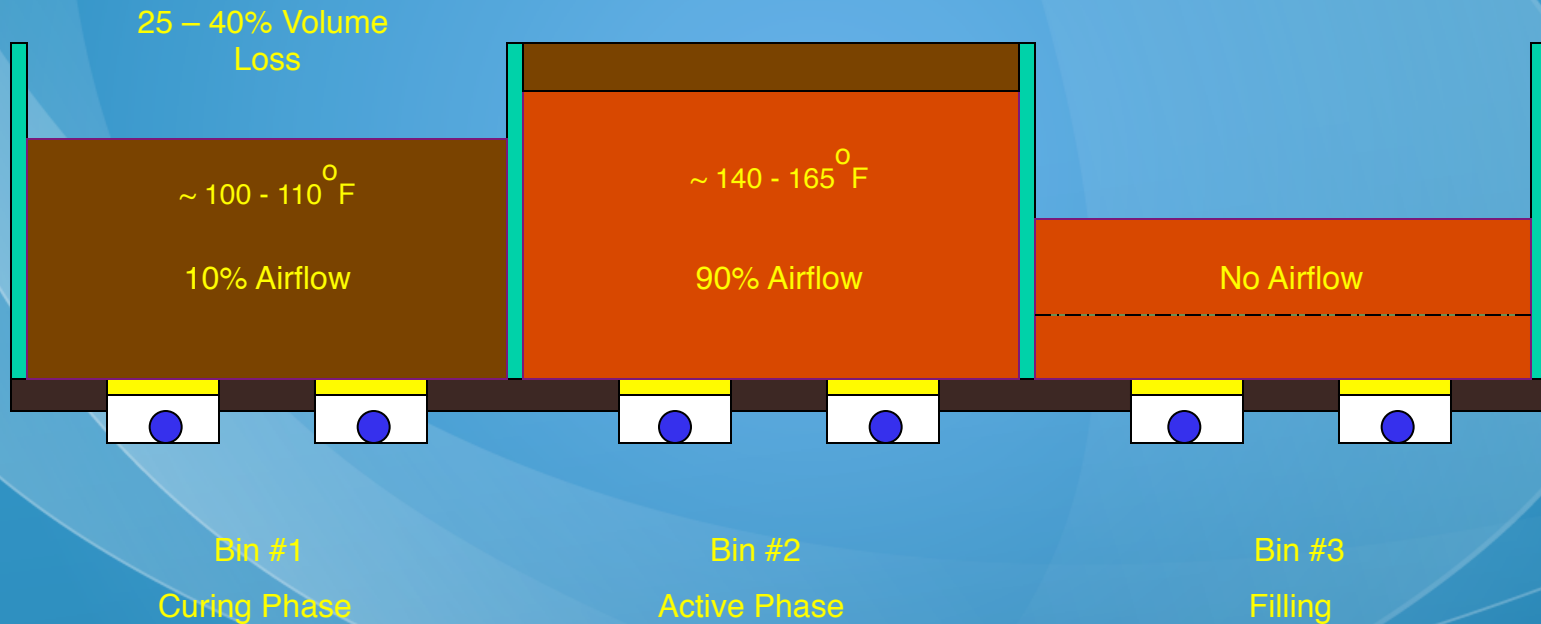
# Cross Section of a 3-Bay System

## Stage 1



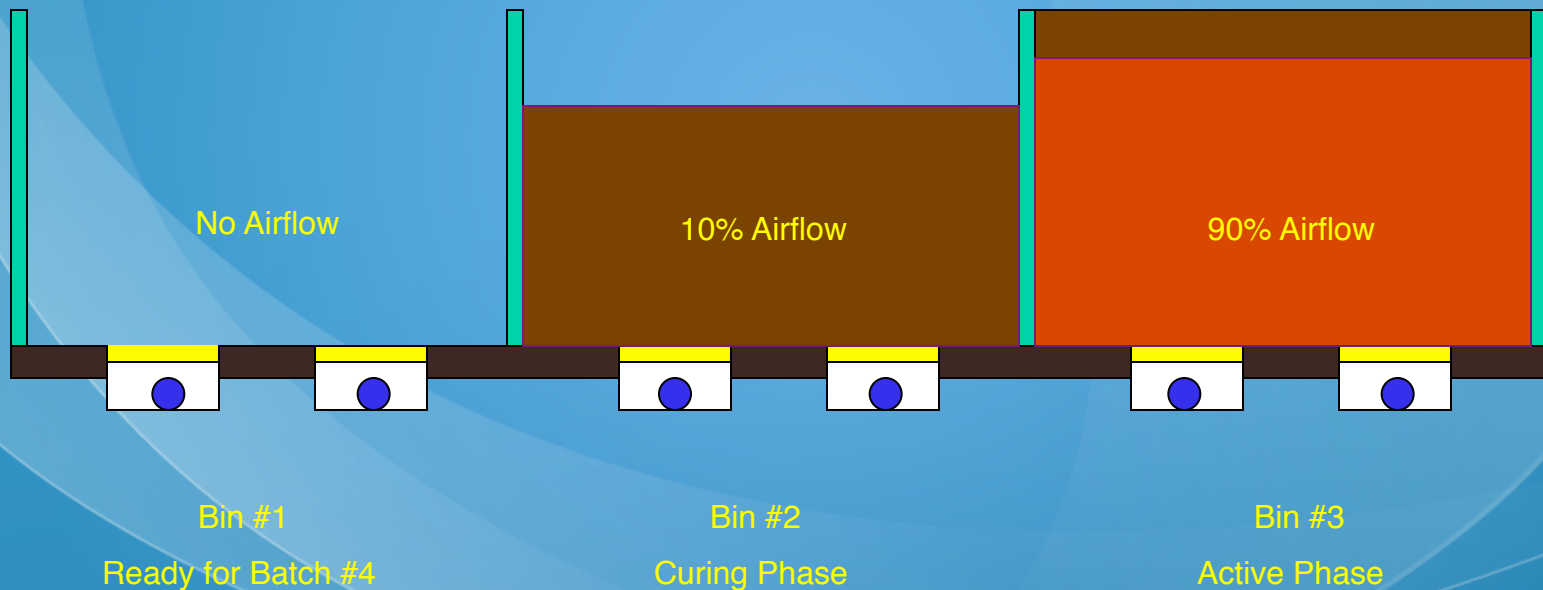
# Cross Section of a 3-Bay System

## Stage 2



# Cross Section of a 3-Bay System

## Stage 3



# ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY



Queens, New York



# ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY



Close Proximity to Dormitories & Public Open Space

# TOM GOLDSMITH



Facilities Manager & Mentor

# COLLECTING FOOD SCRAPS



Student Managed and Operated

# HIGHLY VARIABLE FEEDSTOCKS



Mixed Once Weekly

# MIXING FEEDSTOCKS



Tom Operates Loader

# FILLING THE BIN



~ 1/2 Bin per Week

# LEVELING & COVERING



Odor and Vector Control

# HOUSEKEEPING



Vectors Have No Access to Food Waste



# CURED, FINISHED COMPOST



30 to 60 Days Curing

# STUDENT GARDEN



Compost Amended Soil

# CROSS POLLINATION



Biology & Environmental Engineering Classes

# LEADERSHIP IN ACTION



Sustainability in Student Cross-Training

# Conduct a Pilot Project



Starting Budget: \$1,000 - \$1,500

# Conduct a Pilot Project

Gain Hands-on Experience with the Science & Art of Composting:

- Train operations staff
- Develop compost mix recipe(s)
- Learn how to receive and mix raw feedstocks (Odor Mgmt.)
- Learn how to construct the pile
- Monitor and optimize the composting process
- Manage surface water runoff and VOC emissions

# Conduct a Pilot Project

- Pilot Project as a precursor to a Feasibility Study
- Compare Alternative Technologies, small but relevant scale;
- Sort through the logistics of obtaining and processing feedstocks
- Demonstrate the efficacy of the ASP Method to stakeholders
- Produce a finished compost product for lab testing / marketing;
- Establish design basis for full scale compost facility;
- Defined Schedule (beginning and ending = low risk)

# Seeing is Believing

- Determine if permits are required;
- Establish confidence with the regulating agencies;
- Develop reasonable cost model for:
  - ✓ capital investment,
  - ✓ operating costs,
  - ✓ profit and loss projections, and
  - ✓ return on investment;
- Answer the Question, “Can This Be Sustainable”
- Make a Go / No-Go decision quickly and at minimal cost.





[peter@o2compost.com](mailto:peter@o2compost.com)

**360.568.8085 Office**

**206.399.1980 Text**