



Zero Waste Vashon (Z WV) is a non-profit organization and is 100% volunteer driven. Our goal is to inspire the Vashon and Maury Island communities to "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, and Rethink."

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## NEWSLETTER TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Island Calendar & Upcoming Events
  - July 4th Pop Up Parade
  - First Sunday Styrofoam Recycling Event Update
  - Advisory Committee Updates
  - Community Composting on Vashon
  - Thanks to all the Z WV Volunteers
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## UPCOMING EVENTS

Save the Date - here's a list of the upcoming Island events for Summer 2020. Please note that all events are subject to change, please check our web site or Facebook page for updates. We hope to see you there!

- Vashon Bioenergy Farm Probiotic Plant Food (PBF) Pop-Up Giveaway, Friday July 24th, 2 pm to 4 pm, 18846 103rd Ave SW at Island Springs Organics
- Styrofoam Recycling Event - First Sunday of the Month, August 2nd, 12 pm to 4 pm, Sheffield Building, 18850 103rd Ave SW
- King County Residential Recycling Event, Saturday, August 8th, 9 am to 3 pm, Vashon Island High School, see the following link for further information [King County Recycling Event - Accepted Materials](#)
- Styrofoam Recycling Event - First Sunday of the Month, September 6th, 12 pm to 4 pm, Sheffield Building, 18850 103rd Ave SW
- Styrofoam Recycling Event - First Sunday of the Month, October 4th, 12 pm to 4 pm, Sheffield Building, 18850 103rd Ave SW

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## Vashon Island's 4th of July 2020 Pop-Up Parade



A small group of community invertebrate-loving activists (Tom DeVries, Gib Dammann, Andrea Walker, Benno Bonkowski, and Steve Bergman) fit a compost bin adorned with six enormous red wiggler earthworms, four recycling bins, and the majestic Poly Styrene into Benno's classic 1951 Black Diamond Flatbed truck for this

year's event that traversed over 50 miles on Vashon and Maury Islands.

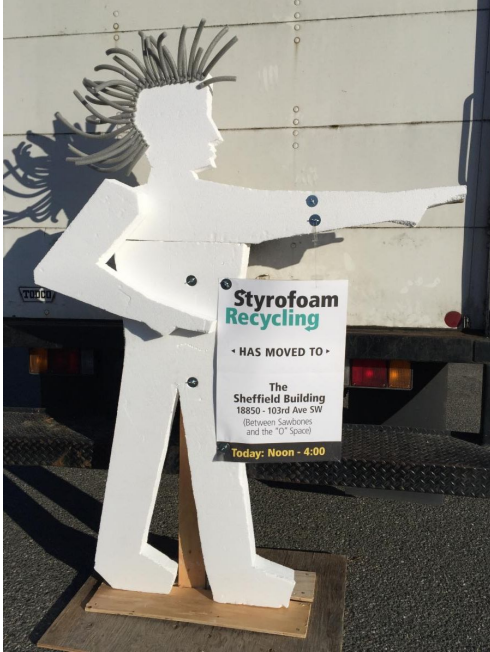
Worms are known to increase soil fertility and increase carbon sequestration, leading to the theme "Global Warming" (sub-theme "Make Compost, Not War"). We recognize trade-offs exist because earthworms (like many living organisms) contribute to atmospheric greenhouse gases CO<sub>2</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O. Nevertheless, we believe the benefits outweigh the detriments and support global worming to help repair our soils.



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## FIRST SUNDAY STYROFOAM RECYCLING EVENT UPDATE

The First Sunday Styrofoam Recycling event continues at the Sheffield building and the list of accepted materials has expanded.



Note: Reusable Packing Materials can be dropped off and picked up for reuse.

Volunteers are still needed to support the event - let us know if you are interested, and we will pass it along to Nadine Edelstein who leads the effort. Many hands make light work.

## ACCEPTABLE MATERIALS FOR RECYCLING

### FOAMS

- White Polystyrene Foam, Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) Foam or Styrofoam™ (#6)
- Colored Styrofoam
- Lightly Soiled Styrofoam
- Soft Polyethylene Foam (#2 Or #4), All Colors
- Urethane Foam (#7) - Cushion Foam (No Memory Foam)
- Insta-Pak Rigid Polyurethane Foam

Note: All foam must be clean & dry, free from tape & labels.

### MIXED PLASTIC FILMS

- Clear Plastic Film
- Grocery Bags
- Produce Bags (not compostable bags)
- Zip-Loc Bags

### POLYSTYRENE PLASTICS (#6)

- Coffee Cup Lids
- Soda Cup Lids
- CD Cases
- Cassette Cases
- Hard Plastic Clothes Hangers
- Plastic Cutlery or Utensils
- "Crinkly" Plastic Flower / Plant Pots (Clean & #6 Only)

### MAILING / SHIPPING ENVELOPES

- Manila Bubble Envelopes
- Amazon Blue & White Shipping Envelopes

## REUSABLE PACKING MATERIAL EXCHANGE

- Packing Peanuts - Contained in Closed Boxes or Plastic Bags
- Sheet Polyethylene
- Bubble Wrap
- Sheet Styrofoam

Note: All materials must be clean & dry, free from tape & labels.

### **MATERIALS NOT ACCEPTED FOR RECYCLING**

- Miscellaneous Plastics Without a Resin or Recycling Code
- Multi-layer Plastics - Chip Bags etc
- Dog & Cat Food Bags
- Cellophane

## **ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATES**

### **Compost Facility Committee - Feasibility Study**

ZWV is continuing to work with both King County Solid Waste Division (KCSWD) and HDR Inc. on quantifying the amount of green waste generated on Vashon that is available for composting. This information is critical to the proper sizing of the proposed Vashon Organics Processing facility.

To keep you updated on the feasibility study progress, KCSWD has created a web page, click the following link for the latest information:

[King County Vashon Compost Facility](#)

We are anxious to move this project forward and start exploring new options for producing genuine Vashon Compost!

### **Anaerobic Digestion (AD) Committee**

ZWV supported the first ever ProBiotic Plant Food (PBF) giveaway at Matsuda Farm on June 11th along with the Vashon Bioenergy Farm and Impact Bio-Energy. PBF is loaded with billions of beneficial microbes that promote healthy soil and plant growth and is an excellent alternative to chemical fertilizers. PBF is one of the key end products produced at the Anaerobic Digester co-located at Island Springs Organics (Tofu Factory).

Another Pop-Up event has also been scheduled for July 24th at Island Springs Organics / Vashon Bioenergy Farm from 2 to 4 pm.

If you cant make it on Friday, you can also purchase dry PBF on [Vashon Fresh](#).

**VASHON**  
**BIOENERGY FARM**

Help your plants live their best life!

Liquid ProBiotic Food (PBF)  
for Plants – Drive-thru Giveaway

BYO containers; gallon jugs available while  
supplies last!

When: Friday July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2:00pm to 4:00pm  
Where: Vashon Bioenergy Farm at Island Spring  
Organics; **follow signs going west on SW 188<sup>th</sup> St**  
Who: Vashon Bioenergy Farm, Impact Bioenergy &  
Zero Waste Vashon

Just share your usage and results, starting  
here, please: <https://bit.ly/July24PBF>

SCAN ME

## COMMUNITY COMPOSTING ON VASHON

Approaches to composting are commonly classified into three categories: Backyard, Community and Industrial.

- Backyard Composting systems take the organic waste from an individual household and turn it into compost for use in that household’s yard and garden.
- Industrial Compost Facilities are very large scale. They transport the organic waste from an entire city or region to a centralized facility where it is processed into compost or other products. These products are usually sold commercially – either in bulk, or bagged and sold at retail outlets throughout the region and beyond. Cedar Grove is an example of an Industrial Compost Facility.
- Community Composting is perhaps the broadest category, encompassing as many approaches as there are types of “Communities”. These can take many sizes and forms, anywhere that a group of Community members work together to turn their organic waste into a resource to be used within their own community. Community composting programs are

currently in operation all around the world; in P-patch gardens, city neighborhoods, at universities and in small, rural towns.

The Institute for Local Self-Reliance, a non-profit with extensive work in Community Composting, uses these guidelines for Community Composting programs;

1. Resources recovered: Waste is reduced; food scraps and other organic materials are diverted from disposal and composted.
2. Locally based and closed loop: Organic materials are a community asset, and are generated and recycled into compost within the same neighborhood or community.
3. Organic materials returned to soils: Compost is used to enhance local soils, support local food production, and conserve natural ecology by improving soil structure and maintaining nutrients, carbon, and soil microorganisms.
4. Community-scaled and diverse: Composting infrastructure is diverse, distributed, and sustainable; systems are scaled to meet the needs of a self-defined community.
5. Community engaged, empowered, and educated: Compost programming engages and educates the community in food systems thinking, resource stewardship, or community sustainability, while providing solutions that empower individuals, businesses, and institutions to capture organic waste and retain it as a community resource.
6. Community supported: Aligns with community goals (such as healthy soils and healthy people) and is supported by the community it serves. The reverse is true, too; a community composting program supports community social, economic, and environmental well-being.

Here on Vashon, we are currently able to drop off our yard and food waste at the Transfer Station, but it is not composted locally. Instead, it is shipped off island 33 miles to Cedar Grove, where it is combined with similar waste from Seattle and across the region to be made into compost. The end product is then bagged and a portion is shipped back onto the Island, where it can be purchased at a variety of retail locations. Although this avoids some of our organic waste rotting uselessly in a landfill, we believe our community can do better.

Zero Waste Vashon has been working with the King County Solid Waste Division for over a year to investigate the possibility of creating a local composting facility here on Vashon. This community-scale facility would process yard and food waste generated here on the island into compost to be used to improve the soil in our local farms and gardens. This facility would allow those for whom backyard composting is not practical or desirable to

handle their organic waste in a way that is good for the environment and their community. Think of it as a Granny's Attic for your organic waste!

The Feasibility Study is scheduled to be completed by the end of August. In early September, KCSWD will be working with ZWV to hold a public (no doubt online) meeting to present the results of the study and solicit community input. We are hopeful that this will bring us closer to the dream of Vashon having our own Community Compost Facility!

In the meantime, we encourage you to help the environment by giving backyard composting a try or bringing your yard and food waste to the Transfer Station.

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## THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR VOLUNTEERS

Linda Fox  
Sandra Noel  
Donna Klemka  
Jane Slade  
Terry Vanderwaal  
Destin Redeker  
Tavi Black  
Sofia Weil  
Andrea Walker  
Benno Bonkowski

If you are interested in volunteering for ZWV shoot us an email at [info@zerowastevashon.org](mailto:info@zerowastevashon.org)

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## 2020 ZWV BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Nancy O'Connor, President  
Gib Dammann, Vice President  
Steve Bergman, Secretary  
Mary Singer, Treasurer  
Will Lockwood  
Jeremy Hale  
Tom DeVries

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to all of our volunteers, donors and board members who

contribute to the ongoing success of  
Zero Waste Vashon!

If you are interested in volunteering,  
getting involved, donating to ZWV, or  
simply have a question, let us know - we  
are here to help!



Web Page: [www.zerowastevashon.org](http://www.zerowastevashon.org)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/zerowastevashon](http://www.facebook.com/zerowastevashon)

Email: [info@zerowastevashon.org](mailto:info@zerowastevashon.org)

**REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE & RETHINK**

Zero Waste Vashon is a registered 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Corporation