



## Zero Waste Vashon Timeline – 2024

### 10 years of Zero Waste Successes

#### 2014 –

- ZWV incorporates as a non-profit with 501-c-3 status.
- Start partnering with KCSWD, attending weekly meetings
- First brochure focused on the problem of waste leaving Vashon
- First booth at the Strawberry Festival.
- Basic tests of biochar in potted soil
- Advocate for yard waste collection at the transfer station.
- Start Trash Talk spot in the Loop
- Vashon Tons Recycled (VTR)=1,098 T (compare 2013=760 T)

#### 2015 –

- Start of yard waste pilot program at the transfer station, a first for the county.
- Meet with Waste Connections to advocate for residential recycling pickup (blue bin)
- Start the 3 yr. Waste to Garden (W2G) research project on the benefits of compost and biochar to unimproved native soil
- Recycling compactor system started at transfer station to simplify recycling
- Extensive research into compost facility operations, site visits started
- Continue with Trash Talk in the Loop
- Vashon Tons Recycled (VTR)=1,456 T, Yard Waste=102

#### 2016 –

- Continue to meet with Waste Connections and advocate for residential recycling collection
- Start of the Yard Waste pilot program at the transfer station. Food waste collected at 2 churches.
- Bio-char lecture at VCA followed by Norm Baker demonstration
- Composting workshops and Case for Community Compost presentation at Land Trust
- Creating Healthy Soils on Vashon lecture by Stephen Bramwell
- Extensive research into compost facility operations, site visits continued. Studies on anaerobic digestion and Bokashi composting inaugurated
- Continue with Trash Talk
- Established the Jerry Henley Scholarship fund
- Provided Chautauqua garden grant and assistance with establishing garden beds
- School lectures presented at Chautauqua and McMurray.
- Yard Waste pilot has great success, exceeding expectations
- VMLT Big Sky event partner to assist in making it a zero waste event
- Trash Talk continued in the Loop
- Vashon Tons Recycled (VTR)=2,060 T; Yard Waste=570 T, pilot exceeds projections



#### 2017 –

- First Jerry Henley scholarships awarded
- GreenTech Movie Nights (*Dirt!* and *Trashed*) at Vashon Theatre
- Community Meeting
- David Yarrow Biochar presentation and demo
- Advocate for bills to improve plastics recycling in WA state
- Waste Connections Residential recycling (blue bin) starts in October
- VMLT Big Sky event partner
- Extensive research into compost facility operations, site visits continue. Meet with Steve Diddy (ECS)
- Continue with Trash Talk
- Vashon Tons Recycled (VTR)=2,302 T, Yard Waste=802 T

#### 2018 –

- W2G project completed with excellent results reported and hundreds of pound of produce annually donated to the Food Bank
- GreenTech Movie Night (*Racing to Zero*) at Vashon Theatre
- Vashon Fix-It Café partner
- VMLT Big Sky event partner
- First Electronics Recycling Event – volume exceeding expectations with estimated 7 tons collected
- Reduce Single Use campaign – BYO cup
- Work with school Green Team
- Business Waste survey started
- Strawberry Festival waste collection to characterize volume and recyclables
- Work with Impact Bioenergy on AD project
- China implements National Sword program to cease imported plastics recycling there
- Extensive research into compost facility operations, site visits continue
- Continue with Trash Talk
- Website revised and overhauled. “What do I do with?” guide added.
- Vashon Tons Recycled (VTR)=2,186 T, Yard Waste=852 T

#### 2019 –

- GreenTech movie nights (Plastic China & Symphony of the Soil)
- Annie Crawley presentation at VCA and assemblies at Chautauqua and McMurray
- Bring Your Own Mug campaign
- Chautauqua Green Team's Earth Day support
- Vashon Fix-It Café partner
- VMLT Big Sky event partner
- Green Event dishware kit assembled
- Electronics Recycling event, collect over 7 tons for recycling
- New brochure created noting progress made and future plans
- RFI submitted to KCSWD for compost facility feasibility study, HDR selected for the project.
- Support for Nadine Edelstein's Styrofoam Recycling program
- Vashon Tons Recycled (VTR)=2,336 T, Yard Waste=1,051 T (Waste Connections Blue Bin=678 T)



#### 2020 –

- KCSWD Feasibility Study for a compost facility starts with ZWV on review committee
- Gather feedstock data for above study
- Vashon Fix-It Café partner
- Support for Styrofoam Recycle program continuing with Covid protocols
- VMLT Big Sky event partner
- Electronics Recycling event held with Covid protocols
- ZWV board attends ZW Waste Summit and Hackathon, National ZW conference
- Profiles in Composting videos created showing diverse methods for home composting
- Vashon Tons Recycled (VTR)=2,404 T, Yard Waste=1,134 T (Waste Connections Blue Bin=466 T)

#### 2021 –

- Island-wide beach cleanup with an in-depth analysis of collection in the EPA Escaped Trash Assessment Protocol (ETAP) at Portage Beach on Quartermaster Harbor
- Electronics Recycle Event diverts 5 tons from the landfill
- Two Jerry Henley Scholarships awarded
- Assist with Food Bank garden compost bin setup
- Public Recycling Stations inaugurated at Ober Park and the Village Green (King County CSA grant)
- Nadine's Styrofoam recycling program brought under ZWV fiscal sponsorship
- Feasibility study completed for putting a compost facility conducted by HDR. The study confirmed that it makes sense both from a cost and greenhouse gas perspective to establish a community compost facility on Vashon.
- Meet with Waste Connections to discuss 3d bin for residential organics pickup
- Vashon Fix-It Café partner
- VMLT Big Sky event partner
- Electronics Recycling Event diverts ~4 tons from landfill
- Vashon Tons Recycled (VTR)=2,395 T, Yard Waste=1,197 T

#### 2022 –

- Styrofoam recycling program collects over 51 T of plastics and 1500 cu yards styro for recycling
- ZWV partners with KCSWD on a community survey regarding compost facility and residential organics collection (3d bin). Results show strong community support.
- Compost facility siting meeting with KCSWD
- Meet with contractors, architects, and zoom meets regarding a ReUse facility. Submit RFI for space at Mukai Barreling plant
- Choose Plastics Free campaign begins
- Compostables committee formed to explore alternative serveware for events and local businesses
- Support Ridwell program for recyclables
- Vashon Fix-It Café partner VMLT Big Sky event partner
- Electronics Recycling event
- Vashon Tons Recycled (VTR) = 2,312 T, Yard Waste = 1,186 T

#### 2023 –



- ZWV review of Engineering study for compost facility. Advocate for compost facility funding. KC Council votes to approve funding in November for compost facility and transfer station modifications to support commercial off-load of yard waste.
- Hand off of Styrofoam recycling to Ridwell in August; program (2019-2023) totals-8000 hours volunteer time, 5300 cu yards styro, 95 tons plastics recycled
- Water refill stations organized for Strawberry Festival; Parade Float
- Vashon Fix-It Café partner
- VMLT Big Sky event partner
- Electronics Recycling event over 5 tons collected
- Vashon Tons Recycled (VTR) = 2,260 T, Yard Waste = 1,120 T

2024 –

- Choose Plastic Free presents the documentary *We Are All Plastic People Now* at the VMLT
- GreenTech movie nights (*Planet Soil*) at Vashon Theatre
- Electronics Recycling event
- Dig Deep Earth Day Booth
- ReUsable Stainless Steel cups for Strawberry Festival-Fiscal Sponsor & donation
- Committee formed to explore the potential of a ReUse facility on island. Visiting successful operations in Seattle and the Puget Sound region. Seek a location to start operation.
- Vashon Fix-It Café partner Spring & Fall
- 10 year ZWV Anniversary June Celebration at Dig Deep with Live Music