



Eco-friendly Fundraising Opportunity!

Is your group looking for a unique fundraiser with a home-grown Milwaukee non-profit organization? Do you think about building a sustainable future by re-thinking our “waste” and “resource” streams? Kompost Kids is building teams for the 2018 [Bay View Bash](#) on Saturday, September 15th & additional teams for Sunday, September 16th. We need your help, and we’ll help you in return!

“It’s only waste if it’s wasted” and rather than filing a landfill, we have rescued approximately **one metric ton** (~2000 pounds) of organics from the Bash each year since 2015. We do this through hand-sorting all items that make their way into a festival receptacle (garbage, recyclable, and compostable materials) to reclaim items that don’t belong in a landfill. Through this process we recycled another quarter ton of materials, but we still have a long way to go. ... Last year, ~2 tons of material from the Bash went to the landfill, and an estimated 38% of it was recyclable. Because it was bagged, we don’t know what percent could have been composted.

Our biggest bottlenecks are the amount of volunteer power required to hand-sort all materials, plus the late evening hours of the Bash. Eventually we have to stop sorting materials and call it a night, leaving some of the stream of recyclables and organics in landfill dumpsters. This year we’re incentivizing diversion of organics with “Diversion Sponsors” who provide a minimum sponsorship, plus a pledged incentive based on pounds of organics diverted from the landfill over the minimum goal of 1,000 pounds. Kompost Kids will NOT keep any portion of the diversion sponsorship money raised, and in fact is a Diversion Sponsor.

These funds will directly support funding for Diversion Sorting Teams (minimum 10 people, 2 hour commitment) who help sort items that can be composted or recycled from landfilled materials. This is where you come in – we’re looking for like-minded groups (*student green team, national honor society, key club, girl/boy/eagle scout troop, heck even your kickball team*) to build Diversion Sorting Teams. Diversion Sorting Teams require a Team Leader who MUST be trained before the Bash. Earn funds for your green project or school sustainability team or community group! This support funding would go to your organization, not individuals.

Diversion Sponsorship will be divided between Diversion Sorting Teams. The amount is determined by number of people on your Sorting Team volunteering to sort materials, multiplied by hours they volunteered during the Bash weekend divided by the total number of all Diversion Sorting Team volunteer hours (see below for details).

Full disclosure – we have no idea how much money this is going to raise for Diversion Teams. This is our pilot year using this approach, and we also have no idea how many volunteers we’ll be able to recruit (we will cap it at a maximum, see shifts below). We’ll be doing our part to canvas businesses to be Diversion Sponsors who pledge funding based on pounds of organics diverted. This way, the more that is diverted, the more ***all groups*** will earn. On the day of the Bash, there will also be signage at all the food carts and at the sustainability tent where attendees can make a direct donation that will be divided. We believe we can streamline this model of volunteer power and sponsorship that any street festival could replicate, and we are thankful to our partners in sustainable innovations. Come join us.

Want to learn more about being a Diversion Sorting Team? Please contact Renee at: compost@kompostkids.com for questions. She'll help you register your team, schedule your Team Leader training, and pick your shift times. Or, just run through questions!

FAQs:

--Who can be on a team?

Anyone over the age of 12 (younger is negotiable with a Team Leader/Kompost Kids discussion)!

--What size team do we need?

The team minimum is 10 people, but there is no cap on the number of people you recruit for your team. We suggest at least one Team Leader per 10 people on a shift. Some shifts are small and only need 10-12 people (e.g. from 3-5PM). Your team can split between different shifts, but a trained Team Leader must be present when anyone from your Sorting Team is present. Have a big project in need of need of support funds? Invite your family members, friends, etc. to join your team!

--How long do we have to stay?

A shift is minimum of 2 hours, but you can extend beyond that.

--How are you keeping track of hours?

All hours/volunteers will be checked in/out at the sustainability tent in a transparent process. There will be a large poster that includes all Teams/Team Members for sign-in when they arrive. We will provide more information when Team Leaders are trained.

--I want this to be an educational experience for my group about waste/resource streams. Can we use this for a project-based learning opportunity?

Of course! It is truly amazing to see how much recycling/compostables/landfill is produced from a street festival that sees ~25-40,000 people over the course of 12 hours. This is a great opportunity for service learning hours, extracurricular or classroom projects, or just stepping up your sustainability cred. We're flexible on how to make this experience benefit your group.

--How many spots are there?

Shifts to fill are below:

Saturday, September 15th

3-5PM: 10-12ppl

5-7PM: 20-30ppl

7-9PM: 30ppl

9-11PM: 30-40 ppl

Sunday, September 16th (times somewhat negotiable)

9-11AM: 20ppl

11-1PM: 20ppl

1-3PM*: 20ppl

3-5PM*: 20ppl

*The later Sunday shifts may be shortened/canceled depending on how much work remains, which could impact how much your team earns.

--How are hours calculated in order to divide the Diversion Sponsorship between teams?

Diversion Sponsorship will be divided between Diversion Sorting Teams. The amount is determined by number of people volunteering for your Team, multiplied by hours they volunteered during the Bash weekend, divided by the total number of all Diversion Sorting Team volunteer hours. Team Leader hours count double. The hours of anyone volunteering after 7PM count as double, including the already double-counted hours of a Team Leader (so they're essentially quadrupled).

For example: If you have a group of 10 Sorting Team Members + 2 Team Leaders who volunteer from 8PM – 11PM, volunteer hours recorded for your group would be the equivalent of:

- 30 Sorting Team Member volunteer hours (3 hours x 10 people)
- 12 Sorting Team Leader volunteer hours (3 hours x 2 people x 2 Team Leader Bonus)
- multiply by 2 for the Late Night Bonus
- = 84 volunteer hours

If there are total 240 volunteer hours recorded for the weekend, your Sorting Team shift from 8-11PM would earn: 35% of all Diversion Sponsorship (84 volunteer hours/240 volunteer hours = 35%).

--What about food/water/what to wear?

The Bash provides a special sustainability T-shirt, and we'll have a jug of water. We suggest bringing a refillable water bottle, as this year there are no plastic water bottles at the Bash! It's best to eat before you come, but if your shift is after 9PM, the Bash provides pizza for volunteers!

You must wear close-toed shoes and clothing that can get dirty. We provide disposable gloves, water to fill your water bottles, & hand sanitizing gel.

--How do you know the weight of organics diverted?

The compostable materials go to Blue Ribbon Organics in Caledonia, WI, a commercial composter who can accept many types of organics, such as compostable corn-based plastics (e.g. drink cups, forks, straws, etc.), meat/bones, and post-consumer food (e.g. a half eaten burrito). We use the weigh station on the way there and back to get a "full" and "empty" truck and trailer weight. The difference between these two weights equals our pounds diverted.

--How do you know only organics will be weighed and composted?

We have validated our sorting technique over the last 3 years, so are confident in our ability to replicate that! That said, we've partnered with Blue Ribbon Organics for several years, and highly value our working relationship. If the bags contain unacceptable/unsafe items (plastics, glass, bags of dog poop, diapers) – this is considered "contamination." If it is contaminated, Blue Ribbon will have to reject what we send them to protect their product of finished compost, and we would have to take the materials landfill. We need you to make sure it's done right!

--What else is new for 2018?

This year, our intern will be focusing on community and restaurant compost education, and we want this to be a beneficial experience for our Diversion Teams and volunteers as well. Also new this year, the Bash has agreed to ELIMINATE plastic water bottle sales!! They are quite the awesome partner.

--Why join this unusual process?

As Milwaukeeans, we love our street fests. As compost and sustainability experts, it's a little tough to see all those corncobs and plastic beer cups in a garbage bin headed to a landfill. We know we can change the way

neighborhood festivals can think through their “waste/resource” stream, and throw in a little community education while we’re at it.

Food scraps and recyclables are an important part of our sustainable future. Past volunteers walked away (albeit a bit dirty) with a new respect for keeping items out of our swelling landfills. We heard things like “I’ll never look at another plastic water bottle the same way again.” As Milwaukee’s largest 100% volunteer-run free street festival, the Bash sees a lot of attendees until late at night. What we need help with is sorting and diversion over a longer period of time, including the next day.

--The Diversion Sorting Team process seems a little complicated, why are you doing it this way?

Both Diversion Sponsorship and incentivizing Sorting Team volunteers is new this year, and we will streamline the process in the future. For this year, we’re trying to figure out how to increase diversion with more volunteer power so that this benefits you, the Bash, and our community as a whole. Most large-scale events need to pay workers to sort materials to be composted/recycled/landfilled; however, most street festivals in Milwaukee run on volunteer power and sponsorship (just like the Bay View Bash). We think there are multiple ways to create a sustainable festival, and as an all-volunteer organization ourselves, know volunteer power is possible to make this work.

--This sounds super rad. I want to get involved. Do I need a Diversion Sorting Team?

Nope! Our sustainable events strategic planning team is meeting now – email Renee at: compost@kompostkids.com if you’d like invites for those meetings. Additionally, we are looking for individual volunteers and sponsors. Go to www.kompostkids.org/BVB for more information.