# Composting in Florida: A Consultant's Perspective

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Florida Organic Recycling Workshop January 24, 2017



#### **Outline**

• Where are we?

• What is needed?

• Where do we go from here?

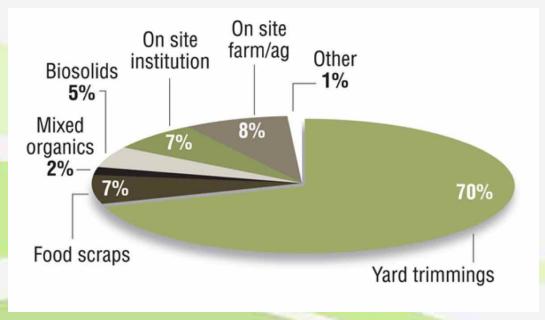


#### Where are we?



#### Composting in the US

- Almost 5,000 organic processing facilities
- 70% yard waste facilities



Source: Biocycle 2015



#### **Composting in Florida**



~260 registered organics processing facilities

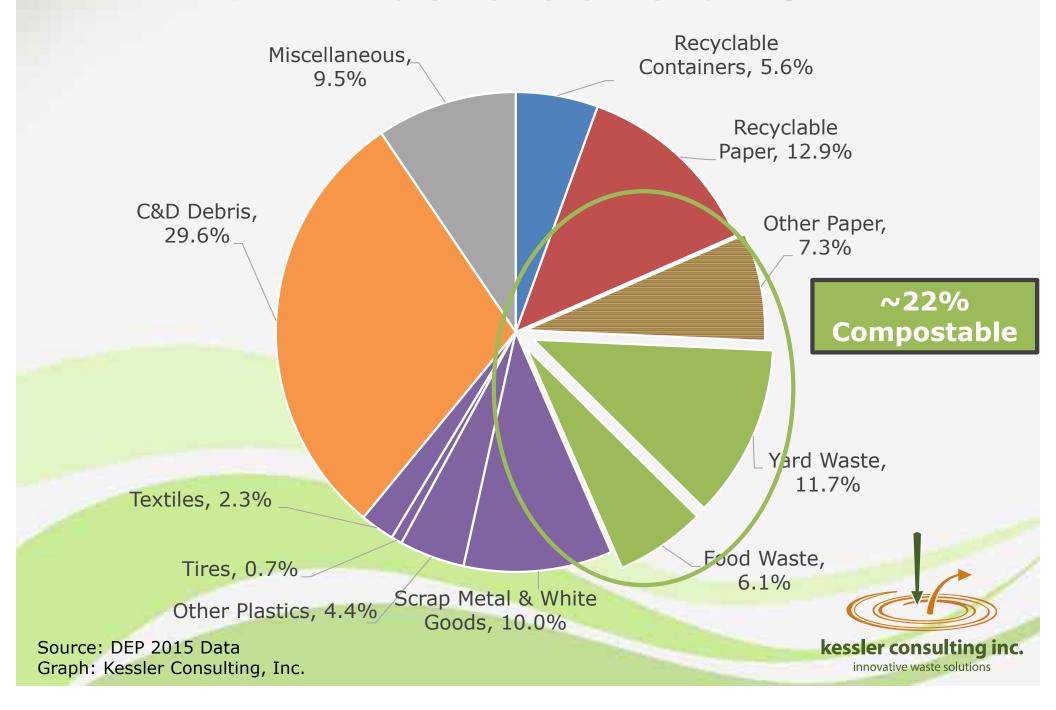
~26 compost facilities



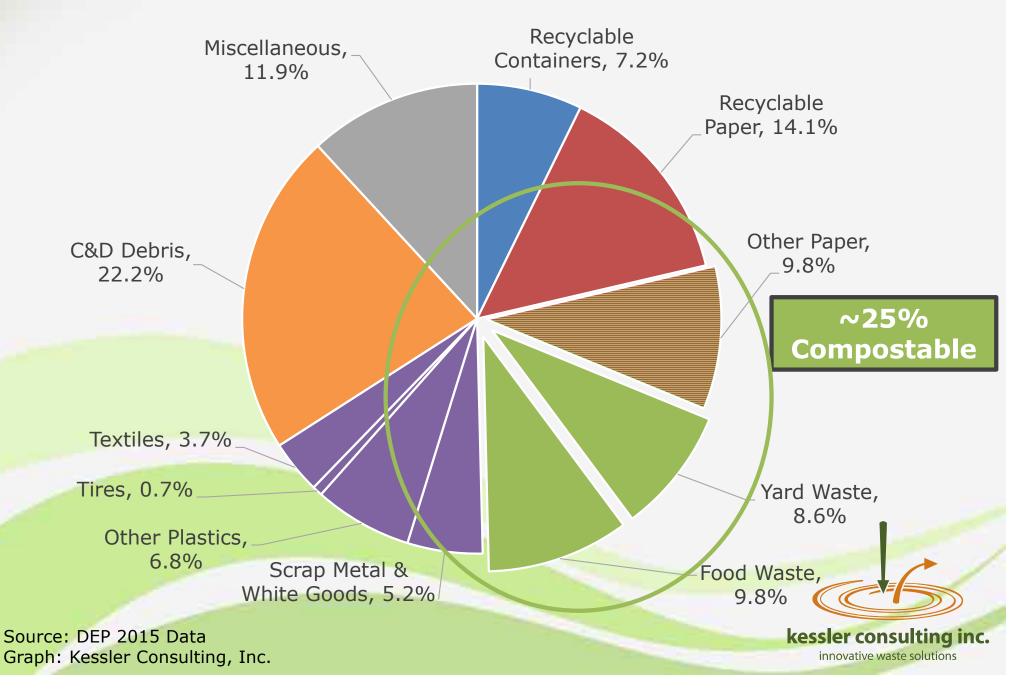


Source: Kessler Consulting, Inc.

#### **FL MSW Waste Generation**



#### **FL MSW Waste Disposal**



#### On the path to 75%?

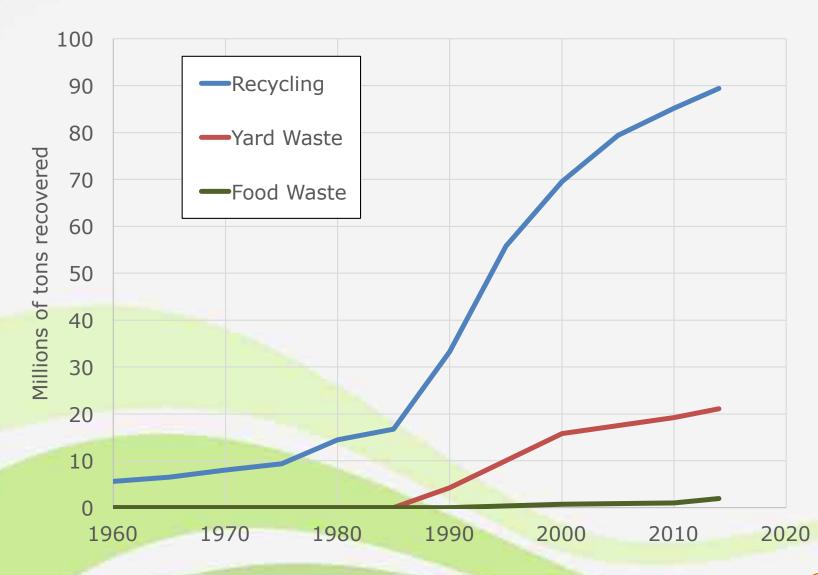
#### 2015 data

- 54% overall recycling rate
- 42% traditional recycling rate
  - Yard waste accounts for a third
  - Food waste ~1%
- Doubling organics recycling will add 7% to our rate.

Florida 75% Recycling Goal



#### **Recovery of Recyclables & Organics**



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Source: EPA MSW in the U.S., 2013 Graph: Kessler Consulting, Inc.

#### **Food Waste is a Priority**

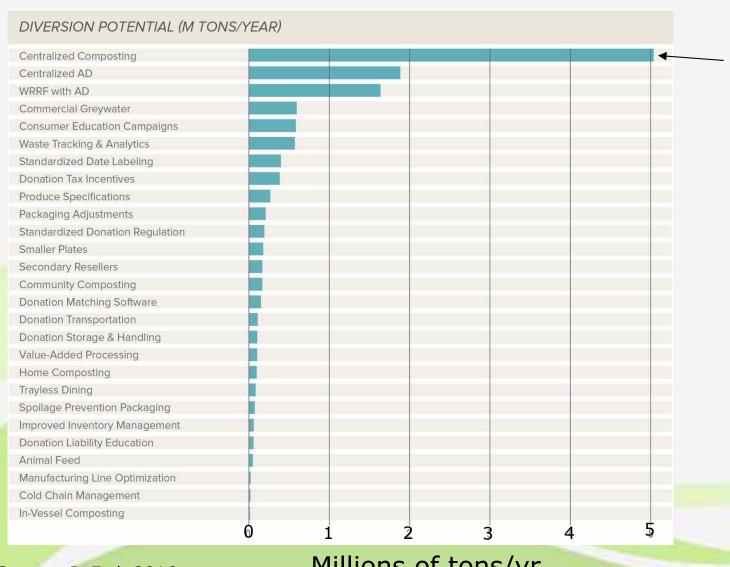
- First US food waste reduction goal set by EPA and USDA in 2015
- 50% reduction by 2030



Source: EPA, 2016



#### **Compost has Enormous Diversion Potential**



Centralized Composting

> kessler consulting inc. innovative waste solutions

Millions of tons/yr

#### What is needed?



### **Balance the Cost and Availability of Services**

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Sustainable Solid Waste System

Source: Kessler Consulting, Inc.



#### **Collection Infrastructure**



Photo Courtesy: Andy Brooks, Bootstrap Compost



Photo Credit: Bob Hollis





Commercial organics being collected in Berkeley, CA, Photo: Matt Cotton IWMC

#### **Processing Infrastructure**

- Lack of processing
- Who goes first?
- Haulers can be processors



Photo Credit: Kessler Consulting, Inc.



Photo Credit: Kessler Consulting, Inc.



#### **Marketing Programs**

Market	Effort to Develop
Landscape	Low-Moderate
Topsoil Blending	Low-Moderate
DOT	Moderate
Nursery	High
Golf Course	High
Environmental	High
Agriculture	High
Retail (bagged)	High



**US Composting Council's Seal of Testing Assurance** 

Ensures compost testing meets certified standards

 Marketing opportunity for composter

13 participants in Florida





#### Where do we go from here?



### **Commercial/Institutional Programs**

- Start with big generators:
  - Grocery stores
  - Schools
  - Prisons
- More bang for your buck

**Commercial Waste Composition** 



Source: Kessler Consulting, Inc.



#### **Commercial Collection Snapshot**



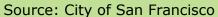
Source: Kessler Consulting, Inc.



#### **Residential Programs**

- 30-40% of single family waste is compostable
- 198 communities in US have curbside food waste collection (Biocycle, 2015)
- None in Florida







#### Florida's Next Steps

- Champions local & state
- Food waste recovery: the next frontier
- Develop collection and processing infrastructure
- Food waste recovery mandates/disposal bans
- Opportunities abound in Florida!





## Thank You! Questions?

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