



# AGENDA OF THE SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2026, 5:00 PM**  
**In person at City Hall, Room 310.**  
**Virtual attendance also available via Zoom.**

## **A. Zoom Meeting Information.**

- I. Join Zoom Meeting Online:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82469507408?pwd=M8rQe71NAaLLamTejzSdgsDX2uq3NC.1>

Or call in by phone: +1 312 626 6799

Meeting ID: 824 6950 7408

Passcode: 287060

If you wish to leave a comment for this public meeting, please fill out the online [Comment Form](#) prior to the meeting. More detailed [Zoom Instructions](#) can be found online.

## **B. Roll Call.**

- I. Members: Chair- Christa Kananen, Vice Chair- Ned Dorff, Alder Joey Prestley, Julia Noordyk, Jenny Brinker, Daniela Beall, Jeanette Knill, Marissa Michalkiewicz, Staff person- Maria Otto

## **C. Approval of the Agenda.**

- I. Approval of the agenda for the Wednesday, March 18, 2026, meeting of the Sustainability Commission.

## **D. Approval of Minutes.**

- I. Approval of the minutes from the February 18, 2026 meeting.

## **E. Announcements.**

- I. A new community group, the *Community Waters Coalition*, will be hosting a Community Input and Education Event on Thursday, April 9, 2026 from 5-8 PM, with an optional conservation

tour of some project sites from 3-5 PM. This event offers an opportunity to connect with partners across the Greater Green Bay Fox/Wolf Watershed, explore conservation efforts, and share community priorities for a healthier watershed. The free, registration-required event includes an optional project tour, lightning talks, and a community discussion at the Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary.

Register at: <https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/5abff2505f404d1f8d721e9fa044febd>

2. Applications for the [2026 UW-Green Bay High School Freshwater Summer Scholars Program](#) are open. If you know of a high school student that would like to gain experience in freshwater research and/or outreach, please encourage them to apply. The program is not full time and accepted students can participate alongside their other summer commitments. Application deadline: April 13.
3. Environmental Restoration Intern: This is paid, part-time summer internship opportunity for students (undergrad and grad) to consider with the Van der Brohe Arboretum. See attachment for position summary and required qualifications.

#### **F. Presentations**

1. Energize Green Bay Campaign Wrap-Up, presented by Alex Galt, Clean Energy Connector

#### **G. Regular Business.- NONE**

#### **H. Informational.**

1. Work Group Reports
2. Next Meeting: Thursday, April 16, 2026.

#### **I. Adjournment.**

1. Adjournment of the Wednesday, March 18, 2026, meeting of the Sustainability Commission.

- 1) THIS MEETING IS RECORDED: THE VIDEO OF THIS MEETING AND MINUTES ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT [www.greenbaywi.gov](http://www.greenbaywi.gov)
- 2) ACCESSIBILITY: Any person wishing to attend who requires special accommodation because of a disability, should contact the City Safety Manager at 920-448-3125 at least 48 hours before the scheduled meeting time so that arrangements can be made.
- 3) QUORUM: Please take notice that a majority or quorum of the Common Council will attend this Sustainability Commission meeting and will constitute a meeting of the Common Council for purposes of discussion and information gathering relative to this agenda.
- 4) REPRESENTATION: The party requesting the communication, or their representative, should be present at this meeting.



Report to the  
**Sustainability Commission**  
of the City of Green Bay

## MEETING DATE

March 18, 2026

## AGENDA ITEM # D.1

Approval of the minutes from the February 18, 2026 meeting.

## BACKGROUND

## RECOMMENDATION

## FISCAL IMPACT

## ATTACHMENTS

- I. Sustainability Minutes 02 18 26



# MINUTES OF THE SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2026, 5:00 PM**  
**In person at City Hall, Room 310.**  
**Virtual attendance also available via Zoom.**

## **A. ZOOM MEETING INFORMATION.**

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## **B. ROLL CALL.**

- I. Members: Chair- Christa Kananen, Vice Chair- Ned Dorff, Alder Joey Prestley, Julia Noordyk, Jenny Brinker, Daniela Beall, Jeanette Knill, Marissa Michalkiewicz, Staff person- Maria Otto

Present: Ned Dorff, Christa Kananen, Jenny Brinker, Joey Prestley, Julia Noordyk, Maria Otto, Jeanette Knill, Marissa Michalkiewicz

Excused:

Absent: Daniela Beall

## **C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.**

- I. Approval of the agenda for the Wednesday, February 18, 2026, meeting of the Sustainability Commission.

Moved by Maria Otto, seconded by Ald. Joey Prestley to approve the agenda.

Motion Passed.

Yes-Ned Dorff, Christa Kananen, Jenny Brinker, Joey Prestley, Julia Noordyk, Maria Otto, Jeanette Knill, Marissa Michalkiewicz, No-None, Abstain-None.

#### **D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.**

- I. Approval of the minutes from the January 21, 2026, meeting.

Moved by Ald. Joey Prestley, seconded by Jeanette Knill to approve the min

Motion Passed.

Yes-Ned Dorff, Christa Kananen, Jenny Brinker, Joey Prestley, Julia Noordyk, Maria Otto, Jeanette Knill, Marissa Michalkiewicz, No-None, Abstain-None.

#### **E. ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

- I.
  1. Abstracts for the Green Bay Conservation Partners Spring Roundtable on April, 29, 2026 at UW-Green Bay are **due February 25**. The goal of this event is to share information and foster collaboration among conservation practitioners, researchers and stakeholders working in the bay of Green Bay, Lower Fox River watershed, Green Bay's west shore and Door Peninsula. For more details, visit: <https://www.gbconservationpartners.org/events/gbcp-events/>
  2. Registration is open for the Fox-Wolf Watershed Conference on March 3–4, 2026 at Lambeau Field. For more details, visit: <https://fwwa.org/watershed-conference/>
  3. Women in Sustainability Leadership Retreat, Held March 6, 2026 in Cascade,WI. For more details, visit: <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/sustainablebusinesscouncil/2025447>

Moved by Christa Kananen, seconded by Maria Otto to receive and place on file.

Motion Passed.

Yes-Ned Dorff, Christa Kananen, Jenny Brinker, Joey Prestley, Julia Noordyk, Maria Otto, Jeanette Knill, Marissa Michalkiewicz, No-None, Abstain-None.

#### **F. REGULAR BUSINESS.- NONE**

#### **G. INFORMATIONAL.**

- I. Work Group Reports

Moved by Christa Kananen, seconded by Jenny Brinker to receive and place on file the work group reports.

Motion Passed.

Yes-Ned Dorff, Christa Kananen, Jenny Brinker, Joey Prestley, Julia Noordyk, Maria Otto, Jeanette Knill, Marissa Michalkiewicz, No-None, Abstain-None.

2. Staff Report

Moved by Ned Dorff, seconded by Ald. Joey Prestley to receive and place on file the staff report.

Motion Passed.

Yes-Ned Dorff, Christa Kananen, Jenny Brinker, Joey Prestley, Julia Noordyk, Maria Otto, Jeanette Knill, Marissa Michalkiewicz, No-None, Abstain-None.

3. Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 18, 2026.

## **H. ADJOURNMENT.**

I. Adjournment of the Wednesday, February 18, 2026, meeting of the Sustainability Commission.

Moved by Ned Dorff, seconded by Jeanette Knill to adjourn.

Motion Passed.

Yes-Ned Dorff, Christa Kananen, Jenny Brinker, Joey Prestley, Julia Noordyk, Maria Otto, Jeanette Knill, Marissa Michalkiewicz, No-None, Abstain-None.

# SAVE the DATE

## Community Waters Coalition

Conservation Projects Tour &  
Community Input Event

Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026

3:00pm - 8:00pm



**TOUR PROJECT SITES 3:00-5:00PM - EVENING INPUT EVENT 5:00-8:00PM**

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER CONTACT:  
[greenbaycwc@gmail.com](mailto:greenbaycwc@gmail.com)



# UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-GREEN BAY HIGH SCHOOL FRESHWATER SUMMER SCHOLARS PROGRAM



Seize the opportunity to participate in hands-on learning with university professors and water professionals across northeast Wisconsin.



Not only is this experience a great learning adventure, it is also PAID! We believe that everyone deserves financial compensation in addition to the experience. Housing is not provided.



Eligible students include current high school students and Spring 2026 graduates, with priority for those enrolling in a UW-System school. Previous research experience is not necessary.



Applications are due by April 13th.

To learn more and apply, scan the QR code or visit the website below.



UNIVERSITY of WISCONSIN  
**GREEN BAY**



**Summer Scholars  
Program:**

<https://www.uwgb.edu/freshwater-collaborative>

**INTERESTED?  
CONTACT US**

[betancus@uwgb.edu](mailto:betancus@uwgb.edu)

# Van der Brohe Arboretum Internship Announcement

**Position Title: Environmental Restoration Intern**

**Job Type: Part-time, Project-based**

**Pay: \$15-\$17/hour based on experience**

## **Organizational Overview**

The Van der Brohe Arboretum is a 110-acre community green space for all to enjoy through recreation, nature and art. Our mission is to conserve natural habitats and foster biodiversity, including a robust tree collection, by engaging the community in environmental stewardship, education, and artistic appreciation, ensuring a vibrant sanctuary for future generations.

## **Position Summary:**

VDBA is seeking a motivated intern who is passionate about environmental restoration and development. We are a small organization with a unique opportunity to offer valuable and individualized experience.

The selected intern will gain valuable, hands-on experience in environmental restoration and land management, while contributing directly to the arboretum's mission and priority projects. As we are a small organization, this internship will offer limited hours based on project needs. Therefore, this position is flexible; the exact details of these projects and schedule will be determined based on the applicant's experience and interest.

The flexibility of this position will provide opportunities for students to gain unique experience and showcase individual knowledge in ways that are most relevant to the individual hired. These could include:

- Data collection efforts related to projects such as: tree health; garden inventory; and bird monitoring.
- Specifically, we are installing a Purple Martin box on our property in spring, and the intern could take the lead in collecting regular data at the box.
- Planning and developing a roughly 3-acre space into an established prairie.
- Hosting an environmental educational workshop on site.
- Help in creating education signage and other graphics using Canva.
- Support with grant writing efforts to fund planned projects.
- Fundraising events and planning.
- Attending workshops or educational programs as available.
- Coordinating and hosting volunteer events to implement land management needs.

As Van der Brohe Arboretum is a young and evolving non-profit organization, this position offers the right individual an opportunity to be instrumental in the creating and maintaining of a valuable natural area and artistic exhibition site in Northeast Wisconsin.

### **Required Qualifications:**

Candidates must be enrolled at an accredited college or university, both undergraduate and graduate level accepted.

Preferred candidates will be self-motivated, deadline-driven and able to work independently.

### **Diversity and Inclusion:**

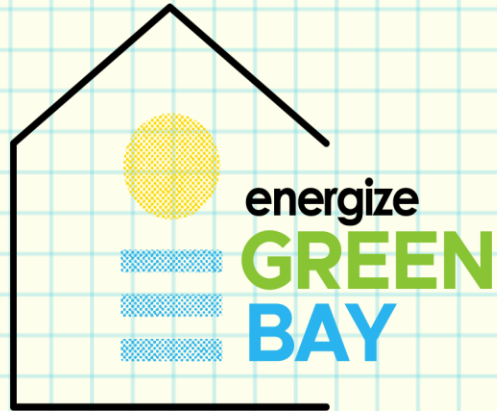
The Van der Brohe Arboretum is an equal opportunity employer committed to a diverse, equitable, inclusive, and accessible workplace free of discrimination. We are committed to creating a work environment where people from all social identities and backgrounds feel welcome and can thrive.

### **Application Deadline and Submission**

Application and references will be reviewed on a rolling basis and the position will remain open until filled.

Apply online on Handshake: <https://app.joinhandshake.com/public/jobs/10816719>

For specific questions regarding the position, please email [lyssa@vdbarboretum.org](mailto:lyssa@vdbarboretum.org).



With support from:

US Department of Energy  
Energy Efficiency and  
Conservation Block Grant  
Project ID: SE0001056

**Energize Green Bay  
Campaign Wrap-up**

**March 18, 2026**

**Energize Green Bay was a clean energy and energy efficiency outreach campaign conducted by the City of Green Bay.**

**Here's the 30,000 foot view: (next slide)**

Apr. 01, 2024

Hiring Process

CEC Hired

Oct. 01, 2024

HOMES

HEAR, Ph. 1

Apr. 01, 2025

HEAR, Ph. 2

OBBBA, HRI

Oct. 01, 2025

End of EV Credit

End of most tax credits

Mar. 31, 2026

IN PERSON



WCV IRA Canvass

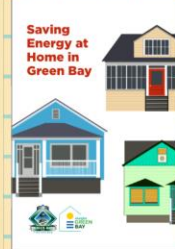
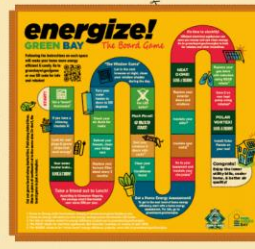
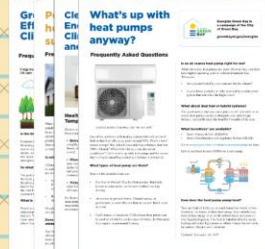


Neighborhood Info Sessions



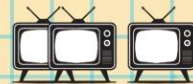
Info Stands

PRINTED MEDIA



Research, writing, & branding

TRAD. MEDIA



DIGITAL MEDIA

Website design & launch



SELECTED PARTNERSHIPS



Posts

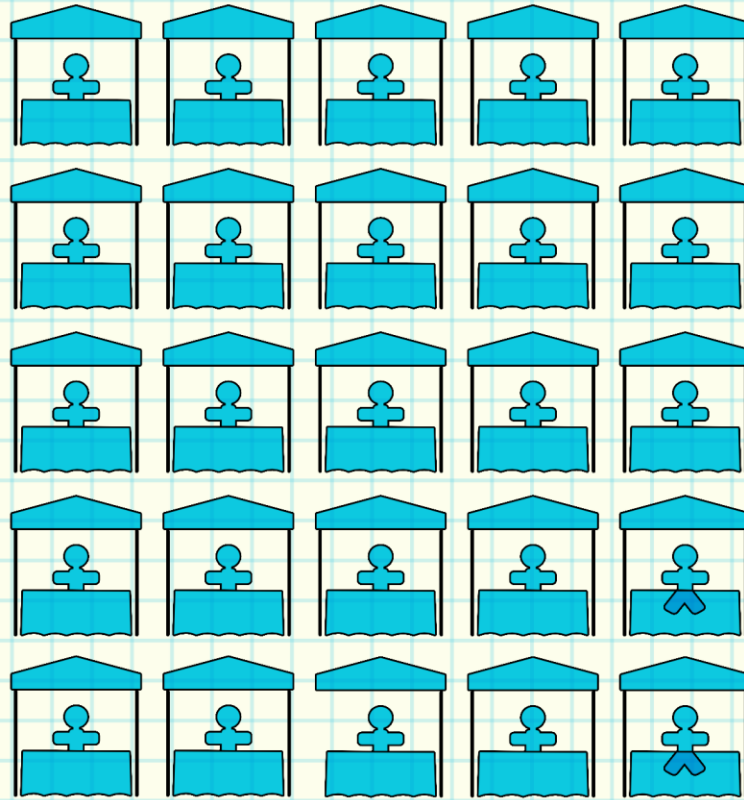
USDN Grant Writing

Administrative obstacles

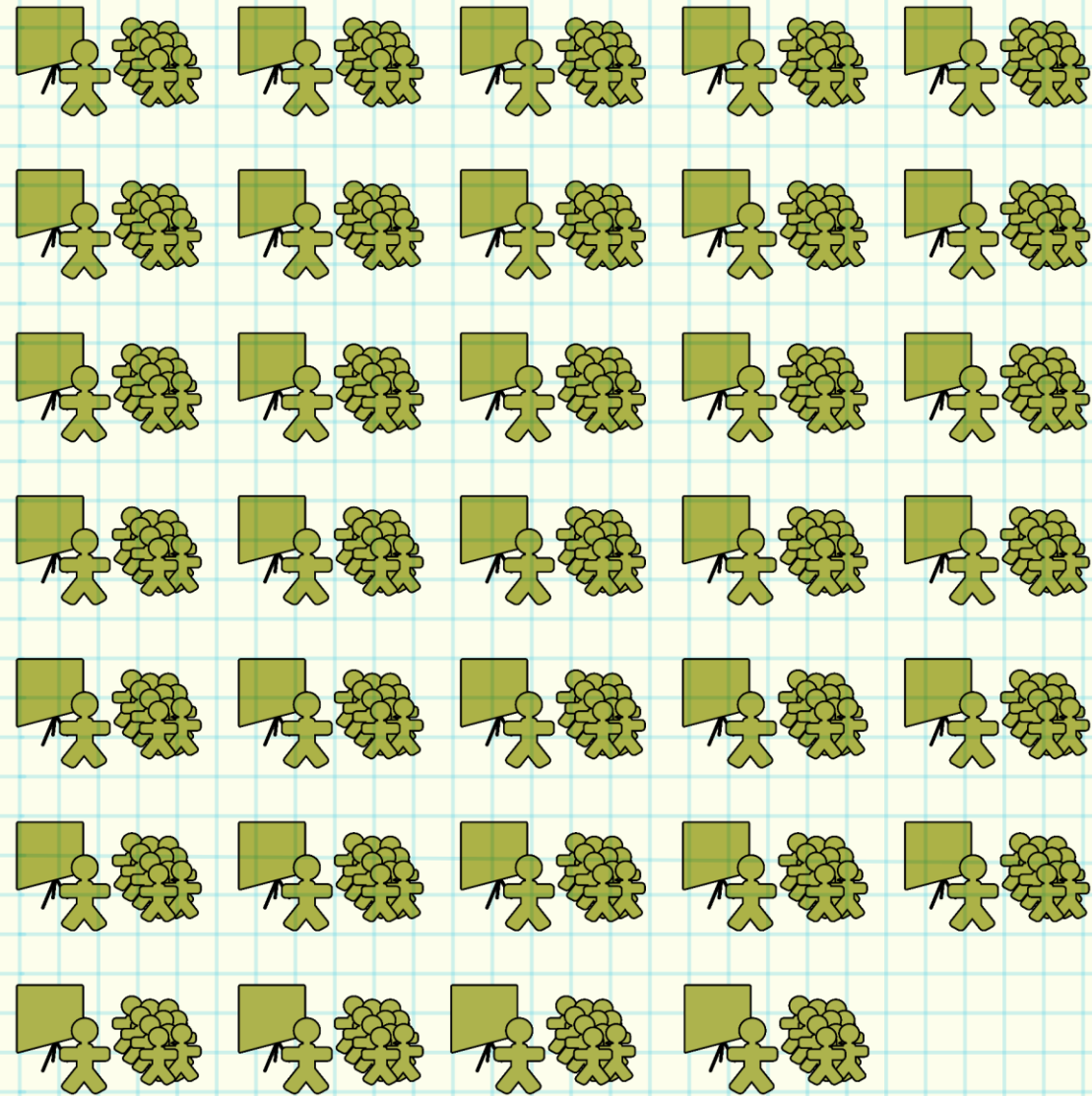
USDN Grant Period

Grant Activity

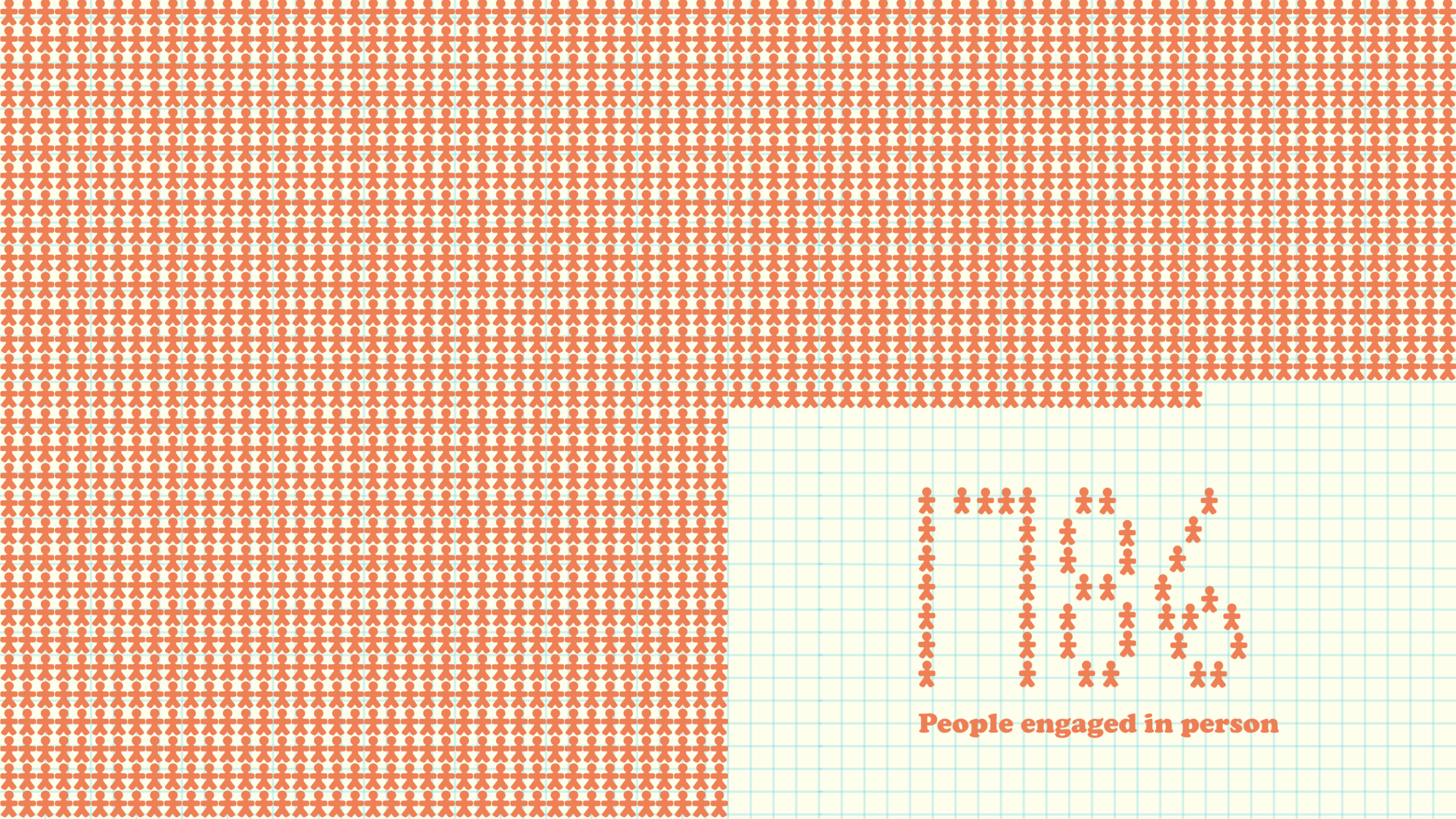
# In Person Engagements



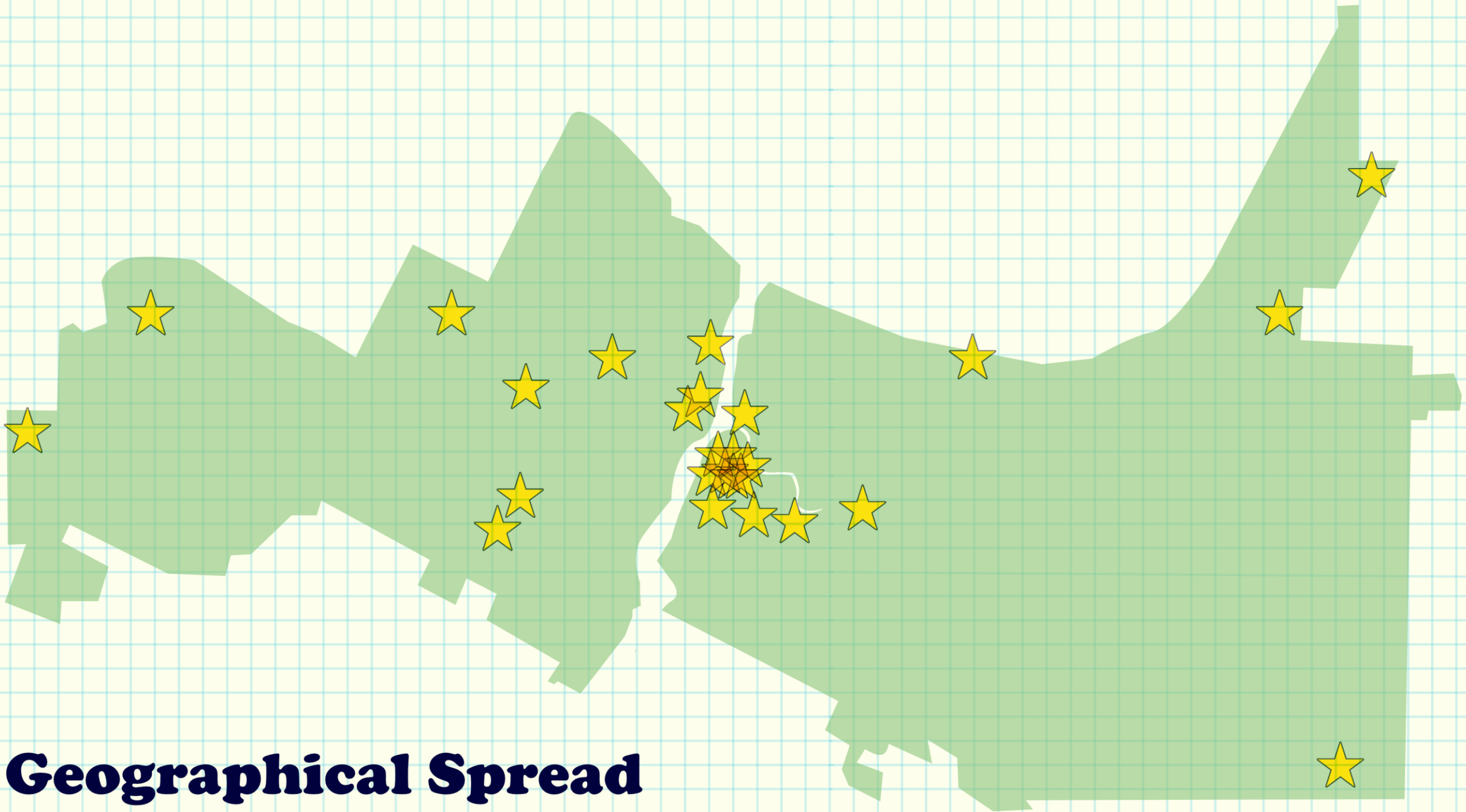
**25 Tabling Events**



**34 Presentations & Trainings**



**People engaged in person**



**Geographical Spread**

# Program Partners



# Program Partners of Particular Importance



- USDN Partner
- Facilitated Mailing



- Canvass
- Press event

- USDN Partner
- "Colleague"



- Crucial Resource



- Important info distribution channel



- USDN Grant Partner
- Design/Build Support
- STEM Family Event



- Emergent Learning Fund Grant



- USDN Partner
- Outreach Partner

**A pile of paper**

**23.68'**

**high**

**More than 17,000  
Documents  
Distributed**



# EnergizeGreenBay.com

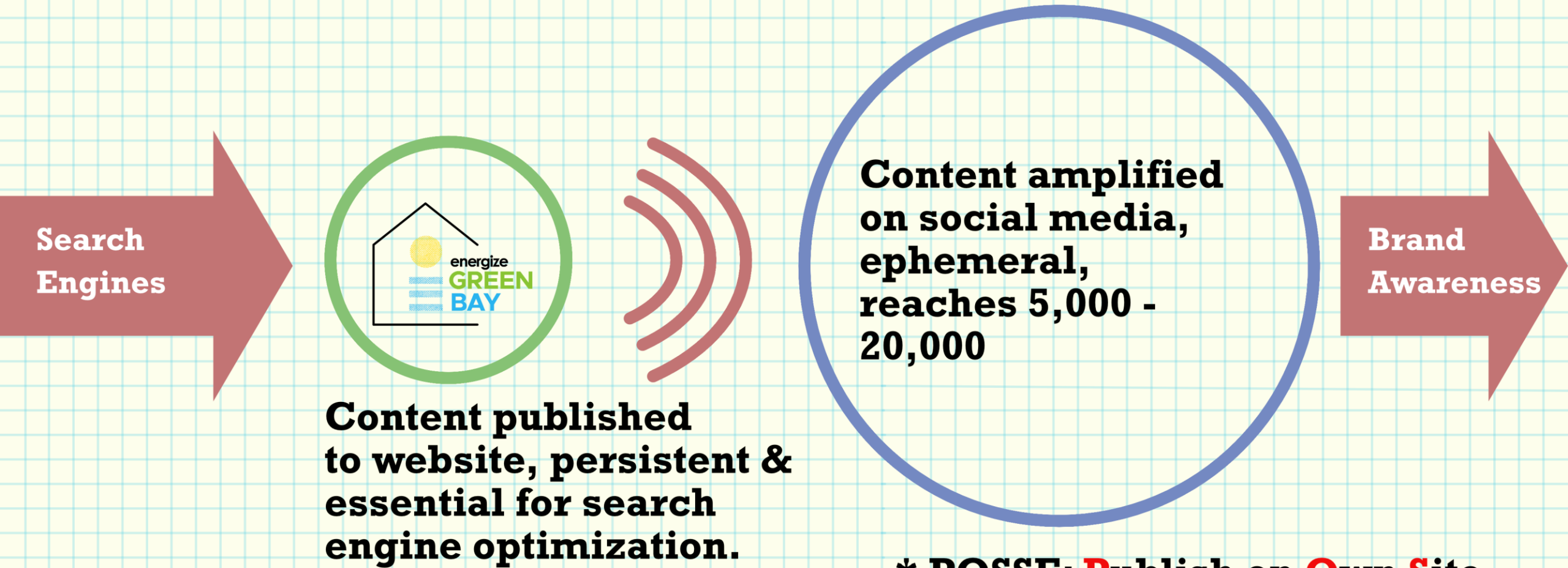


Dec. Jan. Feb. Mar. Apr. May June July Aug. Sep. Oct. Nov. Dec.

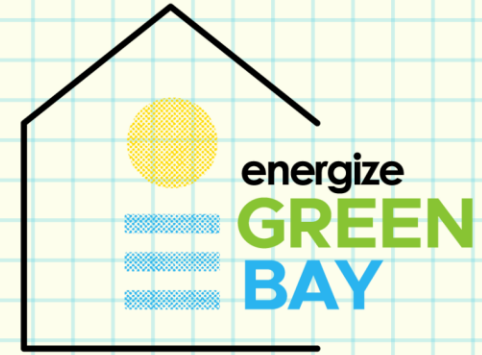
## Cumulative Website Views, 2024-25

# EnergizeGreenBay.com

## POSSE\* Model Worked

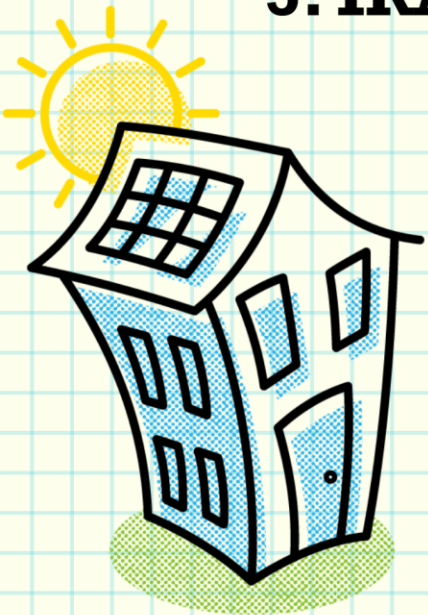


**\* POSSE: Publish on Own Site, Syndicate Everywhere**



## Most Popular Content:

1. **Three Reasons to Replace Your Gas Stove**
2. **Grow Solar - Green Bay**
3. **Pathways for Homeowners**
4. **An Opportunity for Small Businesses (SBC)**
5. **IRA HEAR 101**
6. **Black Friday + HEAR Rebate = Dramatic Savings**
7. **Wisconsin Law Protects Your Right to Solar Panels**
8. **IRA HOMES 101**
9. **Solar PV for Homeowners**
10. **Energy Efficiency for Homeowners**



# Narrative Development

**Narrative 1:** The clean energy transition is happening now.

**Narrative 2:** Clean energy will save you money, make the air cleaner, our community more resilient, etc.

**Narrative 3:** Federal and state tax credits, incentives, rebates, and programs exist...

**Final Narrative:** Reducing the energy burden while making homes healthier and reducing carbon emissions is a triple win.

**Lead with affordability and health.** These are what motivate most people and the central concerns of area nonprofits.

# Impacts are difficult to track

An outreach model does not provide transparency on how many people acted on information provided. For example, we can't know:

1. The tax credits that Green Bay residents applied for.
2. Whether use of IRA Home Energy Rebates was informed by the Energize Green Bay campaign.
3. Whether buyers of EVs were inspired to do so by campaign.

This is a known limitation of this type of program.

# But...

**Grow Solar added 98 kW of rooftop solar PV to Green Bay.**

**An additional 9 Solar PV installations in total.**

**IRA HEAR Rebate used 21 times to date, saving GB residents \$123,946**

**IRA HOMES Rebate was used once, saving homeowner \$10,000.**

**Focus on Energy paid for 16 home assessments in Green Bay.**

**Anecdotally speaking, there are many enthusiastic energy nerds.**

# Useful Lessons Learned

1. In the context of partnerships, approaching sustainability primarily as a "basic needs" issue (which it is) is more activating and will bring existing area nonprofits into alignment.
2. Discount aside, the biggest value add of the Grow Solar program is identifying a trusted solar installer in a competitive and sometimes predatory field. Should MREA decide not to continue in our area, it would be worthwhile to create a similar program and extend it to other technologies.
3. The most effective form of outreach, by far, in our area is finding pre-existing audiences: GB Retired Men's Club, congregations, workplaces, etc.

# Campaign Legacy Assets

The grant period ends on March 31st, but leaves behind informational assets.

## Websites

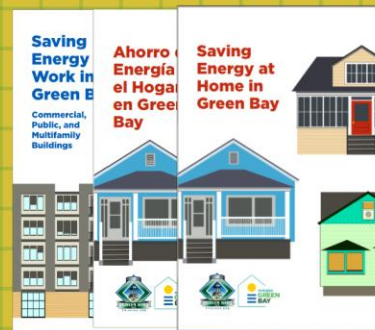


[energizegreenbay.com](http://energizegreenbay.com)

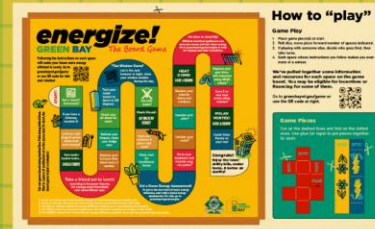


[greenbaywi.gov/sustainability](http://greenbaywi.gov/sustainability)

## Publications



Saving Energy booklets



Energize Game & Stands



Fact sheets

## Networks:

Semi Annual Sustainability Coffee Hour

MREA/Grow Solar

More activated CBOs

# Barriers

1. Many unanswered emails & some failures of things to "gel." Assumptions:

**Trust.** City not typically in these spaces, may not be trusted messenger.

**Misalignment:** Clean energy seen as "nice to have," not as necessity for better future.

**Political Climate:** Clean energy too often viewed through political lens. No one ever said anything.

2. Political uncertainty.

**Grant.** Was told to put campaign on pause for nearly two months when grant funding was uncertain.

**One Big Beautiful Bill Act:** Created confusion about what had been rescinded and what had not.

# Barriers

## 3. Working with Community Benefit Organizations and other partners

**Scale.** City contractual language required adjustment to work with small orgs.

**Collaboration:** True collaboration is difficult, CBOs will try to squeeze outreach plans into existing programs. Everyone had capacity issues, understandably.

## 4. Working with small businesses

**Incentives.** No tax credits or rebates for weatherization. The 179D Tax Deduction too difficult for small business (ends in '26).

**Misapprehension:** Most small business owners we approached did not understand the connection between sustainable business practices, generally, and the welfare of their business. Those that approached us, did.

Apr. 01, 2024

Hiring Process

CEC Hired

Oct. 01, 2024

HOMES

HEAR, Ph. 1

Apr. 01, 2025

HEAR, Ph. 2

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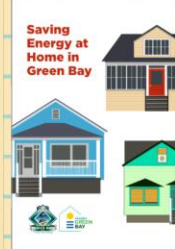
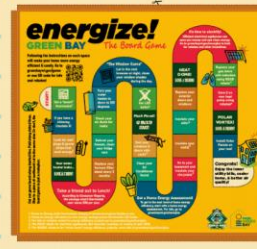
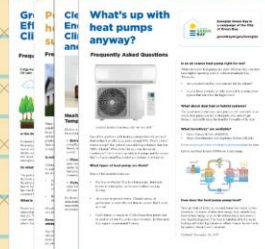


Neighborhood Info Sessions



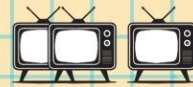
Info Stands

PRINTED MEDIA



Research, writing, & branding

TRAD. MEDIA



DIGITAL MEDIA

Website design & launch



SELECTED PARTNERSHIPS



Posts

USDN Grant Writing

Administrative obstacles

USDN Grant Period

Grant Activity



Report to the  
**Sustainability Commission**  
of the City of Green Bay

## MEETING DATE

March 18, 2026

## AGENDA ITEM # H.1

Work Group Reports

## BACKGROUND

1. Waste Reduction Work Group: Update summary and information regarding Dane County's Food Scrap Composting is attached.
2. Healthy Habitat Work Group: Items to be discussed in pollinator corridor, plant kit giveaway, and food forest ordinance update suggestions.

## RECOMMENDATION

To receive and place on file the updates from the Waste Reduction Work Group and Healthy Habitats for All Work Group.

## FISCAL IMPACT

## ATTACHMENTS

1. Waste Reduction Update Summary March 2026

- **March 18, 2026 Sustainability Commission meeting**

- **Work Group Name:**

Waste Reduction

- **Update Summary:**

1. Marissa Michalkiewicz attended the **Wisconsin Integrated Resource Management Conference (WIRMC)** from February 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup>. Delaney Gobster from Dane County Waste + Renewables presented on their Food Scrap Composting program (presentation is attached). Marissa plans to meet with Delaney to discuss Dane County's Food Scrap Stops concept in greater detail as it provides a model for Group members to pull inspiration from when developing our recommendation to the City for a food waste reduction initiative.
2. Marissa met with **John Arendt** from **UW-Green Bay** and **Mark Walter** from **Brown County Resource Recovery** to discuss the Group's 2026 goal of reducing the amount of organic waste entering the landfill system. Both agreed to participate as community members and will contribute ideas and connections to help advance the Group's efforts.
3. Jenny Brinker introduced Group members to **Dillon Weist** from **NWTC** who works for the College's Sustainable Agriculture program. At one time, this program was collecting NWTC cafeteria food waste as part of the campus' sustainability initiatives. The Group plans to connect with Dillon further to discuss his involvement as a community member.
4. Group members continue plans to add community members to the Waste Reduction Work Group. *Meetings with the chosen Waste Reduction Work Group community members will occur on an as-needed basis.* Chosen community members will represent one of the following sectors related to food waste reduction initiatives:
  - City of Green Bay Public Works Department (Residential, Waste Hauler) – TBD
  - Brown County Resource Recovery (Landfill) – Mark Walter, Business Development Manager
  - Green Bay Neighborhood Associations – TBD
  - Green Bay Area Public School District – Jeanette Knill, Board Member
  - UW-Green Bay – John Arendt, Director of the Environmental Management & Business Institute (EMBI)
  - NWTC – Dillon Weist,
  - Food Processing Businesses (Manufacturing) – TBD
  - Agricultural Food Production (Farms) – Sarah Valentine, Co-Owner of Valentine Gardens
  - Grocery Stores (Retail) – TBD
  - Food Recovery – Selena Darrow, Founder of Rooted In

Dane County  
**Food Scrap Composting**



WIRMC | Friday, February 27



make **MORE** from waste

# DANE COUNTY TEAM



**DELANEY GOBSTER**

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT + OUTREACH COORDINATOR |  
ORGANICS RECYCLING



**ALEX THOMAS**

CARBON OFFSET MANAGER

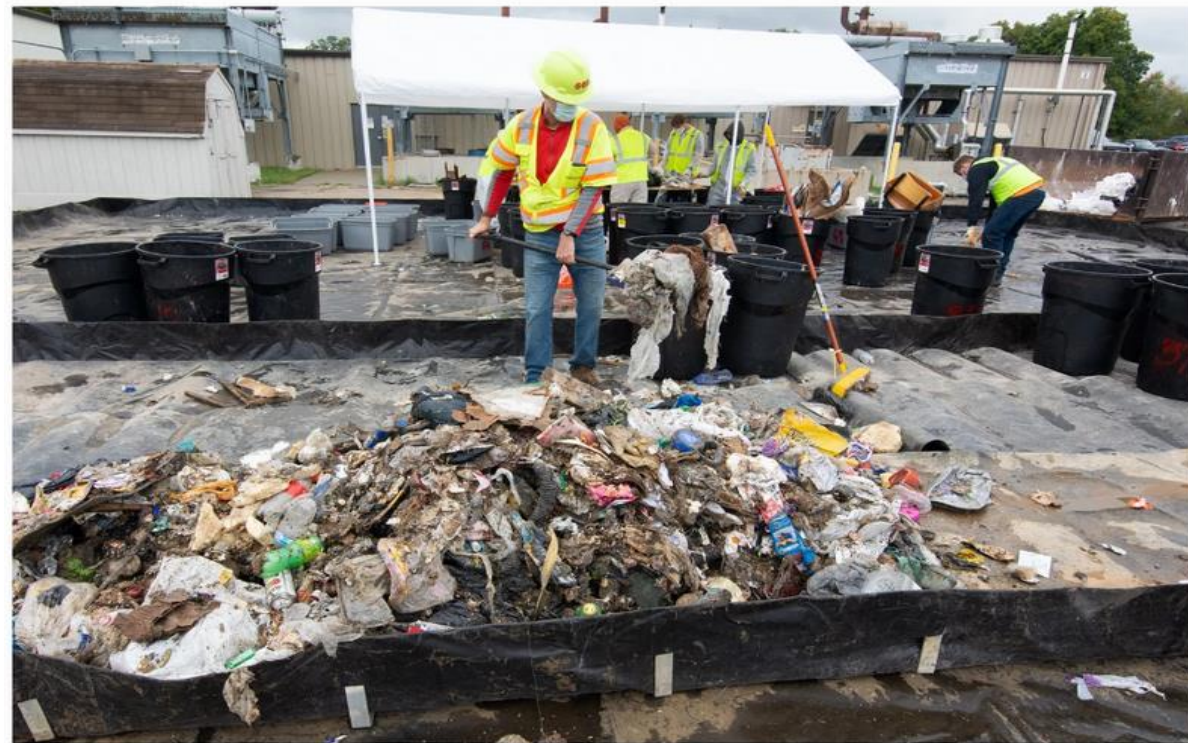
# Overview

- Landfilled organics in Dane County
- Food Scrap Stop (resident) program origins
- Food Scrap Composting
- Residential program engagement
- Commercial food scrap programs
- Future regional compost infrastructure needs
- Q&A



# Dane County Landfilled Organics

## NEW DNR WASTE CHARACTERIZATION STUDY REVEALS INCREASE IN FOOD WASTE AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR WASTE REDUCTION



Solid waste samples are prepared for sorting.  
Photo credit: Wisconsin DNR

(WI DNR, 2021)

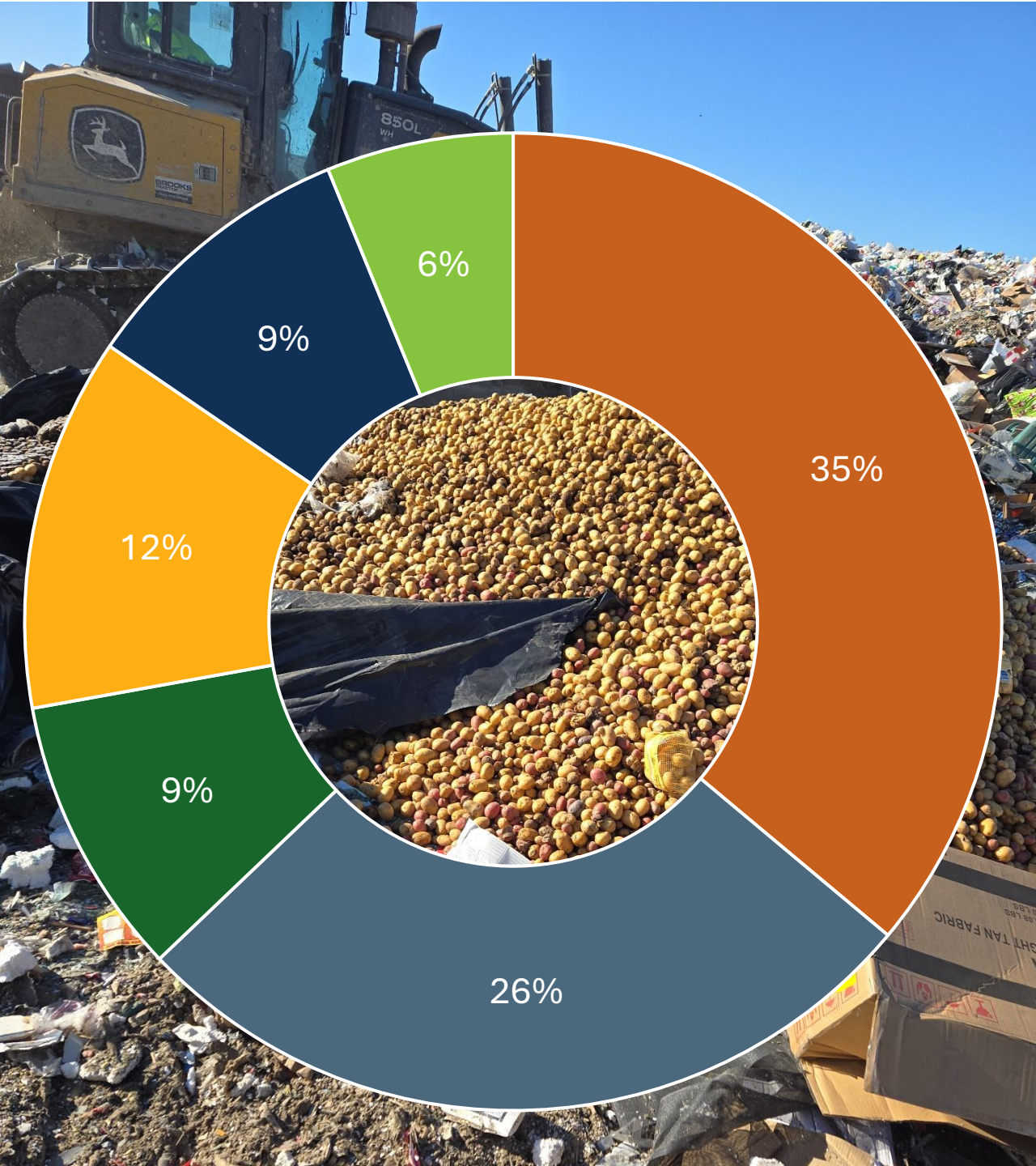
- 2020 DNR sampling study shows organics is the largest waste stream entering the county landfill
  - 34% overall, 38% residential
- Over 300,000 tons of material accepted annually
- Previous County yard waste compost program discontinued due to staff and facility space constraints



# Dane County Landfilled

## Organics

- Wasted Food
- Non-Edible Food
- Yard Waste
- Diapers
- Animal Waste
- Fines/ Dirt



## Program Origins

- USDA Compost + Food Waste Reduction grant funded sites at municipality host locations
  - x5 sites funded for first program year
- Food Scrap Stops designed by Madison Children's Museum, launched June 2025
- Quarterly stakeholder engagement meetings to center community input and needs
- Site selection based on municipal interest, countywide distribution, and community accessibility
- County coordinated collection services, compost service provided by Purple Cow Organics



# Case Study Informed Program Design

Informed need for:

- Direct program signage of accepted items
- Cart locks to prevent bystander contamination
  - Winter lock removal need + impact
- Resident registration for locked cart access
- Operational need for cart liners, or residents to bag food scraps, to prevent freezing issues in midwestern climate



# Food Scrap Stops

## Kiosk Structure Design

- Covered pamphlet holders for takeaway program info
- Replaceable sign holders for program updates
- 360 design approach with program sign-up instructions and accepted items on signage
- Upcycled street sign roof
- Bucket scale for measuring personal impact

## Hybrid Banner Design

- Banner signage with removable sign + pamphlet holders

## All Locations

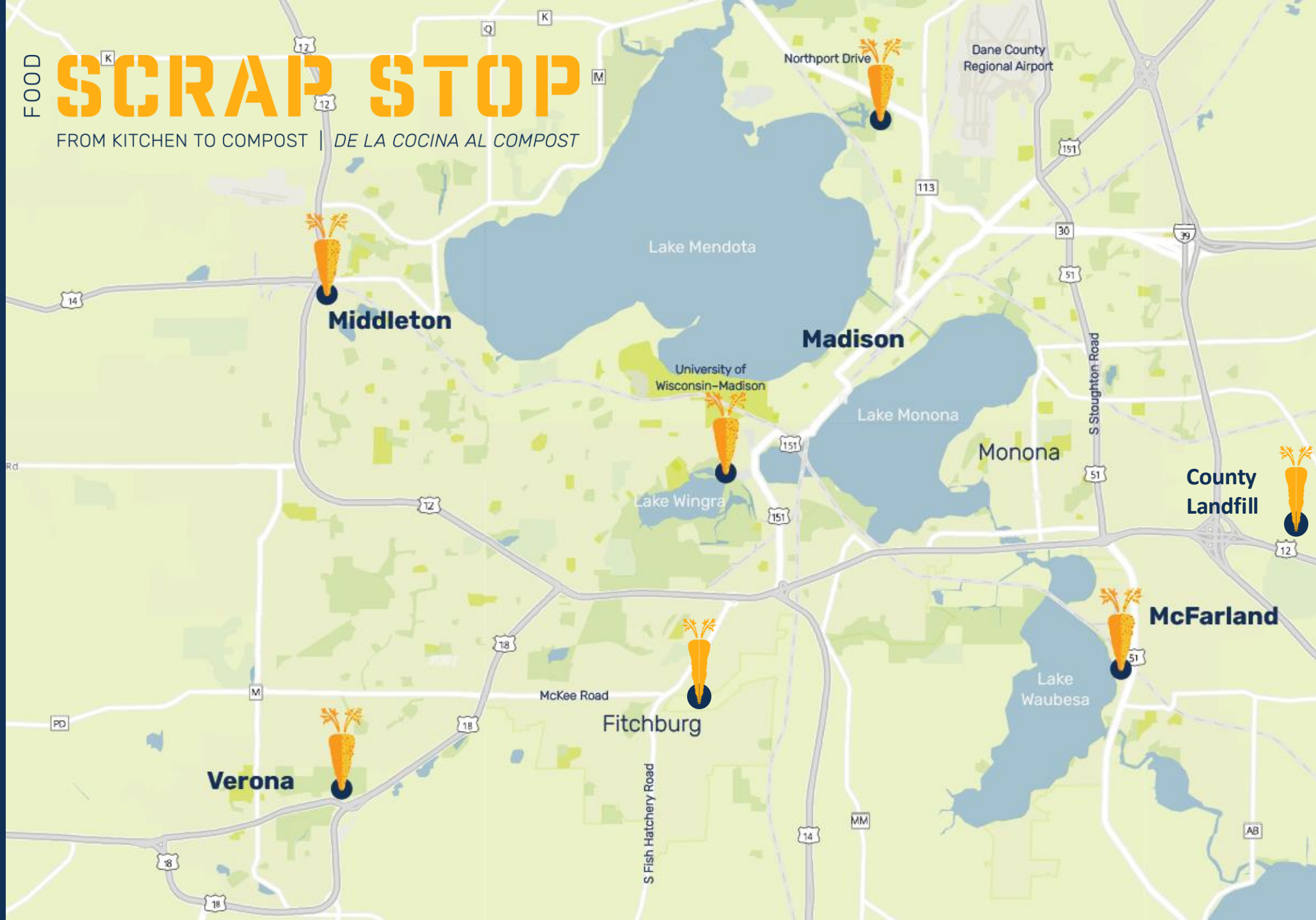
- Carts with volumetric gradations to track pickup quantities, tonnage scaled per route



FOOD

# SCRAP STOP

FROM KITCHEN TO COMPOST | *DE LA COCINA AL COMPOST*



# Program Registration

- County administers program registration and facilitates outreach, coordinates hauling
- Carts are locked to prevent pests and bystander contamination
- Signage on website, carts, kiosk/ banner, and pamphlets provides registration directions
- Registration via online form, code provided instantly to participants upon submission

## Resident Food Scrap Stop Registration

The Dane County Department of Waste + Renewables is now offering free food scrap drop-offs for residents! Visit a drop-off near you to divert your scraps from the landfill. Food scraps will be composted by Purple Cow Organics and turned into fertilizer to grow your future food.

The cart combination lock code will be displayed on your screen following your submission of this form. Please keep a record of the lock code for future use, you will be able to "save your response" or submit another response in the future if needed. Contact [waste.renewables@daneconomy.gov](mailto:waste.renewables@daneconomy.gov) with any program questions.

Food Scrap Stops were designed in partnership with the Madison Children's Museum. For additional program information, visit the website here: [landfill.daneconomy.gov/compost](https://landfill.daneconomy.gov/compost).

When you submit this form, it will not automatically collect your details like name and email address unless you provide it yourself.

\* Required

1

Please review the accepted material guidelines here to continue: <https://landfill.daneconomy.gov/documents/PDFs/Organics/5.19.25-Resident-accepted-items-web.pdf>

Bagging food scraps with paper bags is recommended, but only if using plain paper bags (no plastic or wax lined). \*

Select "agree" below to confirm you will abide by the program guidelines:



# FOOD SCRAP STOP

FROM KITCHEN TO COMPOST • DE LA COCINA AL COMPOST



FREE drop off for all residents within Dane County  
Servicio **GRATUITO** para todas las residentes del Condado de Dane

## RESIDENTIAL

### ACCEPTED | ACEPTABLES

#### FRUITS & VEGETABLES

Raw and cooked fruits & vegetables  
—pits, peels, cobs and all



#### FRUTAS Y VERDURAS

Frutas y verduras crudas y cocidas  
—con hueso, cáscara, mazorca y todo

#### COFFEE & TEA

Grounds or loose tea without filters  
or bags



#### CAFÉ Y TÉ

Té molido o suelto, sin filtros  
ni bolsitas

#### EGGSHELLS

Shells, but not the eggs



#### CÁSCARAS DE HUEVO

Cáscaras, pero no los huevos

#### BEANS & NUTS

All beans, seeds, nuts, and shells



#### FRIJOLE Y SEMILLAS

Todos los frijoles, semillas, frutos  
secos y cáscaras

For lock code access to the free drop-off,  
please register online by using the QR code  
or visit [landfill.danecounty.gov/compost](http://landfill.danecounty.gov/compost).



Para acceder al punto de entrega gratuito  
que tenga código de bloqueo, registrense  
en línea usando el código QR o visiten el  
sitio [landfill.danecounty.gov/compost](http://landfill.danecounty.gov/compost).

To report issues or for program questions  
contact: [Waste.Renewables@DaneCounty.Gov](mailto:Waste.Renewables@DaneCounty.Gov)

Para preguntas sobre el programa o para reportar un  
problema en una estación para desechos de alimentos,  
envíen un correo electrónico a  
[Waste.Renewables@DaneCounty.Gov](mailto:Waste.Renewables@DaneCounty.Gov)

Keep lid closed when not in use

Replace and close lock when finished

Mantengan la tapa cerrada cuando no esté en uso

Al terminar vuelvan a colocarla, y cierren el candado

### NOT ACCEPTED | INACEPTABLES

#### NO MEAT

No meat, bones, seafood, or  
animal products



#### NADA DE CARNES

Nada de carne, huesos, mariscos ni  
productos animales

#### NO DAIRY OR EGGS

No cheese, cream, yogurt, or other dairy  
and egg products



#### NADA DE LÁCTEOS O HUEVOS

Nada de queso, crema, yogur, productos  
lácteos ni productos con huevo

#### NO BREADS OR BAKED GOODS

No breads, pastas, baked goods,  
or candies



#### NADA DE PAN O PRODUCTOS HORNEADOS

Nada de pan, pastas, productos horneados ni dulces

#### NO LIQUIDS

No milk, coffee, juices, sauces, fats, oils,  
greases, or waxes



#### NADA DE LÍQUIDOS

Nada de leche, café, jugos, salsas, grasas,  
aceites ni ceras

#### NO PAPER\*

No paper, napkins, tissues, pizza boxes,  
parchment, wax paper, or cardboard  
(\*paper bags for collecting food scraps  
are an allowed exception)



#### NADA DE PAPEL\*

Nada de papel, servilletas, pañuelos desechables,  
cajas de pizza, papel pergamino, papel encerado ni  
cartón (\*las bolsas de papel para disponer de restos  
de comida son una excepción permitida)

#### NO INORGANICS OR HAZARDS

No plastic, metal, or Styrofoam  
(inorganics),  
or glass, sharps, chemicals, animal waste,  
or litter (hazards)



#### NADA DE MATERIALES INORGÁNICOS O PELIGROSOS

Nada de plástico, metal o poliestireno (materiales  
inorgánicos), tampoco vidrio, objetos punzantes,  
productos químicos, desechos animales ni basura  
(materiales peligrosos)

#### NO PACKAGING

No produce stickers, twist ties, staples,  
rubber bands, food service products, or  
"compostable/biodegradable" items



#### NADA DE ENVASES

Nada de etiquetas para productos agrícolas, lazos de  
torsión, grapas, elásticos, productos de servicios  
alimentarios ni artículos "compostables/biodegradables"

# Dane County Composts

- Due to identified need, County went out to bid for compost services
- Public/ private partnership with Purple Cow Organics initiated Fall 2024
- County invested in new infrastructure at partner's existing site
- County to coordinate hauling, partner to process food scraps



# Food Scrap Composting Process



Food scraps are collected, hauled, and scaled at the County landfill.

Once transported to Purple Cow, food scraps are tipped onto a bed of carbon material.

The material is mixed and preconditioned in concrete bunkers.

The pile is then formed into windrows to complete composting.

Finished compost is screened, removing large particles, and mixed into a soil amendment for sale.

# Program Outreach

- Annual events at Food Scrap Stop locations
  - Supply giveaways, collection drives
- Ongoing email, call/ text, in-person (events, onsite) support for participants
- Quarterly resident newsletters
- Quarterly check-in calls for municipality site coordinators

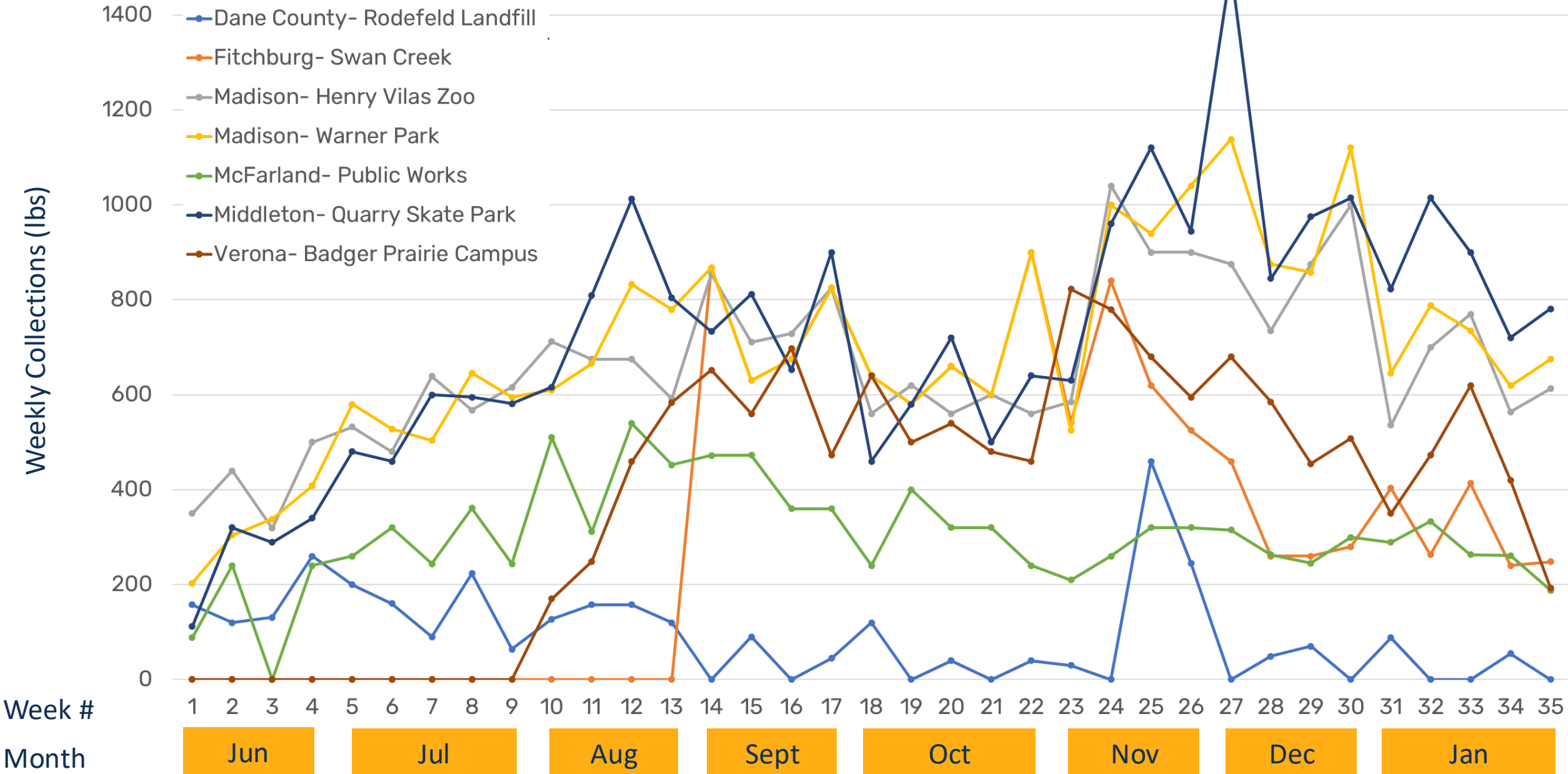


# Household Registrations

| Location                       | Registrations |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Dane County- Rodefild Landfill | 158           |
| Madison- Warner                | 620           |
| Madison- Henry Vilas Zoo       | 825           |
| McFarland- Public Works        | 256           |
| Middleton- Quarry              | 643           |
| Verona- Badger Prairie         | 382           |
| Fitchburg- Swan Creek          | 207           |
| <b>Total Registrations</b>     | <b>2652</b>   |
| Updated:                       | 2/3/2026      |

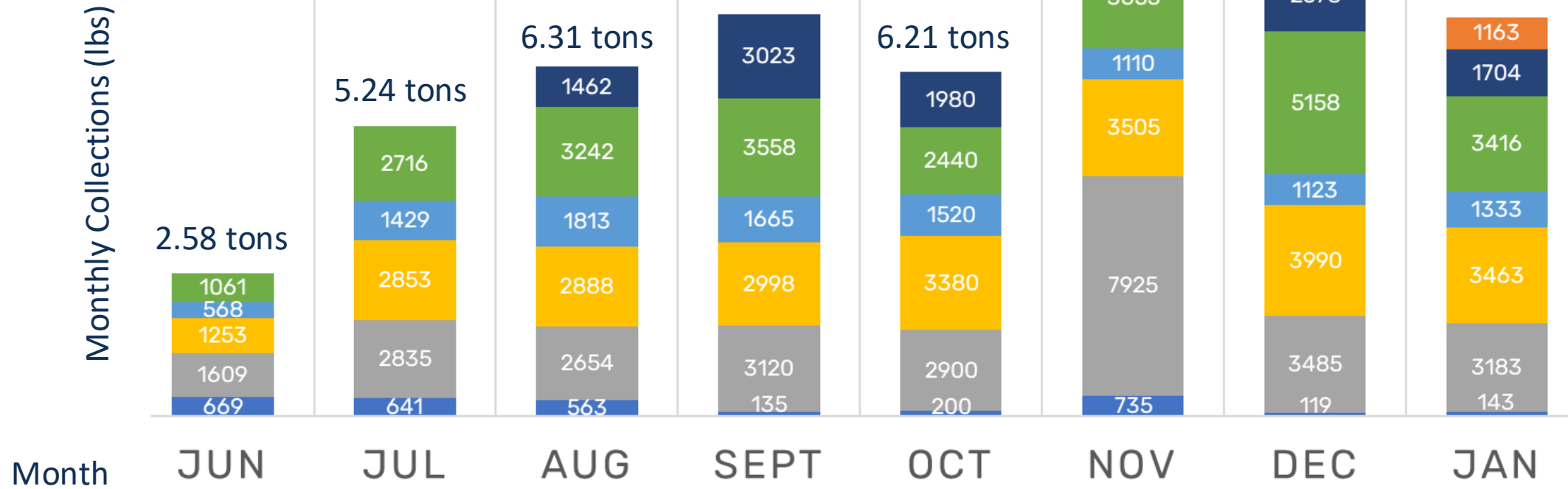


# Food Scrap Stop Weekly Collection Trends



# Food Scrap Stop Monthly Collection Trends

Jun-Jan Total:  
55 tons | 110,000 lbs



- Dane County- Rodefild Landfill
- Madison- Henry Vilas Zoo
- Madison- Warner Park
- McFarland- Public Works
- Middleton- Quarry Skate Park
- Verona- Badger Prairie
- Fitchburg- Swan Creek



# Contamination Prevention + Intervention

- Items of low concern
  - Plastic bags, certified compostable bags
  - Produce stickers/ twist ties
- Rare items of concern
  - Diapers + pet waste
  - Glass
- Communications for intervention
  - Direct contact- emails, notice posting
  - Recode locks if needed, relocate site as last resort
- Contamination removal
  - Operators pick out as possible
  - Items of concern- recode affected carts temporarily and tag, return for load landfilling

# Commercial Pickup Services

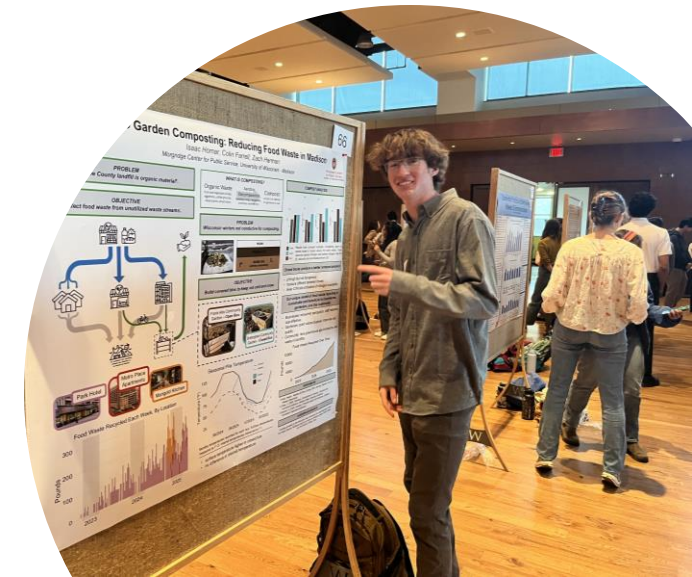


- Technical assistance + staff training program
- Provides food scraps collection + composting service
  - Monthly + annual impact reports included
- Coordinates with business' existing waste hauler as able to integrate food scrap pickups into current contracts
  - Able to provide limited term waste audit service before integrating with existing waste hauler to establish baseline needs
  - For hauler drop-off at Purple Cow Organics facility

Dane County

# Organics Management Grant

- Founded in 2022
- \$10,000 annual mini-grant fund
- Promotes wasted food prevention and landfilled organics diversion
- All organizations in Dane County eligible
- 2026 application closed 2/1/26
  - 19 total organizations applied
  - \$41,353 total applied for
  - Awardees announced mid – February





2025

Over 250,000 lbs (125 tons)  
Food Scraps Composted

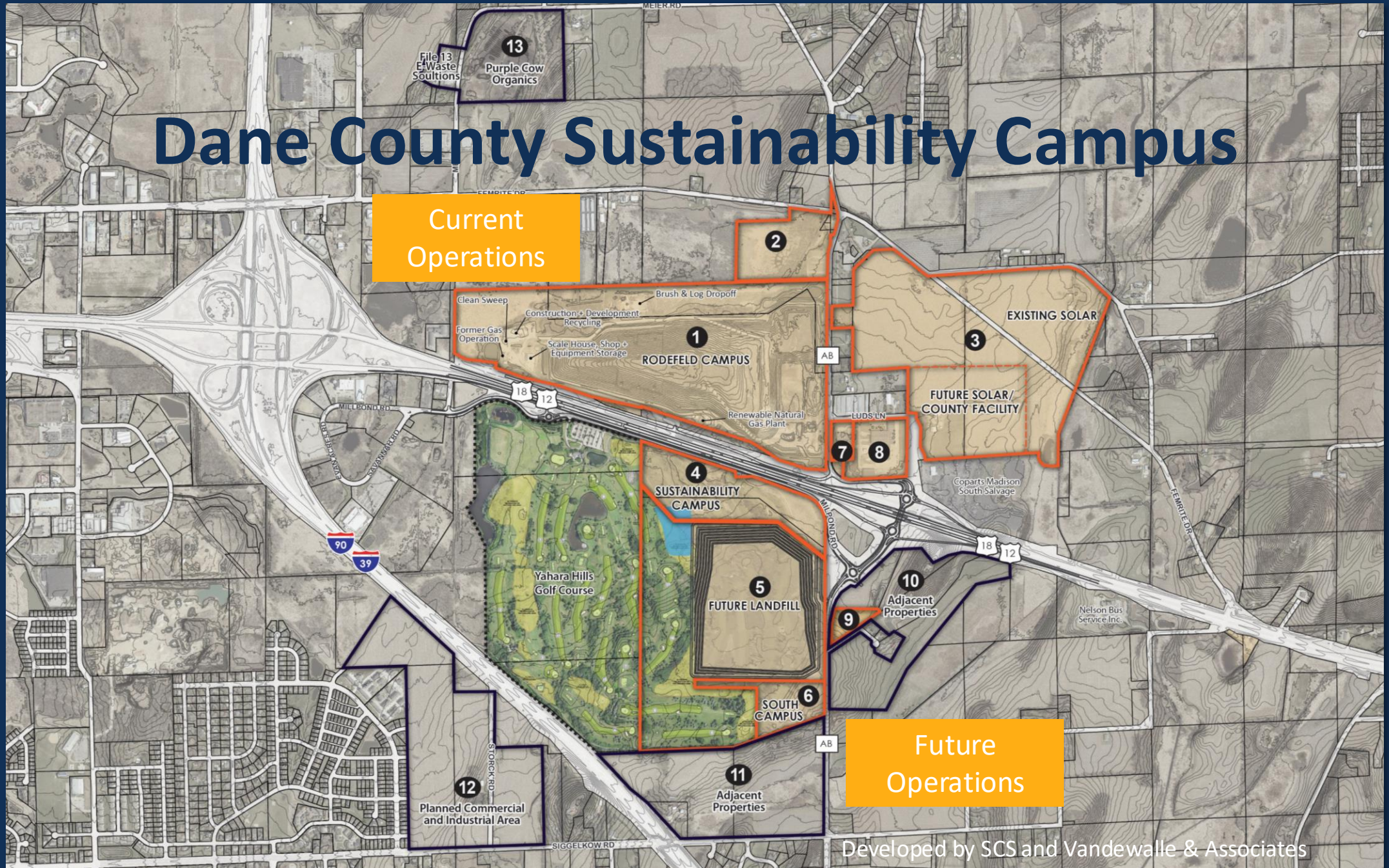


# Regional Compost Infrastructure Needs

# Dane County Sustainability Campus

Current Operations

Future Operations



Developed by SCS and Vandewalle & Associates

# Non-Food Organics Recycling

- Henry Vilas Zoo (herbivore-only) manure
  - New as of June 2025
  - 2025: Over 70 tons collected | approx. 125 tons/ yr composted
- Yard waste
  - New drop-off program as of April 2025
  - 2025: over 360 tons collected for compost
- Brush/ logs
  - 2025: over 3,010 tons collected | chipped for facility use onsite
- Wood chips
  - 2025: over 5,110 tons collected | used onsite



A large, orange pumpkin with a jagged, irregular hole cut into its side. The pumpkin is surrounded by autumn leaves in various shades of brown, orange, and green. Other pumpkins are visible in the background. The text "Q+A" is overlaid in the center of the pumpkin.

Q+A

Dane County  
**Food Scrap Composting**



WIRMC | Friday, February 27



make **MORE** from waste