

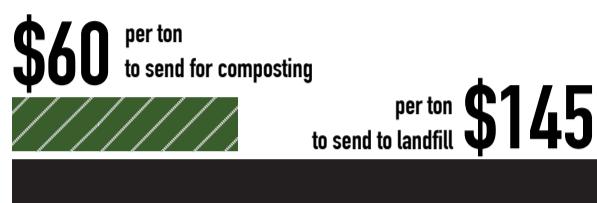
COMPOSTING AT THE UW

THE NUMBERS

In 2014 we sent 1,912 tons of material to be composted! But we have room to improve: yearly audits of trash from representative campus buildings suggest that approximately 50% of waste we place in trash containers could be composted.



It adds up. Sending compostable waste to the landfill is costs over twice as much as sending it to be composted.



Distance to our landfill in Oregon



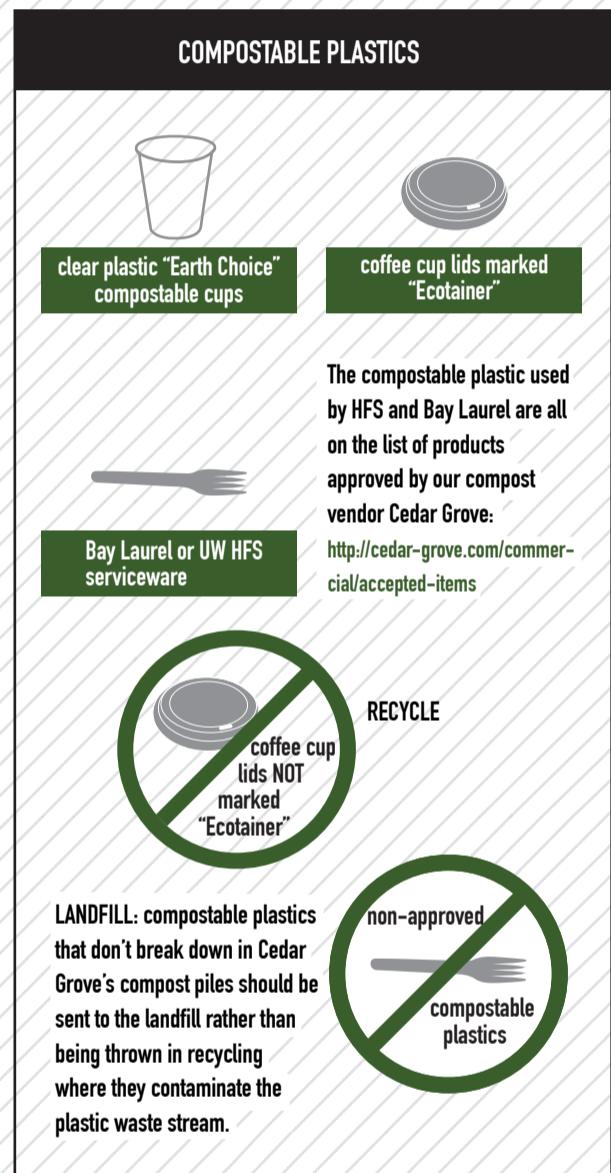
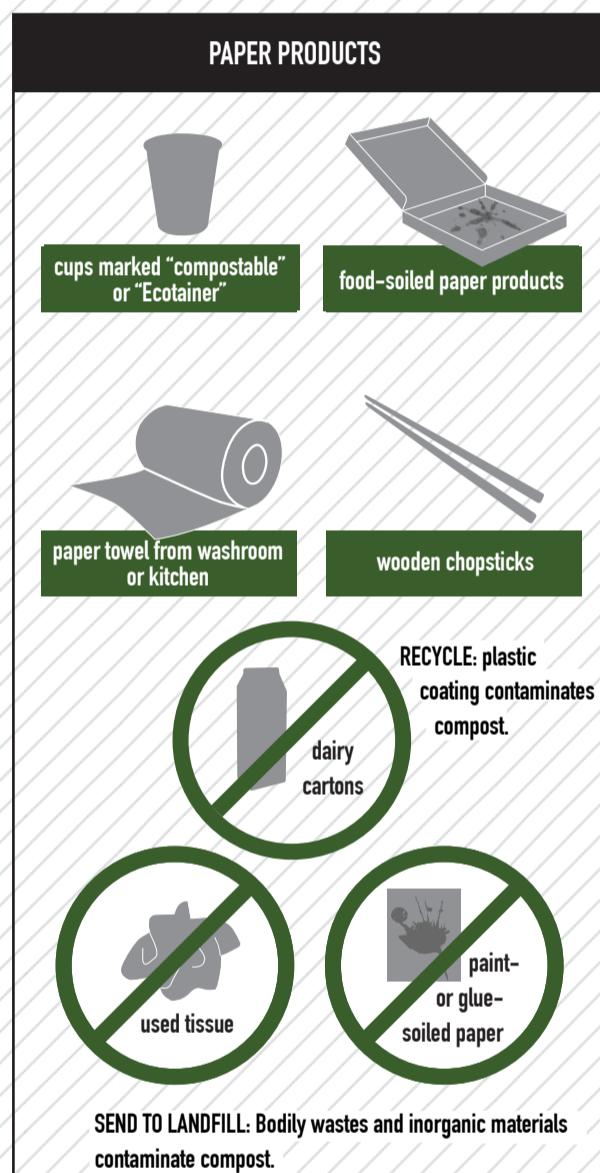
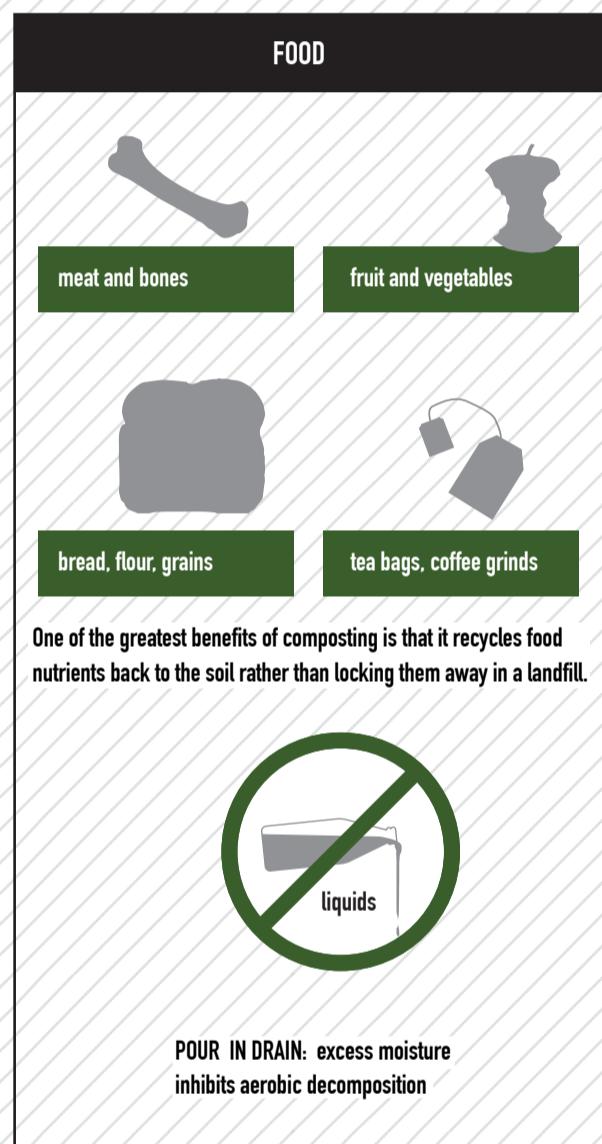
305 miles

Distance to our composting facility in Maple Valley

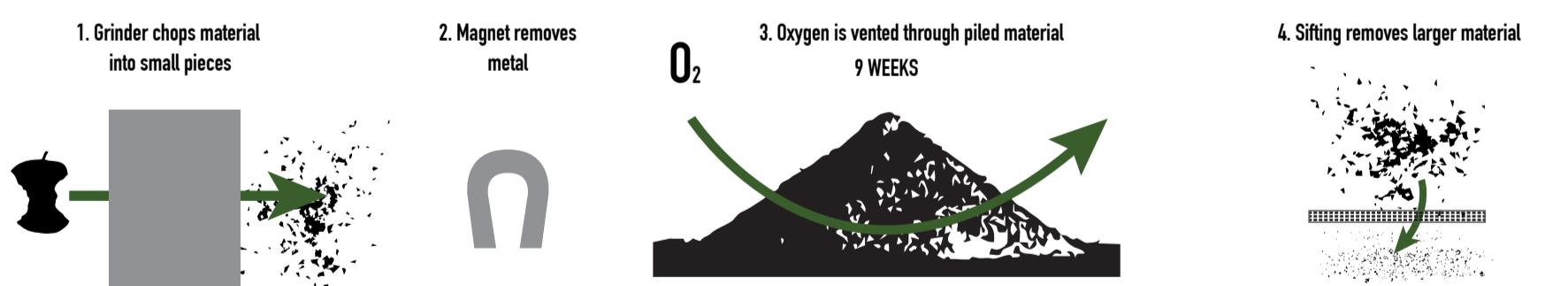


25 miles

WHAT CAN BE COMPOSTED



THE COMPOSTING PROCESS



DEFINITIONS

COMPOSTABLE ≠ BIODEGRADABLE

To be commercially compostable, an item must break down during the 9 weeks it will spend in the pile. Biodegradable means that an item will ultimately break down through biological means, but it may take more time to do so.

COMPOSTABLE ≠ COMPOSTABLE in a commercial facility in your home compost pile

Commercial composting facilities create well-regulated conditions and high temperatures that are difficult to replicate at home—so don't expect that compostable fork to disappear in your backyard compost pile.

LEARN MORE / DO MORE



To get compost bins, or learn more about compost and recycling options for your department, office or residence hall, contact UW Recycling at: 206.685.2811, recycle@uw.edu, or go to their website www.uwrecycling.com

Sources of information (created by Marilyn Ostergren, ostergm@uw.edu):
2013 Recycling report <http://www.washington.edu/facilities/building/recyclingandsolidwaste/files/2013report.pdf>;
2013 Trash-in report: http://www.washington.edu/facilities/building/recyclingandsolidwaste/files/Trash_In_2013_Summary.pdf;
History facts: <http://www.washington.edu/facilities/building/recyclingandsolidwaste/about/history>
<http://cedar-grove.com/commercial/accepted-items>



Sustainability: It's in our nature.

