

## City of Tukwila

### 2017-18 King County Waste Reduction and Recycling Grant Program Report

#### Program Tasks

##### **TASK 1. Recycling Collection Event**

- Held once per year in spring.
- In 2018, collected 12 tons recyclable metal, 6 tons of bulky wood, 3 tons of household goods. Similar amounts collected in 2017.
- Approximately 400 carloads participate each year.

##### **TASK 2. Commercial/Multifamily Recycling**

###### Each year:

- Present Tukwila Green Works Business Recycler of the Year Awards
- Update, print, and distribute the Business Recycling Guide to 3,600 Tukwila businesses.
- Continued outreach to businesses, including City of Tukwila facilities, to assist with waste prevention. Businesses contribute 70% of the amount of material recycled in Tukwila.
- Improved outreach efforts to businesses and residents by coordinating consultant and Waste Management's programs.
- Reached out to 33 multifamily properties with low or no recycling rates. Met with 13 multifamily property managers, created outreach plans and distributed 657 recycling bags and education material packets. Two properties were able to save more than \$16,000 per year as a result of increased recycling and reduced garbage service.
- Multifamily property outreach resulted in an estimated:
  - 1,352 cubic yards of waste reduction per year due to garbage dumpster downsizing.
  - 3,074 cubic yards of increased recycling per year due to adding or increasing recycling dumpster or cart pickups.
- Held a Waste Free Workshop at Tukwila Library and another at Tukwila Community Center for 32 seniors in English and Spanish (translator).

##### **TASK 3. Residential Program – Rain barrels, compost bins, worm bins**

- Purchased 60 rain barrels made of recycled plastic for distribution to residents. This diverted 4,800 pounds of plastic from the waste stream.
- Purchased 20 recycled plastic worm bins for distribution to residents. Together, these bins will divert 24.7 tons of food material annually from the waste stream.

##### **TASK 4. Residential Program – Community Garage Sale**

###### Each year:

- Created, printed, and mailed postcards advertising City-wide garage sale to 7,800 Tukwila households.
- Advertised garage sale in Tukwila, Kent, and Renton Reporter newspapers.

- Typically, approximately 50 garage sales are held throughout Tukwila.

### **TASK 5. Compost Demonstration Site**

- Coordinated with International Rescue Committee on developing and supporting compost programs at the Namaste Communal Garden, a garden area for refugees located on the grounds of St. Thomas Church, and a similar garden located at the Church by the Side of the Road. The gardens are a place for local refugees and others to grow and have access to healthy food. The WRR grant was used to fund interpreters, prepare transcultural educational materials in three languages, and purchase supplies and materials to facilitate composting at the two garden locations.

