

Mary Ann Hood McCann

Hello.

I admit that I did not read the entire plan. (97 pages is a lot.) But I did scan it.

I'm glad that this is some thing that is being studied and planned for.

We recycle everything we can. I admit that I was a wish-cycler for a while, and I regret that, but we also didn't always have the best information of what could be recycled and what could not.

Especially when it comes to things like plastic dinner trays. (We didn't know that the recycling centers couldn't read black plastic with the cameras. We threw so many black plastic food containers in the recycling...for years! We feel terrible, and we tell everyone we know!)

I want to understand why recycling isn't required. We have plenty of neighbors who throw bags that have glass in them in the garbage. We can hear them. I don't think there's any enforcement of any sort of regulations regarding recycling. I think that is a mistake and I think it allows people to be irresponsible and lazy. We have a Lakeville community police officer who drives around the neighborhoods in the middle of the night issuing reminders and fines to people who are watering on the wrong nights. If sprinkling ordinances are being enforced, I don't understand why other, more critical, things can't be enforced as well.

We have been composting for three years. We are very committed to it. We even have a small compost bucket in our bathroom to hold used tissues and empty toilet paper rolls.

I think the county needs to do a lot more education and outreach to help people understand how simple it is. I think a lot of people hear the word compost, and they picture some large container that sits outside their home. Obviously, that's one way of doing it, but there are much simpler ways for people that are just getting started. I don't think people realize you can have a small bucket on your kitchen counter to throw your food waste in. I explain to people how we do it and that we use a Home Depot 5 gallon bucket (with a tight cover) to hold the small bags in.

People have interest, but don't understand how simple it can be. I would love to see the county publicize it more and maybe even offer a way for citizens to purchase what they need to get started. Perhaps a small food container and the necessary compostable bags. I think it would really help people get started.

Thanks very much for your time.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me.