

Food Composting Does Not Make Cents

While saving the earth is a great idea, food composting by Scarsdale does not make Cents. The cost is outrageous. \$45,000.00 for a limited trial is extremely expensive and multiplied by ten times for a full program is out of sight. That amount is \$450,000.00. We are under a budget cap of .12% this year. The money that people are asking to be spent on food composting can be used to pave a mile of roads in the village. Try walking on our streets and you will see that they need repaving more than recycling a few scraps of food. We compost food in our bin in our back yard. If people want to compost food they can bloody well buy their own compost bin like we have done and compost food themselves.

The reason for the high expense is that there is no facility in Westchester that takes and recycles food scraps. That means that we have to have it picked up and carted to someplace in the middle of Connecticut. It does not make economic sense. Let another town take the lead and let us wait for the cost to be reduced when there is a recycling plant in Westchester that will take the food at a reasonable cost.

I and many senior citizens are on a fixed budget. This is a cost we do not want or need to add. We are the highest taxed county in the country. Governor Cuomo is correct in requiring our municipalities to watch our budgets. The library needs expanding. The schools need to be fixed. All this costs money and many of our senior citizens are being taxed out of town.

Perhaps Mr. Stern is much richer than I am and thinks money grows on trees. My son gave me a mug stating that when he was much younger. He now knows that is not true. Perhaps Mr. Stern should be given a mug that states money does not grow on trees. He is a trustee and is supposed to look after the wellbeing of the finances of our town by keeping expenses and taxes down. We are the most taxed county in the U.S. His job is to look after the expenses of our town and keep them in check. I applaud Mayor Mark for doing that and knowing that we cannot keep spending on frivolous items. Mr. Finger should also take a lesson from our mayor. It would be cheaper for the town to buy every household a recycling bin than to put this program in place. My question to both those trustees is the following: Do you have a recycling bin in your back yards? If so use them and if not buy one yourselves and start using them.

If people want to recycle food, let them buy a bin and recycle. The town does not need to do this for us. Keeping up our roads is more important than recycling a few food scraps. People say there is no additional cost to rehabbing our schools. I support keeping our schools properly repaired. However, these same people forget to add that no new bonding would reduce our taxes. That is the flip side to new bonding. Let's keep things in perspective. If people want to recycle, let them buy a compost bin and place it in their back yards as we have done. The town does not need to do it for us at an exorbitant price. I am drawing a line in the sand and saying enough is enough. There has to be a limit as to what we pay in taxes and this is it. Food composting does not make dollars and cents.

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