

MANSFIELD MIDDLE SCHOOL COMPOSTING



BEGAN IN THE YEAR 2000

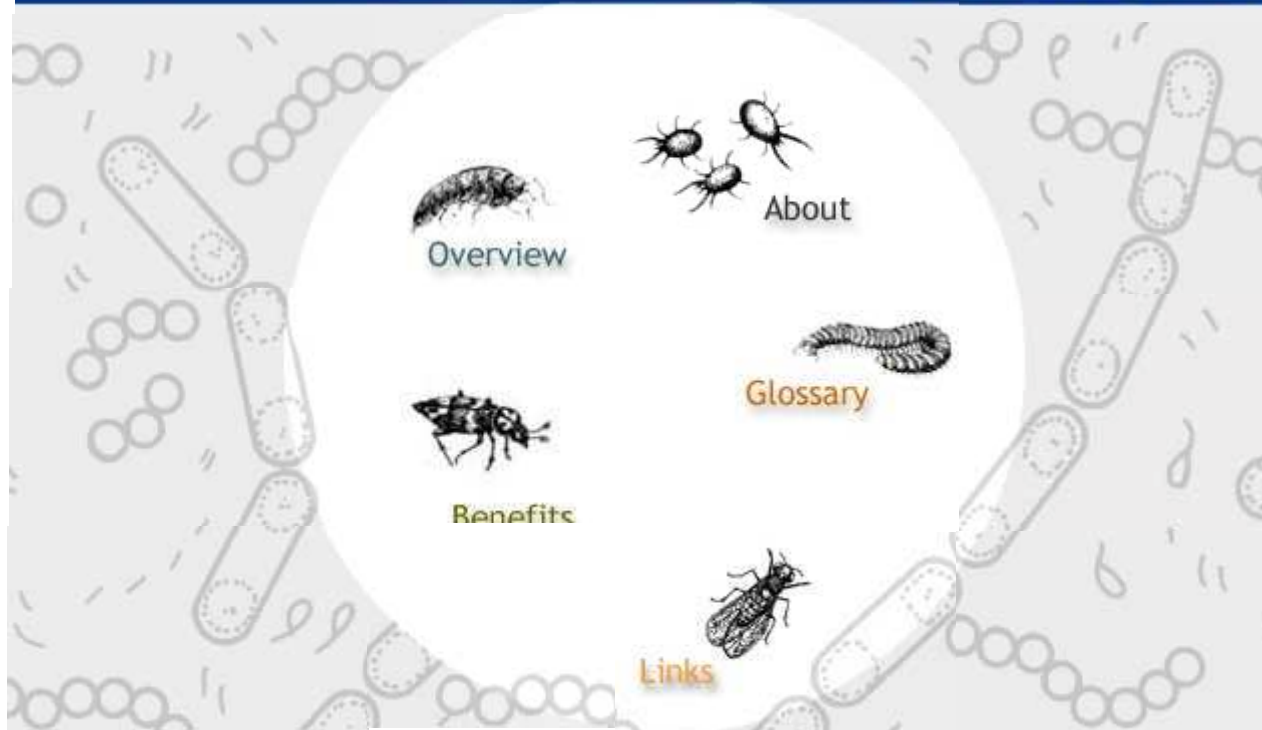


ADDED BIN COMPARTMENTS



Learn how Mansfield Middle School has created a unique on-site, school-wide food waste composting program

Mansfield Middle School where Compost Happens



[Overview](#) | [About](#) | [Benefits](#) | [Glossary](#) | [Links](#)
[Setup](#) | [Inside](#) | [Microbes](#) | [Activities](#)

updated 11/27/2001
SpringHillStudio.com

MMS COMPOST CLUB



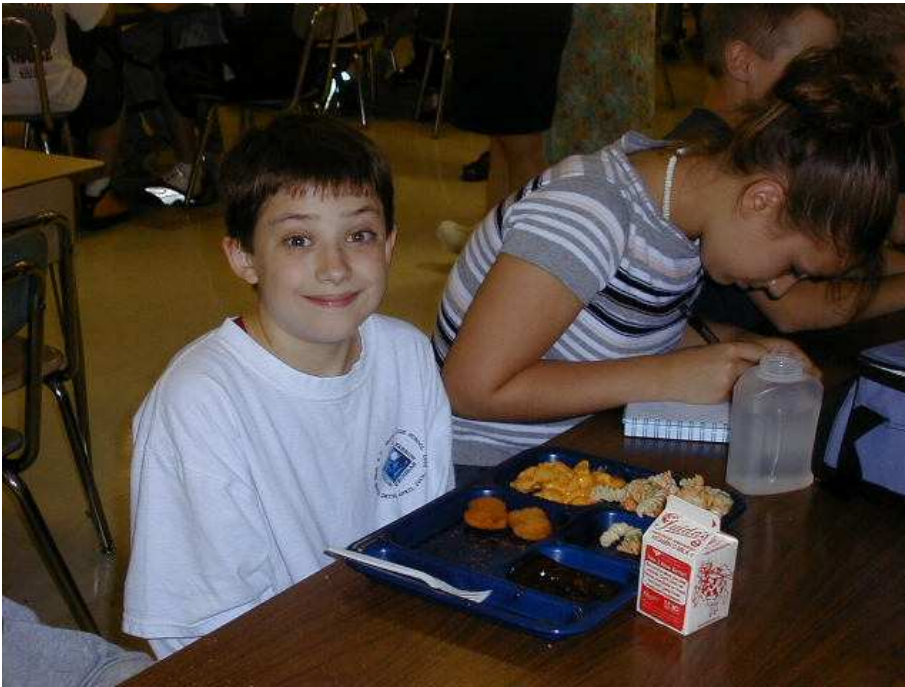


What's Happening with School Composting?

A Virtual Tour of the Mansfield Middle School
Composting Program

A LOVE-HATE RELATIONSHIP

We love to eat food



We hate to handle the scraps



Getting the Job Done

Composting
Instructions
for Student
Workers

Mansfield Middle School
where

**Compost
Happens**



THE SORT LINE





THE FOOD BARREL



PEERING INTO THE BARREL



FOOD SCRAPS TO THE PILE



EMPTY FOOD SCRAPS IN BIN



COVER FOOD SCRAPS



CLOSE UP COMPOST BIN



BINS - THEN



BINS - NOW



- SCHOOL RENOVATION
- COMPACT AREA
- EASIER ACCESS IN WINTER

TURNING THE PILE - THEN



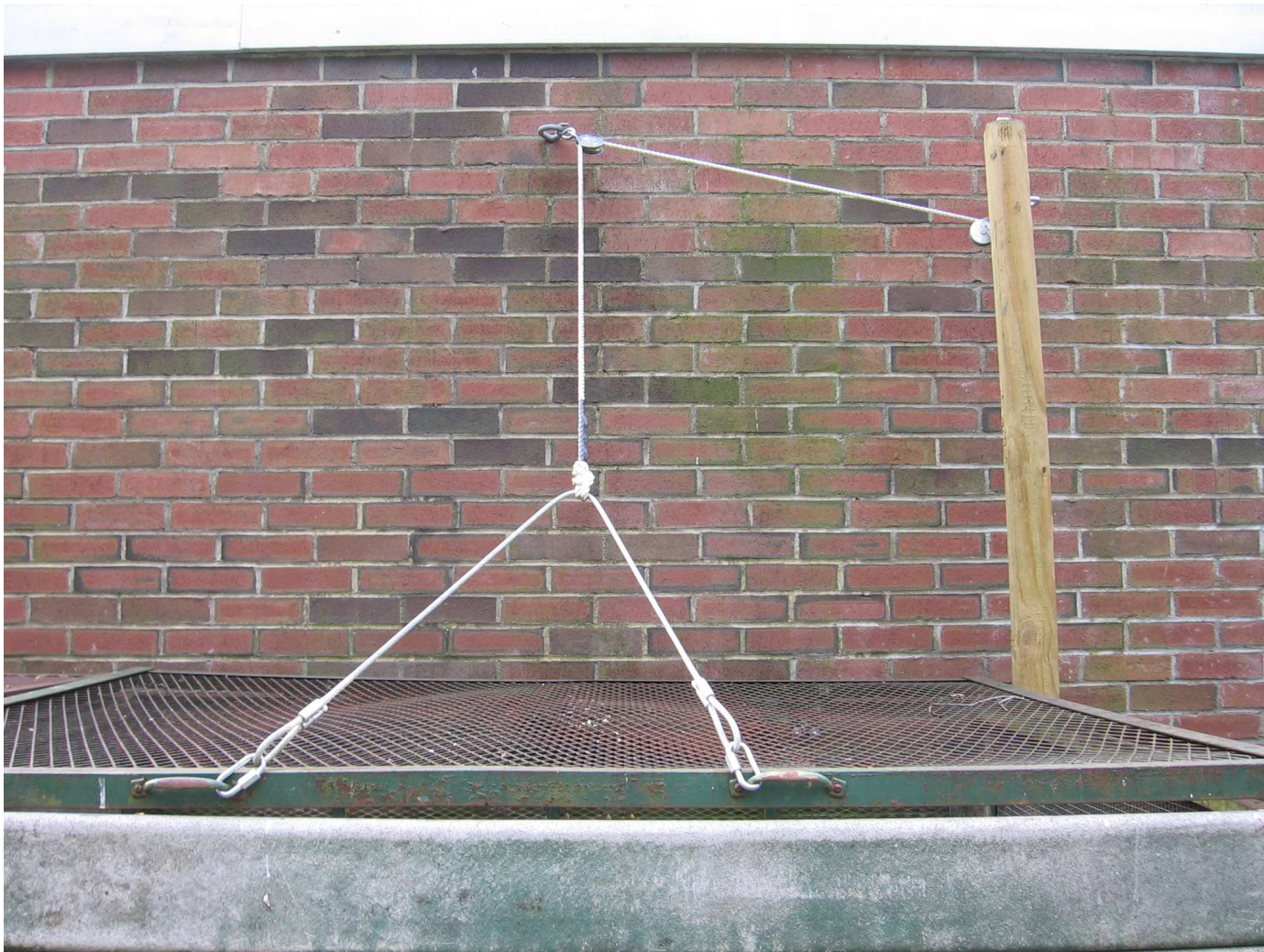
TURNING THE PILE - NOW



LIFTING LIDS - THEN



LIFTING LID - NOW



LIFTING LID - NOW



COUNTERWEIGHTS



OTHER DESIGN FEATURES

- Reinforcing steel in back panel



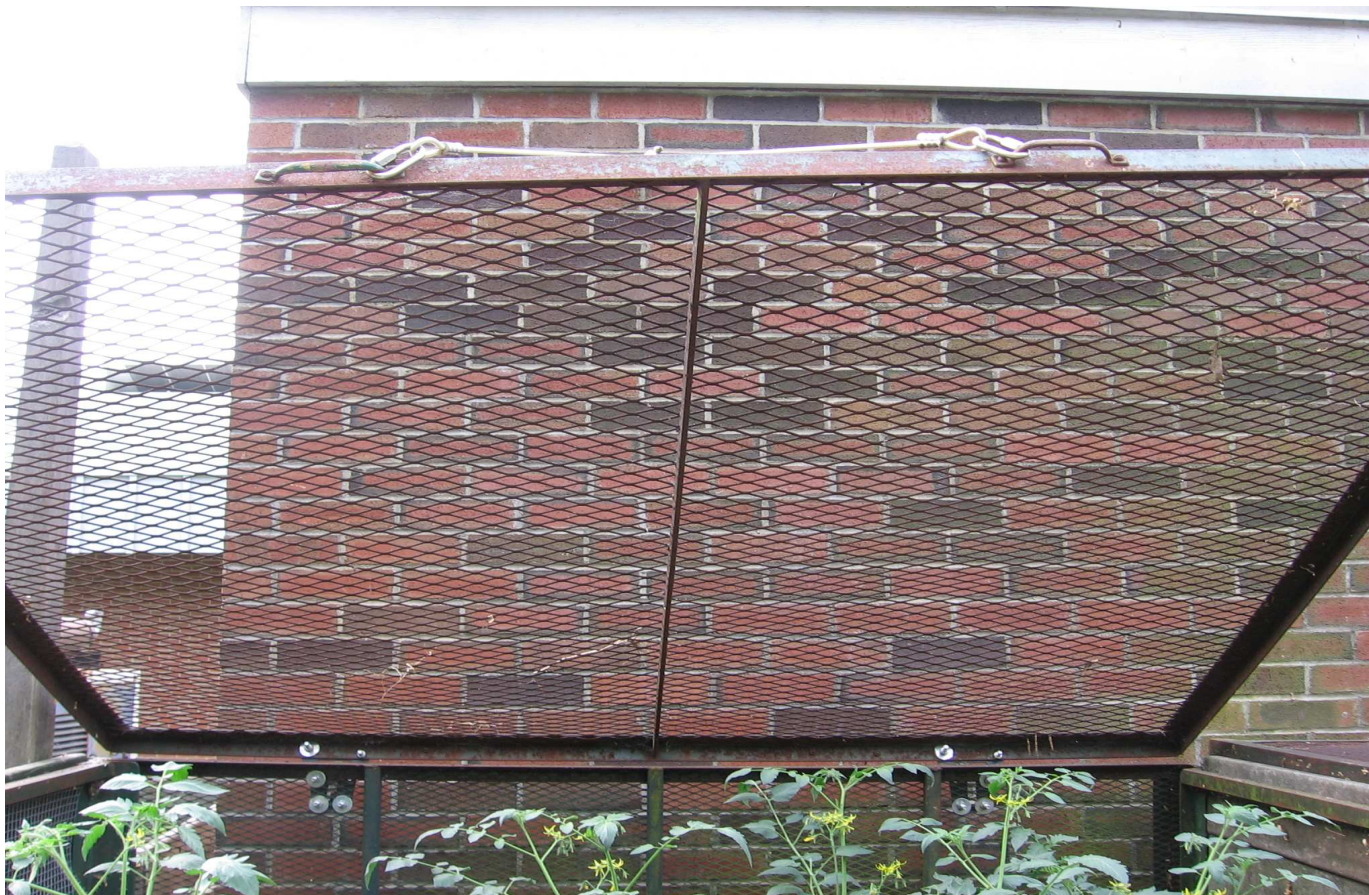
OTHER DESIGN FEATURES

- Plastic lumber



OTHER DESIGN FEATURES

- Metal mesh lid



OTHER DESIGN FEATURES

- Plywood bottom



SCREENING COMPOST



SCREENED OUT PLASTICS



MULCH IN THE GARDEN



MMS PLANT SALE



THE VOLUNTEERS





THE RESULTS

- 43.27 tons composted
- \$3,030 in avoided tipping fees
- 40-45% recycling (includes compost fraction)
- 2,200 students participated
- Approximately 22 cubic yards of finished compost



WHAT WORKS WELL

- Teacher compost duty
- Town staff support
- Counterweighted lids
- Bins sized to fit tractor
- Special education class participation



WHAT HAS NOT WORKED

- Daily student involvement
- Composting club
- Curriculum tie-in



FOR MORE INFORMATION

<http://www.mansfieldct.org/schools/mms/compost/manual.pdf>

<http://www.mansfieldct.org/schools/mms/compost/index.htm>

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