

City partners with restaurants, residents for International Compost Awareness Week, May 6-12

Sarasota, FL: In celebration of International Compost Awareness Week on May 6-12, the City of Sarasota is partnering with residents and businesses to help reduce our collective impact on the landfill and our environment.

The City's Sustainability team and staff from local nonprofit Sunshine Community Compost are working with three local restaurants – Libby's Café and Bar, Louies Modern and Muse at The Ringling – by supplying five-gallon buckets and training kitchen staff on how to collect pre-consumer food scraps. At the end of the week, the buckets will be transported to One Stop Landscape and Supply, where they can be composted into rich soil.

“This is an exciting public-private partnership and a great way to demonstrate the value of composting,” said Stevie Freeman-Montes, Sustainability Manager. “We also think it may be eye-opening just how much solid waste gets diverted from the landfill, and we hope it will serve as a test run for potentially expanding these composting efforts to other restaurants throughout Sarasota.”

For the TableSeide Restaurant Group, owners of the three participating restaurants, getting involved in the initiative with the City was an easy decision.

"It is important as a local business owner that our mission is to be environmentally responsible in all aspects of our restaurants," said Lisa Seidensticker, TableSeide's vice president of marketing, sales, and business development. "We are excited to participate and learn throughout this week and encourage other restaurants to explore this possibility."

The City has also teamed up with Sunshine Community Compost during its Compost-A-Thon, in which 100 residents have signed up to learn about composting and agreed to compost their kitchen scraps all week long and drop them off at designated community compost sites.

A weigh-in celebration and lunch party is scheduled for noon to 2 p.m. Saturday, May 12, at the Robert L. Taylor Community Complex, 1845 34th St.

For more information please contact [Stevie Freeman-Montes](#), Sustainability Manager: 941-365-2200 ext. 4202.

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About the City of Sarasota: Distinguished by Google as a Digital Capital in the U.S., the City of Sarasota is a diverse community located on Florida's Suncoast with 53,000 year-round residents, several internationally recognized cultural arts venues, stunning sunsets along Lido Beach, a 45-hole municipal golf course at the historic Bobby Jones Golf Club, and Major League spring training baseball with the Baltimore Orioles. Learn more about us at [SarasotaFL.Gov](#)

Jason Bartolone

City of Sarasota
Communications Specialist
941-365-2200, ext. 4412 (O) | 941-928-3988 (C)

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