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# Pre-Proposal Conference

## Durable Compostable Bag Manufacturer RFP

March 2, 2021

Proposal Due Date: March 23, 2021



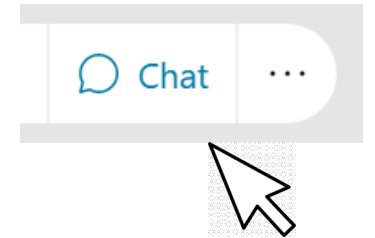
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# Welcome

- **Please keep your mic muted at all times**
- Questions?
  - **Ask today**: Use the “Chat” feature in WebEx (lower right corner of your screen) to type in your question
    - *Note: Oral statements (including during this pre-proposal conference) shall not be relied upon to be terms of the RFP documents. All modifications to RFP documents shall be in writing.*
  - **Ask after the meeting**: email [sholl@recyclingandenergy.org](mailto:sholl@recyclingandenergy.org)



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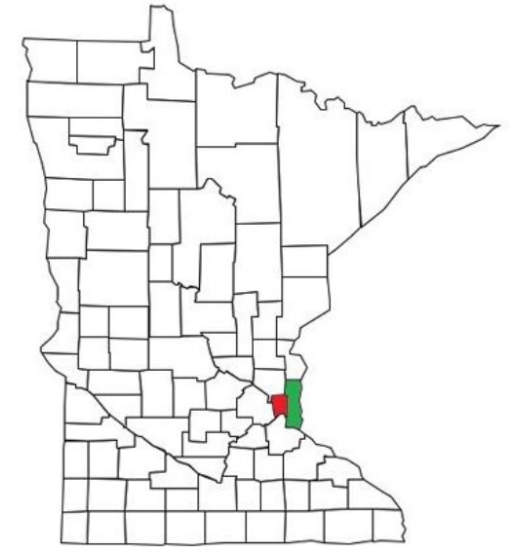
# Presentation Outline

- Overview of Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy
- Overview of durable compostable bag (DCB) program/use
- DCB specifications
- RFP process and information
- Q&A after presentation



# Ramsey & Washington Counties, MN

- Two counties in the eastern part of the seven-county Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area
- Population of around 813,000
  - 14% of the population of Minnesota
- Consists of urban, suburban and rural areas
- In Minnesota, counties are the unit of government responsible for the management of solid waste



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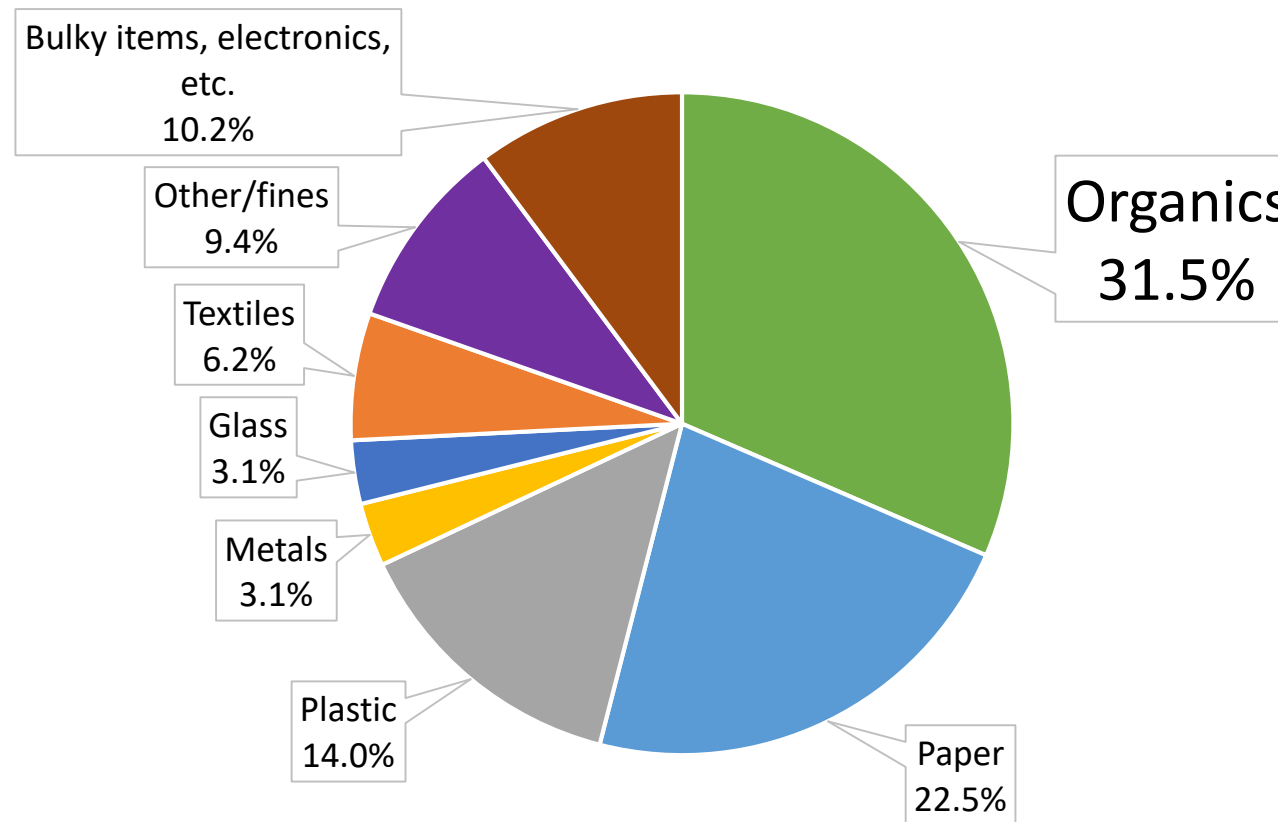
# Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy Board

- Joint Powers Board
  - 9 County Commissioners
    - 5 Ramsey County
    - 4 Washington County
  - 2 Ex-Officio members
    - City of Newport
    - Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)
- Own and operate a waste-processing facility in Newport, MN, the Ramsey/ Washington Recycling & Energy Center (R&E Center)



# Opportunity to Recover Organics

**MSW Composition by weight (2018)**



# Organics Collection System

***Goal: implement a system of source-separated organics collection for residents and businesses in the two counties***

- Follows comprehensive analysis of system options
  - “Green cart” collection vs bagged co-collection with MSW
- Multiple dimensions:
  - Environmental impact/GHG reduction
  - Equitable access to organics collection
  - Effectiveness, efficiency, flexibility
  - Embrace new technology



# Source-Separated Organics in DCBs

- Starting in 2022, R&E will launch a new opt-in source-separated organics collection program
- R&E Center will construct addition and install specialized DCB recovery equipment
  - Ground-breaking expected spring 2021
  - Construction completed approx. early 2022
- Participating households will receive durable compostable bags (DCBs) to collect organics (food scraps) and place in garbage container
- DCBs recovered at R&E Center/transfer stations





# The Life Cycle of a Durable Compostable Bag

- DCBs are filled with organic waste materials
- DCBs filled with organics are placed into a trash cart with mixed MSW and collected in a trash packer truck
- DCBs and MSW from the trash packer truck are tipped onto a transfer station tipping floor;
- DCBs and MSW are loaded into a transfer trailer; and
- DCBs and MSW are transported from the transfer station in a trailer load to R&E Center and tipped onto R&E Center tipping floor.
- DCBs are manually or mechanically sorted from MSW



# 3.0 Performance Specifications

## Test Results Required to be Provided:

- [ASTM D638-14](#): Standard Test Method for **Tensile Properties** of Plastics.
- [ASTM D1922-09](#): Standard Test Method for Propagation **Tear Resistance** of Plastic Film and Thin Sheeting by Pendulum Method.
- [ASTM D1709](#): Standard Test Methods for **Impact Resistance** of Plastic Film by the Free-Falling Dart Method.
- [ASTM F1140](#): Standard Test Methods for Internal Pressurization Failure Resistance of Unrestrained Packages **Burst Strength**.
- **Dry Load Capacity & Wet Load Capacity**



# 4.0 Design Specifications

## Bag Requirements:

- Eligible DCBs must be certified by BPI and pass [ASTM 6400](#): Standard Test for Labeling of Plastics Designed to be Aerobically Composted in Municipal or Industrial Facilities.
- PFAS-free
- The minimum gauge thickness shall be tested via [ASTM D6988](#): Standard Guide for Determination of Thickness of Plastic Film Test Specimens (Must be minimum 1.4 mil.)



# 4.0 Design Specifications

## Bag Requirements:

- Two nominal sizes - Provide alternate bag sizes but should be close in size
  - 6 gallon
  - 13 gallon
- Bag Labeling – Provide label design minimum requirements & allowable colors
  - R&E to provide final labeling customization
- Bag Color – Green family
- Opacity
  - Bag shall be opaque such that the contents cannot be clearly seen through the plastic. DCBs are sorted by manual and mechanical sorters from the MSW
- Tying methodology



# 4.8 Bag Quantities (Distribution)

## DCB Quantity Estimates, Assuming a 5-Year Growth Period to 40% Participation\*

Rolls of 30 Required

Year		Residential Participation Rate	No. Participating Households	No. Bags/ Year**
0	2022	2%	6,374	382,440
1	2023	5%	15,935	956,100
2	2024	10%	31,870	1,912,200
3	2025	20%	63,740	3,824,400
4	2026	30%	95,610	5,736,600
5	2027	37%	117,919	7,075,140
6-10	2028	40%	127,480	7,648,800

\* Assuming 5-year growth period to 40% participation.

\*\* Assumes 60 bags per year are provided to each residential household.

\*\*\* 2022 year-end roll-out and partial year of service.



# 4.8 Bag Quantities (Distribution)

## 2019 Quantities of Compostable Bags Ordered for Food Scraps Drop-off Locations

2.5 Gallon Bags (720/Box)		13 Gallon Bags (288/Box)		2.5 Gallon Bags (325/Roll)	
2.5 Gallon Boxes	Total Number of 2.5 Gallon Bags	13 Gallon Boxes	Total Number of 13 Gallon Bags	2.5 Gallon Rolls*	Total Number of 2.5 Gallon Bags
187	134,640	291	19,872	96	124,800

\* Ramsey and Washington Counties switched from boxes to rolls in late 2019. Current 2020, 195 rolls have been utilized.



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## Other Reminders:

- Specify tying methodology
  - Specify any items not acceptable
  - Provide storage requirements for 18-month shelf life
  - Delivery to Minnesota (include in pricing)
  - Provide 100 samples of each bag
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- R&E may verify ASTM lab testing
  - Bags may be performance tested



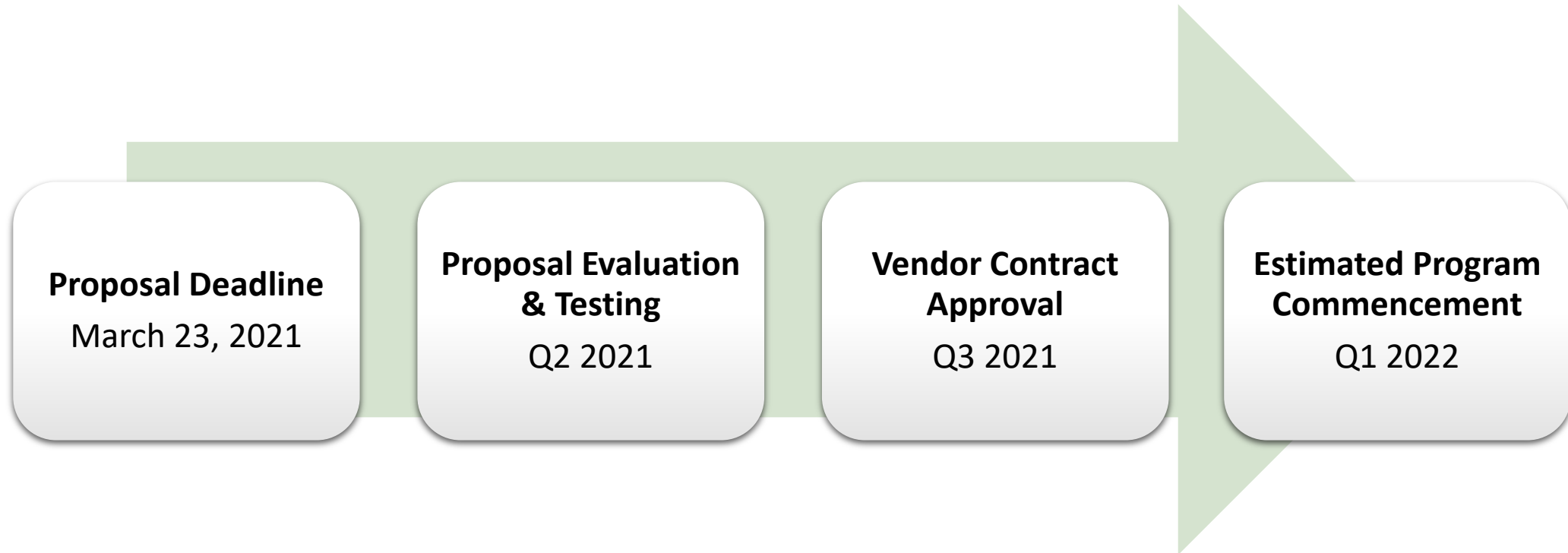
# RFP Evaluation

- All required items must be included in the response. (See 2.2 Instructions to Proposers – Table 4 – Proposal Checklist)
- Proposers will be ranked based on responses.
- Selected proposers will be chosen for performance evaluation.
- DCBs will be evaluated for on-the-street performance to ensure DCBs are able to maintain integrity through the "Life Cycle" as described previously. (Testing methodology to be provided in Addendum.)





# Overall Timeline



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# RFP Process Point of Contact & Addenda

Section 1.9 of RFP – Table 02 – Point of Contact

All inquiries shall be submitted to Sam Holl at  
[sholl@recyclingandenergy.org](mailto:sholl@recyclingandenergy.org)

All addenda will be published on the R&E website at  
[www.recyclingandenergy.org/vendors](http://www.recyclingandenergy.org/vendors)



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# Proposal Checklist

## Section 2.2 of RFP – Table 04 – Proposal Checklist

- Signed cover letter
- Solicitation response form (Attachment A; Section 2.4)
- Completed questionnaire (Attachment D; Section 2.5)
- Completed price worksheet (Attachment E; Section 2.6)
- 100 samples of each size bag (Section 2.7)
- Exceptions to terms & conditions (Section 2.8)
- Application for designation of trade secret info. (Section 2.9)



# Next Steps

- Notify Sam Holl via email ([sholl@recyclingandenergy.org](mailto:sholl@recyclingandenergy.org)) if you wish to be added to the email distribution list
- Next Steps
  - Questions may be emailed to [sholl@recyclingandenergy.org](mailto:sholl@recyclingandenergy.org)
  - All clarifications and RFP revisions will be documented in an addendum and published to R&E's website [www.recyclingandenergy.org/vendors](http://www.recyclingandenergy.org/vendors)
    - Questions received after March 14 may not be answered

**Proposals due Tuesday, March 23, 2021, no later than 2:00 pm CT**

Proposal mailing address – Section 2.2 of RFP – Table 03



# Question & Answer



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