



Alachua County

Solid Waste and Resource Recovery

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To members of ASHE,

Alachua County Solid Waste and Resource Recovery is proud to support the work of the University of Florida in maximizing waste reduction, recycling and diversion. The University continues to foster innovation and sets the bar for our communities and education organizations.

As a professional in the Solid Waste and Resource Recovery industry with over 25 years of experience, I would like to commend the University for their Outstanding and Innovative efforts in the area of composting. One of the many challenges faced by our industry for diverting organic materials through composting is having the best stream of materials to feed those composting systems.

An area of challenge has been the ability to compost used paper towels. By volume, a large contributor to the waste stream for dorms and other institution buildings, this is an area of great importance in waste reduction. Contamination and being able to procure products that meet the specifications for successful composting are a challenge as well as educating participants, especially in a diverse population like the University of Florida.

The University embraced this challenge and through solid education and outreach, procurement of the right materials, the University stands as one of the few institutions in the nation with a successful paper towel composting program. Their ability to partner with both internal agencies at the University and external partners in the community, along with the participation of the students and faculties, once again demonstrates the strong leadership, innovation and commitment by the University of Florida to achieve success. We in Alachua County Florida are proud to have the University leading the way in sustainability.

With kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sally Palmi".

Sally Palmi
Solid Waste and Resource Recovery Director
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Gainesville, Florida

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www.AlachuaCounty.us/Depts/PWWaste/Pages/WasteManagement.aspx