



**NOTICE OF GRANT AND AGREEMENT AWARD**

1. Award Identifying Number NR233A750005C007	2. Amendment Number	3. Award /Project Period 02/08/2023 - 02/08/2025	4. Type of award instrument: Cooperative Agreement
5. Agency (Name and Address) USDA NRCS, Urban Agriculture and Innovation Production c/o FPAC-BC Grants and Agreements Division 1400 Independence Ave SW, Room 3236 Washington, DC 20250 Direct all correspondence to FPAC.BC.GAD@usda.gov		6. Recipient Organization (Name and Address) HERNANDO, COUNTY OF 15470 FLIGHT PATH DR BROOKSVILLE FL 34604-6823  UEI Number / DUNS Number: MWKBKNTZ9SW7 / 073212920 EIN:	
7. NRCS Program Contact  Name: SHARONTE WILLIAMS Phone: (202) 981-1653 Email: Sharonte.williams@usda.gov	8. NRCS Administrative Contact  Name: DALON HARDGRAVES Phone: (913) 253-6040 Email: Dalon.Hardgraves@usda.gov	9. Recipient Program Contact  Name: Carmen Bruno Phone: (352)-540-3862 Email: cbruno@co.hernando.fl.us	10. Recipient Administrative Contact  Name: Brooks Ahrens Phone: (352)-754-4792 Email: brooksa@co.hernando.fl.us
11. CFDA 10.935	12. Authority 7 U.S.C 6923 7 USC 6923, CFWR ARPA	13. Type of Action New Agreement	14. Program Director  Name: Scott Harper Phone: (352)-754-4791 Email: sharper@co.hernando.fl.us
15. Project Title/ Description: The primary goals of this project are to generate 10,000 cubic yards of finished compost annually, increase access to compost, and increase amount of water and nutrient holding capacity in the soils.			
16. Entity Type:			
17. Select Funding Type			
Select funding type:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Federal	
Original funds total	\$299,965.00	\$0.00	
Additional funds total	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Grand total	\$299,965.00	\$0.00	
18. Approved Budget			

Personnel	\$0.00	Fringe Benefits	\$0.00
Travel	\$0.00	Equipment	\$0.00
Supplies	\$0.00	Contractual	\$0.00
Construction	\$0.00	Other	\$299,965.00
Total Direct Cost	\$299,965.00	Total Indirect Cost	\$0.00
		Total Non-Federal Funds	\$0.00
		Total Federal Funds Awarded	\$299,965.00
		Total Approved Budget	\$299,965.00

This agreement is subject to applicable USDA NRCS statutory provisions and Financial Assistance Regulations. In accepting this award or amendment and any payments made pursuant thereto, the undersigned represents that he or she is duly authorized to act on behalf of the awardee organization, agrees that the award is subject to the applicable provisions of this agreement (and all attachments), and agrees that acceptance of any payments constitutes an agreement by the payee that the amounts, if any, found by NRCS to have been overpaid, will be refunded or credited in full to NRCS.

Name and Title of Authorized Government Representative	Signature	Date
Name and Title of Authorized Recipient Representative	Signature	Date

#### NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

#### PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT

The above statements are made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. Section 522a).



## Statement of Work

### Purpose

The purpose of this agreement, between the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and County of Hernando (Recipient), is a Composting and Food Waste Reduction Pilot Project entitled Hernando County's Think Outside the Can: Consider Compost Pilot Project. The details of the project are as follows:

1) Hernando County, Florida is a geographically diverse county located on the central-west coast of Florida. The county is comprised of mostly unincorporated areas and has one municipality. Western Portions of Hernando County are located on the Gulf of Mexico; the more urbanized central part of the county is home to most county residents and Eastern portions, where most agricultural businesses are located, are more rural in nature. Hernando County is a growing, rural county and approximately 23% of land in the County is agriculturally classified as Greenbelt.

2) Hernando County landfills nearly 20% more waste than the state overall. Based on the waste composition study conducted in 2016, organic waste landfilled in the Class I landfill comprised 24.5% of the total waste stream. Put differently, Hernando County landfill manages 34,366 tons of waste per year that could be converted to compost. Hernando County's Think Outside the Can: Consider Compost Pilot Project proposes the composting of 4,500 tons of currently landfilled waste per year. Hernando County recognizes organic waste as a valuable resource. Recycling organic waste will reduce the amount of landfilled waste thus saving landfill airspace and giving value to waste by developing products and markets for green waste. As a result of the 2016 study, Hernando County has elected to first implement composting as the recycling option to divert green waste from the landfill.

3) The overarching goal is to reduce waste and create compost.

4) Compost produced by the Recipient's project will aid the local soil's ability to retain moisture and increase its nutrient levels; thereby, reducing the need for the application of harmful fertilizers providing economic benefit to producers and environmental benefit to the community.

### Objectives

Objective 1: Divert 4,500 tons of waste annually from the landfill and receive FDEP approval of compost product.

Objective 2: Provide at least one educational event per month to agricultural producers and interested compost users and provide 85% of compost created to end users by end of grant program.

Objective 3: Perform soil tests measuring water and nutrient levels in soil (pre/post application).

The primary goals of this project are to generate 10,000 cubic yards of finished compost annually, increase access to compost, and increase amount of water and nutrient holding capacity in the soils.

Collaborator Roles:

The Recipient's Think Outside the Can: Consider Compost Pilot Project will require regional collaboration across several sectors. In order to achieve the Goals and Deliverables of the project, the Recipient will collaborate with the University of Florida's Office of Extension, Local Agricultural Producers, Hernando County Parks & Recreation, Hillsborough County Waste Management Services, Hernando County Utilities, and more. Importantly, these collaborations build on existing relationships and open the door for new and deepened collaborative relationships.

Presently, the Recipient offers residents interested in backyard composting classes in person and/or online typically once per month. The classes explain the compost process and the benefits of a home compost pile. The class details acceptable materials for cold composting available in all households. The classes are done in partnership with UF/IFAS and HCUD Water Conservation. Once the resident finishes the class, they receive a free compost bin and a one-page composting information and data tracking sheet. To date over 500 composters have been distributed in Hernando County. With the new pilot project, the education partners will be able to develop new curriculum targeting agricultural producers and will be able to expand compost education directly addressing the composting needs of this important group.

UF/IFAS is an important partner for the education goal and objectives of the project. They also offer soil testing that would enable the project to measure if the compost produced improves soil quality. By working with another partner, Hernando County Parks and Recreation, the project will have access to sites across the geographically diverse county to determine and communicate the benefits of the locally produced compost to potential end users.

As the Recipient works towards producing a compost that delivers on the promise of improved soil quality, increased collaboration with Hillsborough County Solid Waste Management and other technical consultants will boost the Recipient's ability to generate useable compost quickly. These relationships will provide technical expertise that will reduce errors while the Recipient is beginning its work. Importantly, the Recipient has also received the support of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and local Agricultural Producers in the pursuit of the Recipient's Think Outside the Can: Consider Compost Pilot Project.

### **Budget Narrative**

The official budget described in this Budget Narrative will be considered the total budget as last approved by the Federal awarding agency for this award.

Amounts included in this budget narrative are estimates. Reimbursement or advance liquidations will be based on actual expenditures, not to exceed the amount obligated.

TOTAL BUDGET \$400,882.00

TOTAL FEDERAL FUNDS \$299,965.00

PERSONNEL \$0.00

Recipient does not anticipate incurring costs for this item.

FRINGE BENEFITS \$0.00

Recipient does not anticipate incurring costs for this item.

TRAVEL \$0.00

Recipient does not anticipate incurring costs for this item.

EQUIPMENT \$20,600.00

To complete goal 2, composting bagging is required. The equipment will be stored at the main landfill in a covered storage facility and maintenance will be performed by the Recipient's fleet department who will also inventory the equipment in the county's fleet inventory management system Assetworks.

Federal: Purchase of Rotochopper go-bagger 250 @ \$20,600.00 or 26% of total unit cost.

(Non-Federal Match: Purchase of Rotochopper go-bagger 250 @ \$60,067.000 or 74% of total unit cost.)

SUPPLIES \$1,990.00

To complete goal 1 and goal 2, composting materials and educational events are required. To complete goal 3 soil testing is required.

Composting Demonstration/Training Materials \$100/month x 19 months= \$1,900.00

Soil Tests 6 units @ \$15/unit=\$90.00

CONTRACTUAL \$277,375.00

To complete goal 1, screening equipment, Cribus 3800, is required. The equipment will be stored at the main landfill in a covered storage facility and maintenance will be performed by the Recipient's fleet department who will also inventory the equipment in the county's fleet inventory management system Assetworks. When the award period is over, the lease period will terminate.

Federal: Lease of Cribus 3800 at \$16,425/month. x 15 months = \$246,375.00

(Non-Federal Match: Lease of Cribus 3800 at \$16,425/month. x 2 months = \$32,850.00)

To complete goal 1 and goal 3, technical assistance from a subject matter expert is required.

Federal: Consultant at \$24,000/year (\$2,000/month. x 14 months) to provide all-inclusive technical assistance on producing compost=\$28,000

(Non-Federal Match: Consultant at \$24,000/year (\$2,000/month. x 3 months) to provide all-inclusive technical assistance on producing compost=\$6,000.00)

To complete objectives 2.a, educational content created by a subject matter expert is required.

Federal: Consultant at \$1500/module x 2 modules to create two educational content modules informing agricultural producers how to compost (module 1) and the benefits of composting (module 2) = \$3,000.00

CONSTRUCTION \$0.00

Recipient does not anticipate incurring costs for this item.

OTHER \$0.00

Recipient does not anticipate incurring costs for this item.

TOTAL DIRECT COSTS \$299,965.00

INDIRECT COSTS \$0.00

Recipient has elected to voluntarily waive indirect costs.

TOTAL NON-FEDERAL FUNDS \$100,917.00

PERSONNEL \$2,000.00

Residential/Commercial Horticulture Agent III for the University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences will present 40 hours of educational content at \$25/hr x 40 hrs/yr= \$2,000.

FRINGE BENEFITS \$0.00

Recipient does not anticipate incurring costs for this item.

TRAVEL \$0.00

Recipient does not anticipate incurring costs for this item.

EQUIPMENT \$60,067.00

Non-Federal Match: Purchase of Rotochopper go-bagger 250 @ \$60,06.007 or 74% of total unit cost

SUPPLIES \$0.00

CONTRACTUAL \$38,850.00

Non-Federal Match: Lease of Cribus 3800 at \$16,425/month. x 2 months = \$32,850.00

Non-Federal Match: Consultant at \$24,000/year (\$2,000/month. x 3 months) to provide all-inclusive technical assistance on producing compost=\$6,000.00

CONSTRUCTION \$0.00

Recipient does not anticipate incurring costs for this item.

OTHER \$0.00

Recipient does not anticipate incurring costs for this item.

TOTAL DIRECT COSTS \$100,917.00

INDIRECT COSTS \$0.00

Recipient has elected to voluntarily waive indirect costs.

When equipment is purchased with Federal funds it must be used until no longer needed as described in the General Terms and Conditions and 2 CFR 200. If the residual value of the equipment is \$5,000 or more at the time it is no longer needed, the recipient must request disposition instructions. The disposition instructions may direct the recipient to: 1) sell the equipment and return a proportionate share of the proceeds to the Federal agency; 2) transfer title to another eligible entity identified by the Federal agency; or 3) keep the equipment if desired and compensate the Federal agency

for its proportionate share of the value.

## Responsibilities of the Parties:

### NRCS RESPONSIBILITIES

- 1) Connect the CFWR pilot project team(s) with other USDA agencies such as, and not limited to, the Economic Research Service (ERS), National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), the Office of the Chief Economist (OCE), and Federal partners like the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to collaborate on project activities and outcomes that contribute to the U.S. Food Loss and Waste 2030 goal.
- 2) Coordinate and convene the CFWR pilot project team(s) and other Federal government, regional, institution, state, and local experts to share information and strategies related to CFWR with the goal of enhancing the locally driven process to better address nationally and regionally important composting and food waste reduction goals that transcend localities.
- 3) Gather the methods, results, and benefits derived from the project to evaluate and disseminate different solutions for increasing access to compost and reducing municipal food waste across the United States.
- 4) Provide advisory and administrative support during the project and maintain constant communication with partner, review progress and financial report and provide feedback to ensure the product follows USDA standards.
- 5) Provide guidance and procedures related to NRCS Conservation and Business Programs.
- 6) Review and editing rights on all material produced under this agreement to ensure it complies with USDA standards and regulations before publishing.
- 7) Participate in project committee meetings to aid and guidance for the purpose of the workshops, educational activities, and other activities identified in this agreement.
- 8) Conduct ad-hoc meetings (via electronic, phone or in-person field visit) to discuss the progress of the agreement.
- 9) OUAIP reserves the right to make site visits to review and evaluate Awardee records, activities, organizational procedures, and financial control systems; to conduct interviews; to request additional information; and to provide technical assistance as necessary

### RECIPIENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- 10) Follow methodology in the project narrative and inform the Program Manager any changes.
- 11) Collaborate with multiple partners, such as public or private, nonprofit or for-profit entities, academic institutions (including minority-serving colleges and universities), and/or other appropriate professionals, community-based organizations, and local government entities.
- 12) Perform the work and produce the deliverables as outlined in this Statement of Work.
- 13) Conduct all activities and program provision under this agreement in compliance with all applicable federal civil right laws, rules, regulations, and policies.
- 14) Ensure no member of or delegate to Congress or Resident Commissioner shall be admitted to any share or part of this agreement or to any benefit that may arise there from.
- 15) Nothing contained may be construed to require establishment of a system of records to render in good faith the assurances and certifications required. Your knowledge and information are not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.
- 16) Comply with the applicable version of the General Terms and Conditions.
- 17) Submit reports and payment requests to the ezFedGrants system or the Farm Production and Conservation (FPAC) Grants and Agreements Division via email to FPAC.BC.GAD@usda.gov as outlined in the applicable version of the General Terms and Conditions. Limit advance payment requests to immediate cash needs (generally 30-60 days). Reporting frequency is as follows:

Performance reports: Annual

SF425 Financial Reports: Annual. If advance payments are requested, the financial report frequency is quarterly.

## Expected Accomplishments and Deliverables

Milestone: Measurement of Soil Quality

Timeline: By November 2024

Indicator of Progress: Increase in soils Water Holding Capacity (WHC)

Data Collection/Dissemination Plan: Soil Tests measuring WHC/OM Disseminated to frontline staff and leadership for monitoring and quality improvement. Disseminated to Agricultural Producers for Education and Discussion.

Related Deliverable: Soil Quality Test Reports

**Resources Required**

See the Responsibilities of the Parties section for required resources, if applicable.

**Milestones**

See the Expected Accomplishments and Deliverables section for milestones.

## **GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

Please reference the below link(s) for the General Terms and Conditions pertaining to this award:  
<https://www.fpacbc.usda.gov/about/grants-and-agreements/award-terms-and-conditions/index.html>



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have made and executed this AGREEMENT.  
**ADOPTED** in Regular Session this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA**

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
DOUGLAS A. CHORVAT, JR.  
CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT & COMPTROLLER

\_\_\_\_\_  
JOHN ALLOCCO  
CHAIRMAN

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

Approved as to Form and  
Legal Sufficiency

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
County Attorney's Office

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE