

Bahama Village Community Garden



Project: Rescue ~200 daily pounds of compostable horse manure and turn it into free compost and a thriving community garden.

Project Lead: City of Key West

Key Partners:

- Areaka Jewell, Key West Police Department
- Kim Gabel, Master Gardeners, County Extension Service
- Jody Smith-Williams, GLEE Community Garden
- Anna Haskins, FK Council for People with Disabilities
- Patrick Garvey, Growing Hope Initiative
- Robin Robertson, Key West Botanical Garden, High School Garden Club.

Case Statement: The four horses owned by the Key West Police Department are a gold mine to the community. Not only do they help our officers keep the peace, but they also generate up to 200lbs of manure a day. Dumped into a trash dumpster, this manure costs the City money, but turned into compost, it is priceless to an island that has no soil.

The creation of three bin shed composter would provide an immediate relief to the ~1,400lbs of useful manure being trucked to Pompano weekly.

The addition of a community garden to the area would not only make great use of that compost, but also encourage self-reliance, beautify neighborhoods, produce nutritious food, reduce family food budgets, conserve resources and strengthen ties between our police and our community.

Phase 1

- Research, design, budget and build compost bays.
- Engage community groups to help use and distribute

Phase 2

- Move horses and compost bays to new Truman Annex site (as determined by new master plan)
- Design, budget and build Bahama Village Community Garden

Goals:

- Decrease operational costs to through savings in water, energy, solid waste and transportation.
- Diversify tourist base through investment in attracting green tourism.
- Increase quality of tourist through increasing ecotourism and ecoVoluntourism opportunities.
- Increase quality of life for Keys residents through improved environment.
- Show progress on City's community wide greenhouse gas reduction goals.

