



West Side School Recy-Cool Program 2005-06 Worm Casting Harvest

On Tuesday August 30th, the fifth and sixth grade class lent a hand to harvest compost from the school's five worm bins. Within two hours, the students were able to harvest 360 lbs of compost, and repackage another 155 lbs., for a grand total of 515 lbs of compost. Both groups showed fine teamwork and got a lot done !!!!

The work involved emptying the bins, sifting the compost to remove worms and larger materials, weighing the compost, then placing them in 5 lbs. Bags. The labels were hand drawn by the students.



As a result, the product can now be sold at the Healdsburg Farmer's Market, where we have an open invitation to sell our compost each Saturday. And Healdsburg Nursery now sells our compost as well. So far, we've made \$435 this calendar year. With that money, we've turned around and offered all West Side families a discount on a Lap-Top Lunch box at Knees and Toes in Healdsburg.

This project is more important than ever. Starting September 1st, all Sonoma County trash will be trucked out of the county. Our landfill closes on that day. This represents 1,300 tons of trash daily.



In contrast, West Side School placed 800lbs of food waste in worm bins during the 2004-05 school year, "trash" that would otherwise been sent to the landfill. We are doing our part to reduce landfill pressure, and create a resource for West Side School.

How can you help? Join us to staff a Saturday table at the Healdsburg Farmer's Market, help us find other businesses where we can sell our product, or buy some for your home and garden.



To signal your interest, talk to Ms. Aldrich or Ms. Brooks, or call Rick Kaye at 569-1448.



All proceeds from compost sales go to promotional items, and to cover material costs of the program.