

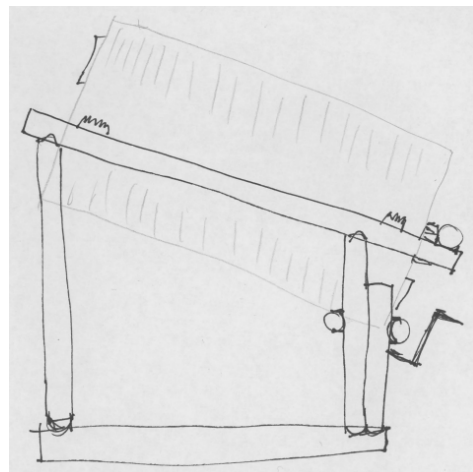
The 500 gallon community composter.

The following descriptions, illustrations and photos show the design and construction of a community composter.

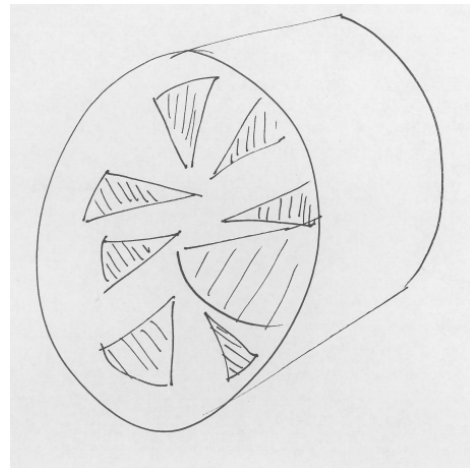
The photo to the right shows the community composter located at the Mount Loren Transformation Station. The composter is made from 4" steel pipe, a five hundred gallon oil tank, rollers salvaged from mine salvage, and a chain drive system. Most of the materials were recovered from waste materials.



The sketch to the right shows the general arrangement. The barrel is held at an angle of about 20 degrees. The barrel is rotated by a chain drive linked to two trammels that support the barrel. The upper end of the barrel is supported by an additional two trammels.



The end of the barrel was cut away, cleaned, a baffle set in place, and teeth about 12 inches long set around the inside of the barrel. A door was set in both ends of the barrel. The doors are hinged and overlap an internal ring.



The following four photos show dimensions for the pipe frame



The next series of photos shows the support system.



Compost is added to the barrel through the top door. The whole composter is rotated about once a week. The barrel is shown as full and will be locked closed to work for the first five weeks of warm weather. The second system should be in place in May.



When food scraps are added, an equivalent amount of sawdust is added to the compost. The blue box holds a supply of sawdust for this purpose.



For more specific information about the construction, materials, measurements, and sources contact Bob Sharp at bobsharp5@hotmail.com