



GREEN MOUNTAIN
TECHNOLOGIES
COMMERCIAL COMPOSTING SOLUTIONS



Salinas Valley Solid Waste Authority

Client Challenge

Salinas Valley, California is one of the largest agricultural regions in the United States, producing 80% of the nation's salad greens, 48% of broccoli, 30% of spinach, and 28% of strawberries.¹ With farmers required to overproduce crops to manage supply chains and pathogen scares, Salinas Valley Solid Waste Authority (SVSWA) estimated that 66,700 tons of food waste was brought to Johnson Canyon landfill in 2019 (one of three landfills in the area), resulting in 1/3 of waste derived from organic sources. In addition, California Senate Bill 1383 requires reduction of organic waste in landfills and SVSWA needed to find an affordable way to divert their organic waste from their landfill.





Project Goals and Objectives:

- To provide technical expertise to SVSWA and Vision Recycling in the design of an ASP composting system including layout, sizing, grading, stormwater management, and control systems.
- To produce a concept design and 3D model with appropriate sizing and calculations.
- Provide ASP equipment and construction management.
- Start-up support and SB1383 planning.



Solution

To divert organic waste from SVSWA's landfill, Green Mountain Technologies (GMT) designed and constructed an ASP composting system within SVSWA's \$2 million dollar budget. To reduce costs, GMT modified the design to complete the facility without a concrete aeration pad and installed the aeration system in native ground. The aeration system comprises four blowers and is computer controlled. It includes a below grade aeration pad and a pressure vault with cleanouts to maintain the aeration system. The system has high and low aeration zones, and compost is turned and watered every 14 days. The facility also contains an on-site Scott's T-3 Separator to separate package good products so that maximum diversion of packaged products is possible. This facility will last SVSWA 25+ years, compared to a neighboring landfill that costed 5 million dollars and will only last 5 years. This model can serve as a blueprint for other cities, counties, and states around the nation that have similar goals of transforming their waste systems to create a circular economy. GMT is also providing ongoing operations support and consulting for meeting the SB1383 requirements for California.





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ⁱ Souza, Christine. "Leaders in the World's Salad Bowl." *California Bountiful*, July 2009,

