



GOLDEN GATE PARK'S BIOSPEED INTEGRATION

A BETTER, MORE SUSTAINABLE SHIFT FROM VERMICOMPOST

In a recent interview with Juan Velez, the Facilities Manager at Golden Gate Park, we explored their journey from traditional vermicomposting to the BioSpeed system and how that transition impacted their operation. According to the Facilities Manager, a key element during the first stages of the transition was prioritizing food scraps as the compost evolved into a more mature end product. He recalled, after seeing the first few cycles' results, **"I kept asking them that we need food, food, food, food, and finally... they ended up listening to me."**

The decision to engage with a local deli owner to redirect organic waste to the Park's composting initiative marked a turning point in their operation. Taking the initiative to enrich the feedstock, Mr. Velez remembered, **"I took it upon myself to go talk to the owner of the store, and get him on board... then it only took a couple of days to move through all the chambers, but when we saw that soil in the morning, it was like, 'Bam! This is it!'"**

The BioSpeed system seamlessly transitioned the new and improved feedstock mix through its chambers, taking only a few days to complete the process of curating and integrating the new food scraps with the existing feedstock. Reflecting on the change in compost quality, Golden Gate Park's Facilities Manager noted, **"That's when we noticed in the morning that the soil was really coming [out] more solid and less powdery."**

This shift proved to be more than just a change in the final compost's composition and consistency. As the Facilities Manager remarked, **"It helped a lot because we saw the potential benefit that the plants were getting from the soil when we saw the growth [increase] within weeks. I mean, the plants loved it."**

The BioSpeed system was not only enhancing the compost's quality, but it also streamlined daily operations. Mr. Velez shared his insights regarding the change in the staff's activities, stating, **"The BioSpeed machine offered a more efficient and sanitary alternative, saving time and effort for the team... you just dump it in and place the bag at the end, bag 'em, stack it, move them out... whatever you might want to do with it."** He mentioned the potential value for the user if they decide to capitalize on the resulting product rather than keeping it, **"The [product] is great; you can donate it, you can sell it, you can even have it as a tax writeoff (laughs)."**

Beyond the immediate impact, the surplus compost became a valuable resource for neighboring parks and residents, contributing to the enhancement of green spaces across the community. The Facilities Manager summarized the broader positive impact, saying, **"At first, we were sending so many bags [of fertilizer] out of the park, giving them out for free, until we saw the quality because they kept coming back for more... so we decided to start [keeping] some for ourselves..."** This single action saved hundreds of dollars by not spending any more money on other fertilizers.

The adoption of the BioSpeed system at Golden Gate Park stands as a testament to one facility manager's strategic vision and the transformative power of embracing innovative organic waste processing technologies. The journey not only streamlined operational efficiency but also contributed positively to the broader community's sustainability goals.

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