

Soil Cycle

Annual Report

2022



OUR PROGRAMS

Organic Waste Collection

Food waste in landfills adds unnecessary methane emissions, a potent greenhouse gas, to our atmosphere. Soil Cycle was founded to address our local food waste issue in Missoula. Our unique approach of using bicycles for food waste collection brings visibility to waste management. This approach highlights that waste management should be a constant consideration, not something "away" or distance from our daily lives.

This year we expanded food waste programs by partnering with the Missoula Public Library, Sussex Elementary School, Ecology Project International, and more. We partnered with MUD and Home Resource to build and host a new drop-off site for members in the River Road neighborhood. We recognize that local composting is a joint effort and are excited about a future partnership between Missoula Compost Collection and Soil Cycle.

**"Thank y'all for being
one of the best things
about Missoula!"**

-Soil Cycle Member



OUR PROGRAMS

Compost Creation

Facilitating food waste diversion is just the first step to carbon emission reduction. To achieve the greatest good, organic materials need to be properly returned to the Earth. Soil Cycle processes food waste in a unique and dynamic way that includes a multi-model and hands on approach. Student groups and volunteers help staff turn wasted food into healthy compost, learning in the process.

Even though our compost piles experienced calcium imbalance, we were able to adjust with the help of our Earth Tub, an in-vessel system, and vermicompost bins - which all the kiddos love! We hoped that 2022 would allow us to expand operations to a 2nd location, but due to funding challenges we had to pull back from that expansion. To address composting demand, we are planning new ways to process food waste with community partnerships.

**"I love your service
and appreciate all
that you do"**

-Soil Cycle Member



OUR PROGRAMS

Environmental Education

Education is at the heart of the organization. As the demand for soil education in Missoula continues to grow, Soil Cycle's board and staff have made it a goal to meet the demand the best we can. Over the course of 2022, we taught over 35 groups of students (Pre-K - University) about the importance of composting, soil health, regenerative practices, and of course worm composting!

We worked with both private and public groups from the Missoula International School students to the Ecology International staff and students.

One highlight from this year included our work with the Boys and Girls Club. Not only did these kids come to Soil Cycle to learn about composting, they were able to set up composting bins at each of their summer camps.

"Soil Cycle taught us practical ways to compost - whether you can physically turn a pile or not and despite the cold climate."

-Blackbird Yards



OUR PROGRAMS

Outreach & Products

We approach composting and waste management from a unique community-minded focus. To meet our mission, we pair education and outreach with our products and services as much as possible.

This year we launched a popular program to address the issue of plastic contaminants in our compost piles. Fruit stickers are one of the peskiest contaminants to compost programs across the nation. To educate our members, minimize plastic waste, and improve our compost, we started a Produce Sticker Reward Program. Members are given colorful postcards to collect fruit stickers in return for local prizes or membership discounts.

The program has been so popular in 2022, over 25,000 stickers now cover our warehouse walls instead of our compost piles. Our mail lady even participates after handling hundreds of postcards for our members. This program is just one example of how we combine our programs to offer our community sustainable, fun, and meaningful services.

"I love Soil Cycle sooooo much and have been so stoked with what y'all have been doing for the past several years I've been a member."

-Soil Cycle Member





ORGANIZATIONAL GROWTH IN 2022

Food waste diverted from landfill

62,220 lbs.

CO₂ emissions reduced by using
bicycles as transportation

2,080 lbs.

CO₂ sequestered by composting

54,800 lbs.

Soil Cycle members

244

Finished compost donated

100 cubic feet

Students reached

650

Field trips and outreach events
hosted

47

GOALS for 2023

Organic Waste Collections

- Sign up 50+ new members
- Expand fleet with new bicycle trailer
- Expand drop-off service

Compost Programs

- Repair and repurpose outdoor compost bins
- Expand vermicomposting program
- Expand community leaf collection program

Environmental Education

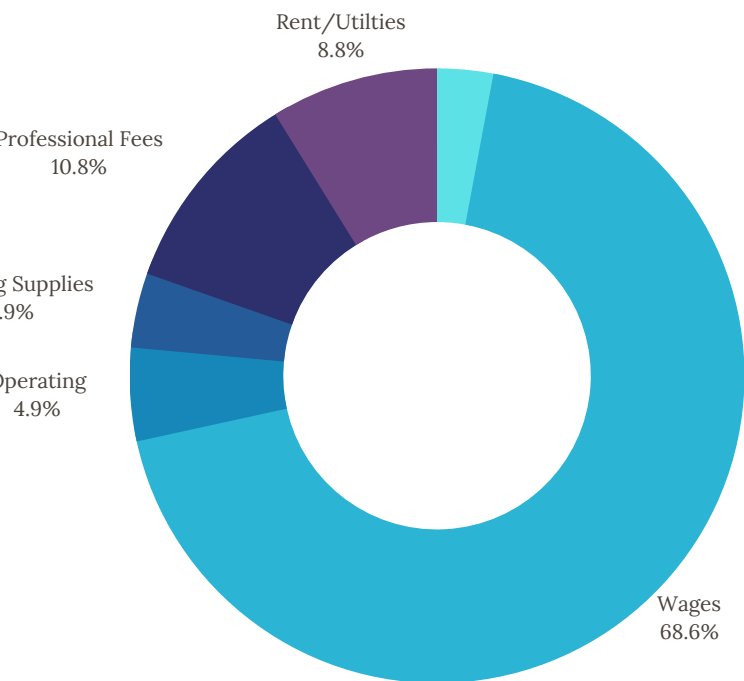
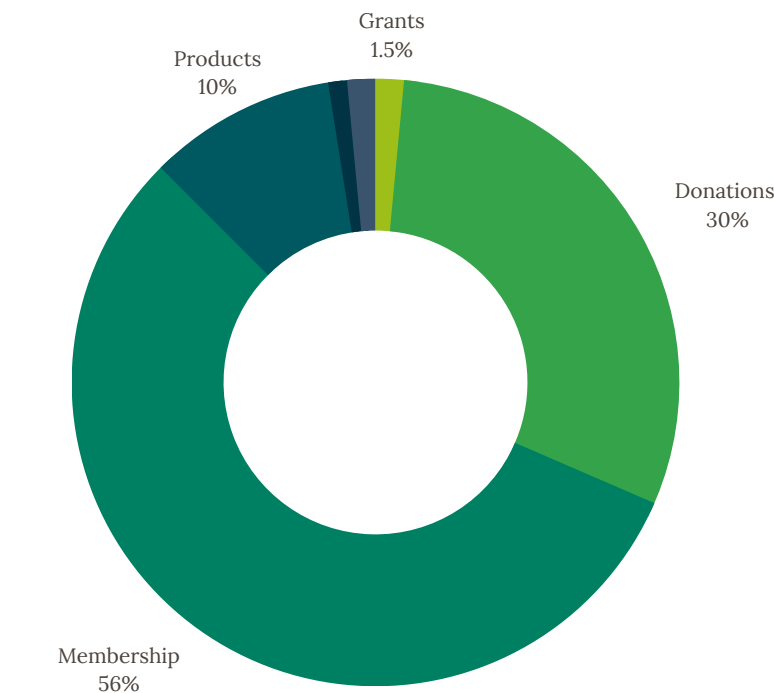
- Offer 2+ composting workshops
- Improve demonstration garden - adding permeable surface and additional vegetables
- Add family friendly soil curriculum to the website
- Build mobile education tools

Products & Outreach

- Find financial support for sticker postcard program
- Retail soil amendments in 3 more locations
- Expand compost tea services
- Offer members worm castings or compost

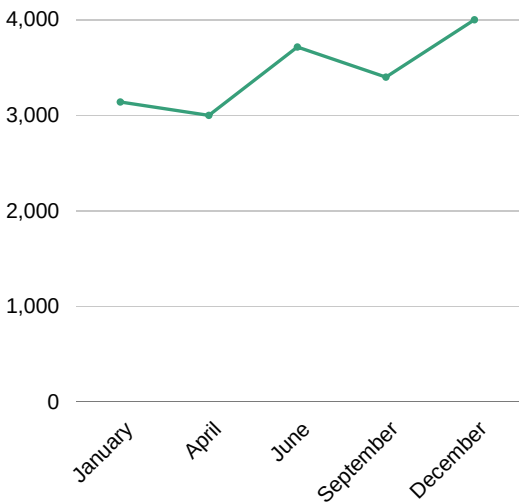
Financial Overview

Below is a basic, comprehensive report of the organization's financial activities throughout 2022 (the 5th year of operation).



ANNUAL INCOME

Below is an overview of monthly membership income in 2022.



2022 Income Summary

2022 Expense Summary

OUR PARTNERS

**Building Community & Soil
from the Ground Up.**

Benefactors

- 1% for the Planet
- Climate Ride

Sustainable Partners

- 1000 New Gardens
- ACE Fancy Plants
- Caras Nursery
- City of Missoula
- Earth In Hand
- Ecology Project International
- Free Cycles
- Garden City Harvest
- Garden Werks
- Heart Beet Herbal Remedies
- Heritage Timber
- Home ReSource
- Little Dumps
- Missoula International School
- Missoula Urban Demonstration (MUD)
- Missoula Compost Collection
- PEAS Farm
- Recycling Works
- Rockin' Rudy's
- Seedlings for Solidarity
- Sun and Swell
- Turner Farms
- University of Montana

Commercial Composters

- Adventure Cycling Association
- Back to the Mother
- Bayern Brewing
- Boys and Girls Club
- C3 Work Lounge
- Complexly
- Great Harvest
- Leaf and Quiet
- Missoula Public Library
- Shady Spruce Hostel
- Sussex Elementary School
- Tandem Bakery
- United We Eat
- Zoo City Apparel





QUOTE

"Thank you for the rich, hands-on learning opportunities that you provided for our kids. They had a blast and learned about how to protect the earth."

-Appreciation from a local educator

TAKE ACTION

Continued support is what keeps our organization going; consider making a contribution:

- SoilCycleMissoula.com/donate
- Mail check to HQ or stop by in person

Help us decrease the impact of food waste. Without organizations like Soil Cycle, food waste will continue to end up in landfills, creating methane that pollutes our atmosphere. Your gift will ensure Missoula is a healthier, happier, and more environmentally sound community.

Soil Cycle is a 501(c) (3) Organization: Federal Tax ID #83-2816550.



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