

Green Initiatives Team

Field Trip

October 1, 2012



The Green Initiatives Team visited Bar-T Mountainside Camp in Urbana to view their composting toilet.

The Bar-T Mountainside Camp not only uses composting toilets in the field, but uses the same technology in their offices and pool house. The camp hosts after-school programs, and retreats for young children and teens. This is a very active camp.

The camp also has other alternative energy sources including solar and wind.

Figure 1 Bar-T Mountainside Camp

John Hanson, with Nutricycle Systems, was our tour guide and provided information on cost, maintenance and operation of this style of toilets. Nutricycle Systems is a local Frederick County business that provides composting toilets for Maryland, West Virginia, Delaware, and DC.

The toilets have solar panels which operate fans that help vent the toilets. The venting of the toilets eliminates the odor that one might associate with a composting toilet.

There are no lights in these toilets instead opaque windows are used to provide light.



Figure 2 Two Stall Toilet

These toilets require no hook up to water or sewer. In each bathroom there was a wall mounted hand sanitizer to allow the users to clean their hands.

The by-products can be used in gardens, flower beds and landscaping.

Since the Bar-T Mountainside Camp is in Frederick County, the Health Department is familiar with these types of facilities and the approval process has been defined.

The GIT is considering how these toilets could be used in the City park system. Since no hook up to utilities is required, these toilets can be used in areas where there are no water and sewer lines available. Imagine replacing the unattractive smelly rented plastic porta-potties, for example by the Baker Park tennis courts, with a clean structure that composts waste and needs minimal maintenance.



Figure 3 John Hanson showing the collection system

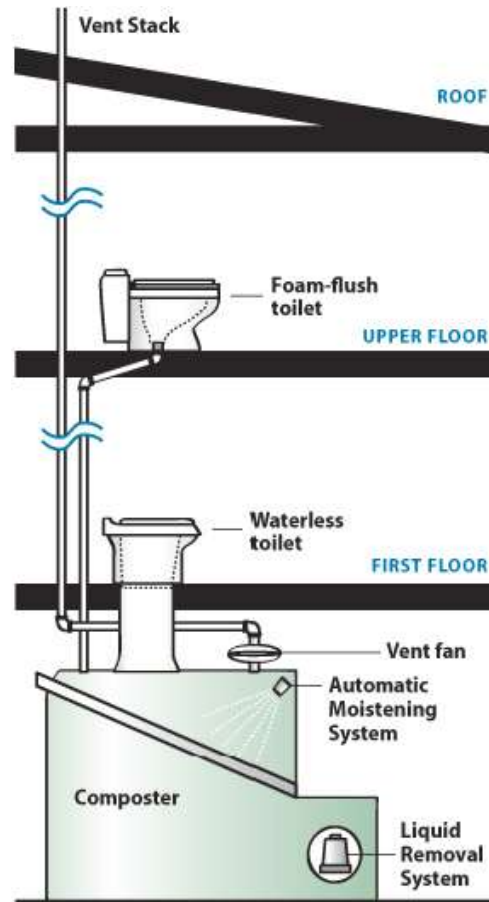


Figure 4 Diagram of Toilet