

Case Study

down2earth
materials



Keith Sparrow, Owner

Gills Fish & Chips, install an on-site composter and make big savings.

Gills Traditional Fish and Chips of Cobh Co. Cork have installed their own on-site composting machine. The composting machine, which was funded by Cobh Tidy Towns, has been implemented into the day-to-day operations of their business and it is already proving highly beneficial in terms of savings.

USING THE COMPOSTER HAS REDUCED OUR COMBINED WASTE AND RECYCLING BILL BY AN AVERAGE OF 45% A MONTH.

Keith Sparrow, owner of the fish and chip shop in Cobh **composts the Down2Earth packaging along with vegetable peelings, batter waste from all hot food preparation as well as shredded cardboard and sawdust among other things.**

This all means that there will be a total of **247.04kgs / 543.51lbs** of non oil based packaging potentially diverted from landfill.

Keith also uses his social media presence to help educate and promote to his customers the huge environmental benefits of what his business has implemented. In fact Gills Fish and Chips have been doing so much to improve their carbon footprint and to inspire others to follow suit that they recently won an award from the Cork Environment Forum in the business sector for 2013. An award that is most definitely deserving!!

For a business such as Gills, we think what they have implemented is not only an incredibly efficient and praise-worthy initiative, but is something that we hope might inspire other food business owners to follow suit. Changing people's attitudes is a long and arduous path (we are indeed creatures of habit) but people like Keith Sparrow from Gills are showing that the way to truly educate people is to allow them into the process.



The Composting machine, designed in Sweden, is an insulated tumbler composter.

It is a sealed unit and designed to keep the compost over 70 degrees. Perfect for turning around compost quickly, as some of Down2Earth's PLA (polylactic Acid) packaging needs over 63 degrees to break-down.

He has cleverly initiated a scheme where customers can return their compostable food packaging once the food has been consumed.

