

## Socialization of the Importance of Household Organic Waste Management into Compost Fertilizer in Wirolegi Village

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### Abstract

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Managing household waste, especially organic waste, is still a challenge in Indonesia. The low level of public awareness in processing organic waste into compost causes the accumulation of waste which has a negative impact on the environment. Housewives as the main managers of household waste have an important role in starting the process of managing organic waste independently. This research aims to provide outreach to housewives in RT 001/RW 001, Sumberketangi Environment about how to process organic waste into compost through an educational approach. The methods used include counseling, direct demonstrations, and assistance to housewives in the process of making compost. The results of the activity show an increase in understanding and skills of housewives in managing organic waste. Apart from that, the application of compost in the household environment has been proven to reduce the volume of waste and improve the quality of plants in the home yard. It is hoped that this program can contribute to community-based waste management and encourage environmentally friendly behavior in Wirolegi Village.

**Keywords:** organic waste management, compost fertilizer, socialization, housewife, Wirolegi Village

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## INTRODUCTION

The challenge of managing household waste is a common problem in many developing countries, including Indonesia, which continues to face increasing waste volumes without being balanced by effective management (Thao & Kato, 2017). Apart from that, public awareness of the importance of waste management, especially organic waste which can be processed into compost, is still low (Borman & Purwanto, 2019). In residential areas, organic waste is often simply thrown away without further management, which then accumulates and has the potential to cause odors, attract nuisance animals, and pollute the environment.

Organic waste such as food scraps and leaves actually has great potential to be processed into compost which is beneficial for plants. However, the lack of knowledge and skills of the community, especially housewives as the main managers of household waste, is one of the main obstacles in implementing compost-based waste management (Fadlilah & Muqowim, 2020). Housewives have an important role in educating families and ensuring that organic waste can be managed well. By processing organic waste into compost, you can not only

reduce the volume of waste thrown into landfills, but also provide benefits for plants around the house and reduce dependence on chemical fertilizers.

In RT 001/RW 001, Wirolegi Village, Sumberketangi Environment, housewives still lack exposure to information about how to manage organic waste independently, even though they have a strategic role in keeping the surrounding environment clean. Through the outreach program, it is hoped that it can provide basic knowledge about the process of making compost from organic waste as well as the benefits that can result from using compost for plants (Sunarso, 2013). It is hoped that this outreach can increase the awareness and skills of housewives in the area to manage household organic waste independently, thereby creating a clean, healthy and environmentally friendly environment.

This activity aims to educate and provide basic skills for housewives in RT 001/RW 001, Wirolegi Village in processing household organic waste into compost. It is hoped that this outreach can help reduce waste problems at the household level, as well as support government programs in community-based waste management. Apart from that, the expected output from this activity is an increase in housewives' knowledge about simple but effective composting techniques, which can be applied in their daily lives.

## **RESEARCH METHODS**

This means of socializing the importance of managing household organic waste into compost is carried out with the target of the activity being housewives in RT 001/RW 001, Wirolegi Village, Sumberketangi Environment, Kab. Jember, East Java. This activity will be held on October 27 2024.

This outreach activity was carried out to increase community awareness regarding household organic waste in the Wirolegi village of Sumberketangi environment which was carried out through several stages, namely as follows:

1. Field Survey  
The survey of the Sumberketangi environmental wirolegi village was carried out with the aim of understanding and recognizing the conditions and atmosphere of the community which would be the target of socialization activities.
2. Coordination with interested parties  
Coordinate with the head of RT 001 Wirolegi Village, Sumberketangi Environment to ensure agreement on the schedule for implementing socialization activities on the importance of managing household organic waste into compost.
3. Socialization Activities  
This activity aims to convey how important it is to manage household organic waste which can be converted into compost to make it more useful and reduce household waste.  
This socialization activity was carried out in two sessions as follows:
  - 1) Counseling, namely presenting material related to the meaning of household organic waste, types of household organic waste and explaining how to make compost from household organic waste.
  - 2) Discussion session, where the audience asks questions related to the explanation of the material provided.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

The socialization of the importance of processing household organic waste into compost in Wirolegi Village is an activity to socialize how to sort waste, process organic waste and make compost from household organic waste. The aim of this activity is to reduce environmental pollution caused by household waste. Apart from that, the compost produced from processing organic waste is expected to increase soil fertility in the environment. Apart from socializing about how to sort and process organic waste, we also socialize about the benefits of processing and sorting waste, this is done to increase awareness of the Wirolegi Village community.

The final series of activities measured the level of understanding of the material presented through a question and answer session to all socialization participants, namely, PKK women from Wirolegi Village. Based on the questions and answers that have been given, it is known that there has been an increase in understanding regarding organic and inorganic waste, attitudes and behavior of PKK women in Wirolegi Village towards caring for life in the household environment. An explanation of knowledge regarding organic and inorganic waste, attitudes and behavior of socialization participants, as well as the availability of facilities in more detail is as follows.

### **1. Organic and Inorganic Waste**

Knowledge about organic and inorganic waste was obtained through several direct questions. We gave several pictures of organic and inorganic waste to the mothers so they could answer the classification which included organic waste and also inorganic waste. From the results of these questions, all participants present were able to differentiate between organic and inorganic waste.

### **2. Mothers' Attitudes towards Organic Waste**

Mothers' attitudes towards organic waste can be known by asking direct questions regarding the importance of sorting organic waste and processing household organic waste in the home environment. Most mothers stated that they did not know how to manage organic waste properly, they immediately threw the waste away. The results showed that only 3 of the 7 mothers who attended had managed organic waste correctly, one of which was managed into compound fertilizer. This shows that there is a lack of understanding regarding the importance of managing organic waste, especially if it is used as fertilizer compost.

## **CONCLUSION**

This article discusses the socialization of the importance of managing household organic waste into compost in the Wirolegi sub-district, Jember. Through community service activities, the author aims to increase awareness and understanding of housewives about the importance of household waste as a new means for making compost. This activity involves lectures, question and answer sessions to help mothers understand how to make compost. The results of the activity show an increase in mothers' understanding of the benefits of household organic waste. However, there are still several challenges such as busy working

mothers so they don't have time to sort organic waste and prefer to throw it away. Overall, this activity shows that most mothers are interested in making compost which can be used in everyday life such as gardening and so on. In conclusion, this socialization was successful in increasing the awareness of Wirolegi residents regarding household organic waste management, but support is needed so that the program can run smoothly and be implemented throughout the Wirolegi village community.

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