NEKWMD Assists LEARN, Inc. in Creating On-Site Composting System

May 15, 2017

This month, the students of LEARN, Inc. of Lyndonville were excited to collaborate with Shannon Choquette, the NEKWMD’s ECO AmeriCorps member and Master Composter intern, to learn about the science of creating compost and why composting is a sustainable solution for a few of the environmental challenges we face here in Vermont.

Shannon reflected, “I wanted to make sure the students understood the connection between our waste management choices, including composting, and our impacts on the environment. We live in a very rural area, so we discussed some common agricultural challenges, such as soil erosion and nutrient management, to emphasize that properly-made compost can be one part of a sustainable solution to promote moisture retention and overall soil health.”

The students quickly recognized that food waste is a problem we all contribute to, and therefore we can all be a part of the solution. The students, who vary between grades 9-12, chose to create a 3-bin composting system, pictured below, to effectively compost all their non-meat and dairy food waste to create a soil amendment for the on-campus gardens.