

# The Plastic Free Farm

**100% PLASTIC  
FREE**™

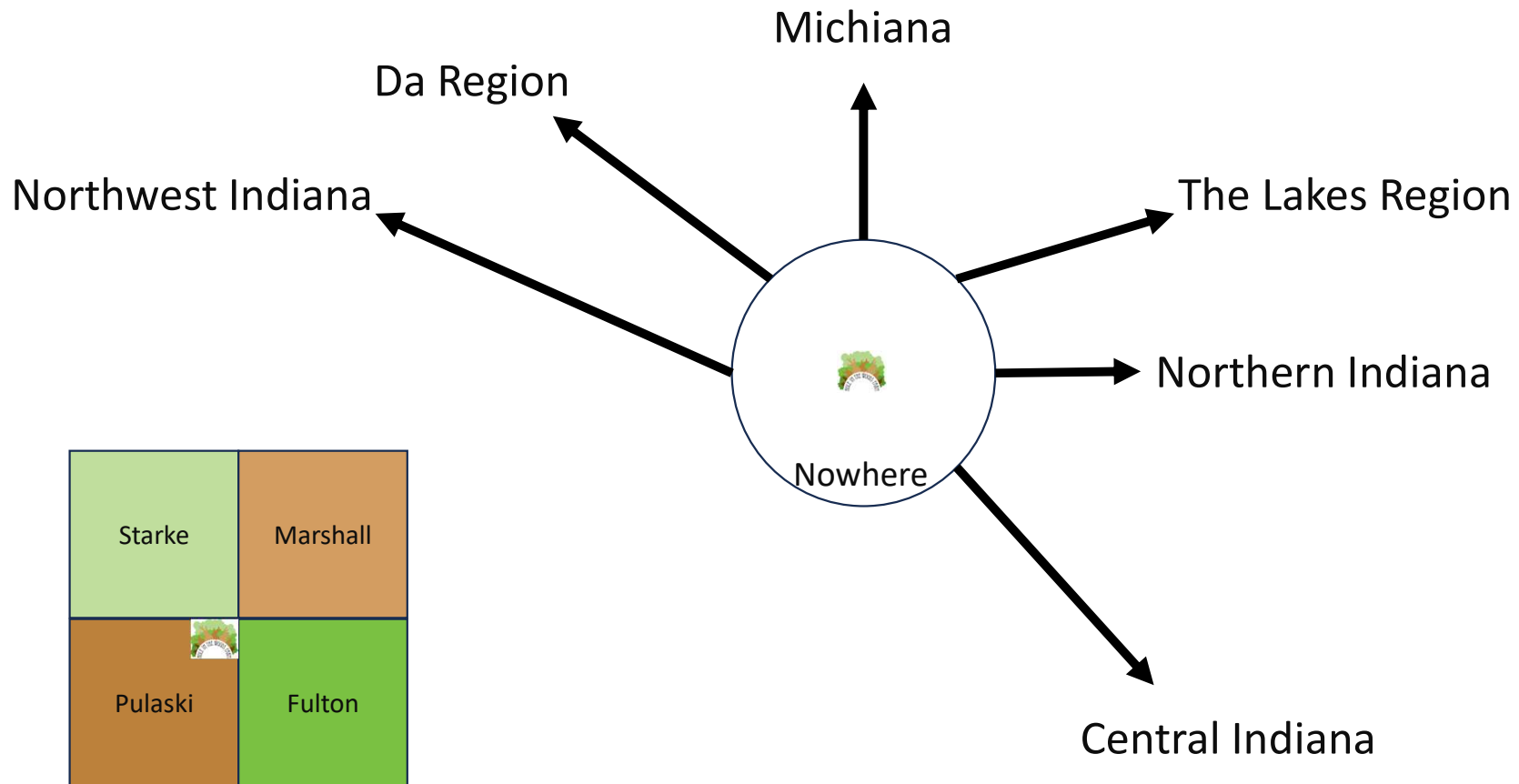




Hole in the Woods Farm

Chapman Ditch

Chapman Ditch

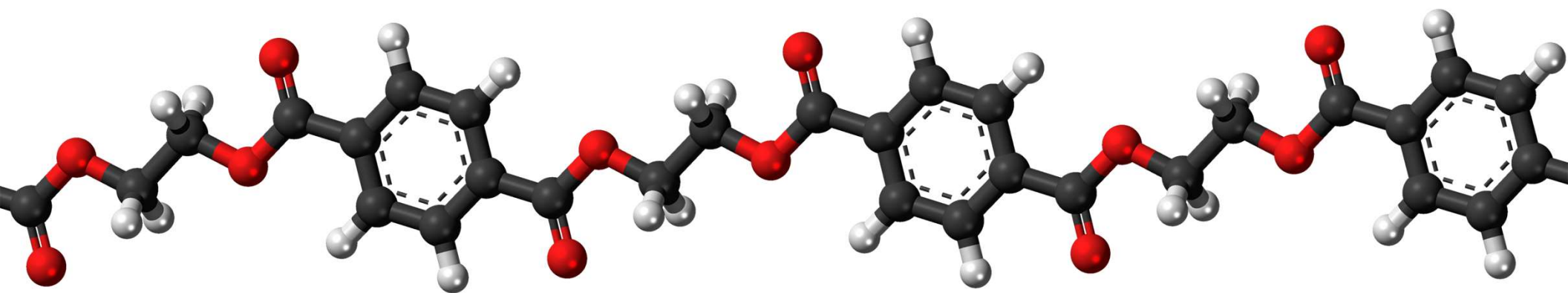




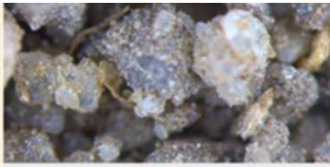
**TI PLASTIC  
FREE™**



?







### Control Soil



Water holding capacity



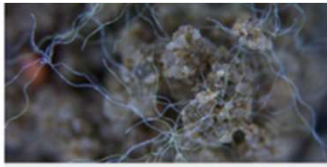
Soil bulk density



Soil microbial activity



Soil structure & function



### Polyester



↑ Increase



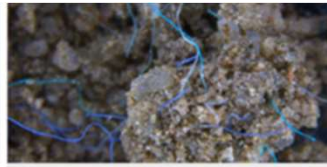
↓ Decrease



↓ Decrease



↕ Functional change



### Polyacrylic



▬ No clear trend



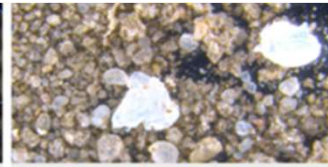
↓ Decrease



↓ Decrease



↕ Functional change



### Polyethylene



▬ No clear trend



↓ Decrease



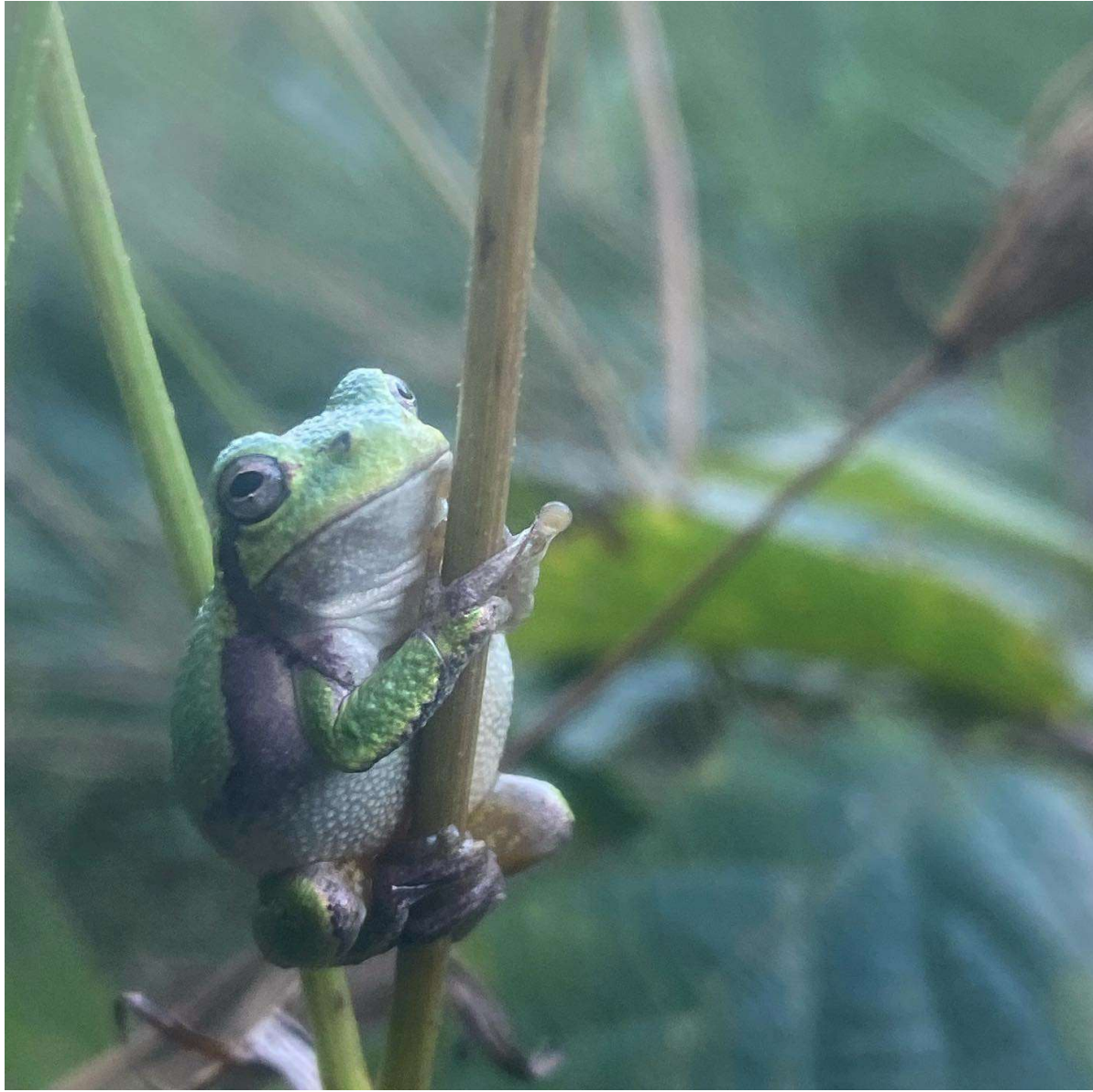
▬ No clear trend



↕ Functional change

















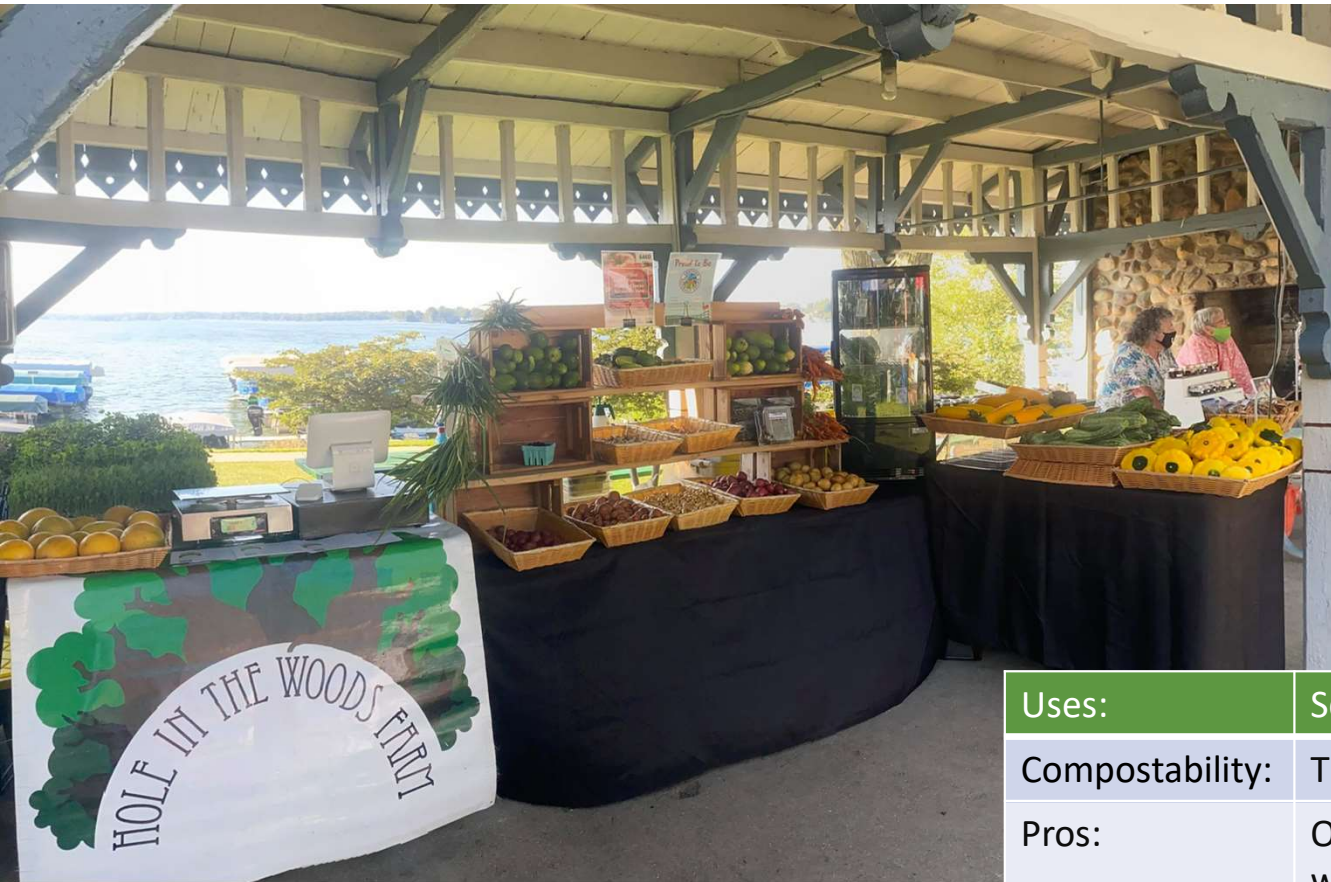












Just Avoid It

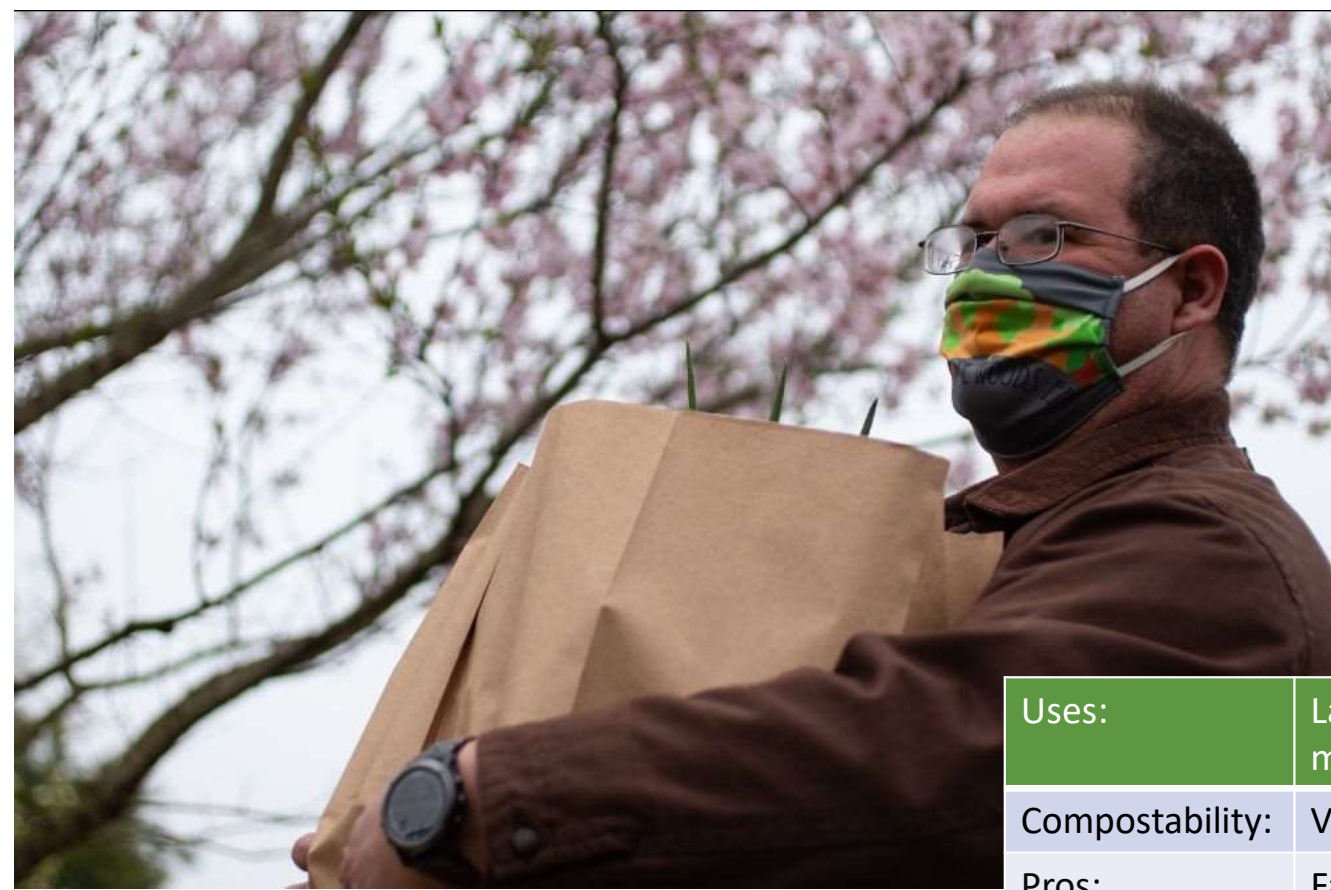


Uses:	Squash, potatoes, dense heads (cabbage, etc)
Compostability:	The best
Pros:	Outstanding display potential, free, zero waste
Cons	Not suited to things that need to prevent drying, may discourage larger purchases because hard to carry

## Bunches: Rubber Bands & Twist Ties



Uses:	Baby roots, hearty greens, some herbs
Compostability:	Varies, but generally poor (rubber, steel wire. Make sure twist ties are paper coated, or that's just more plastic!)
Pros:	Great display potential, low cost, fast
Cons	Generally not compostable, need to avoid plastic options, customers may still need bags in addition



Paper Bags

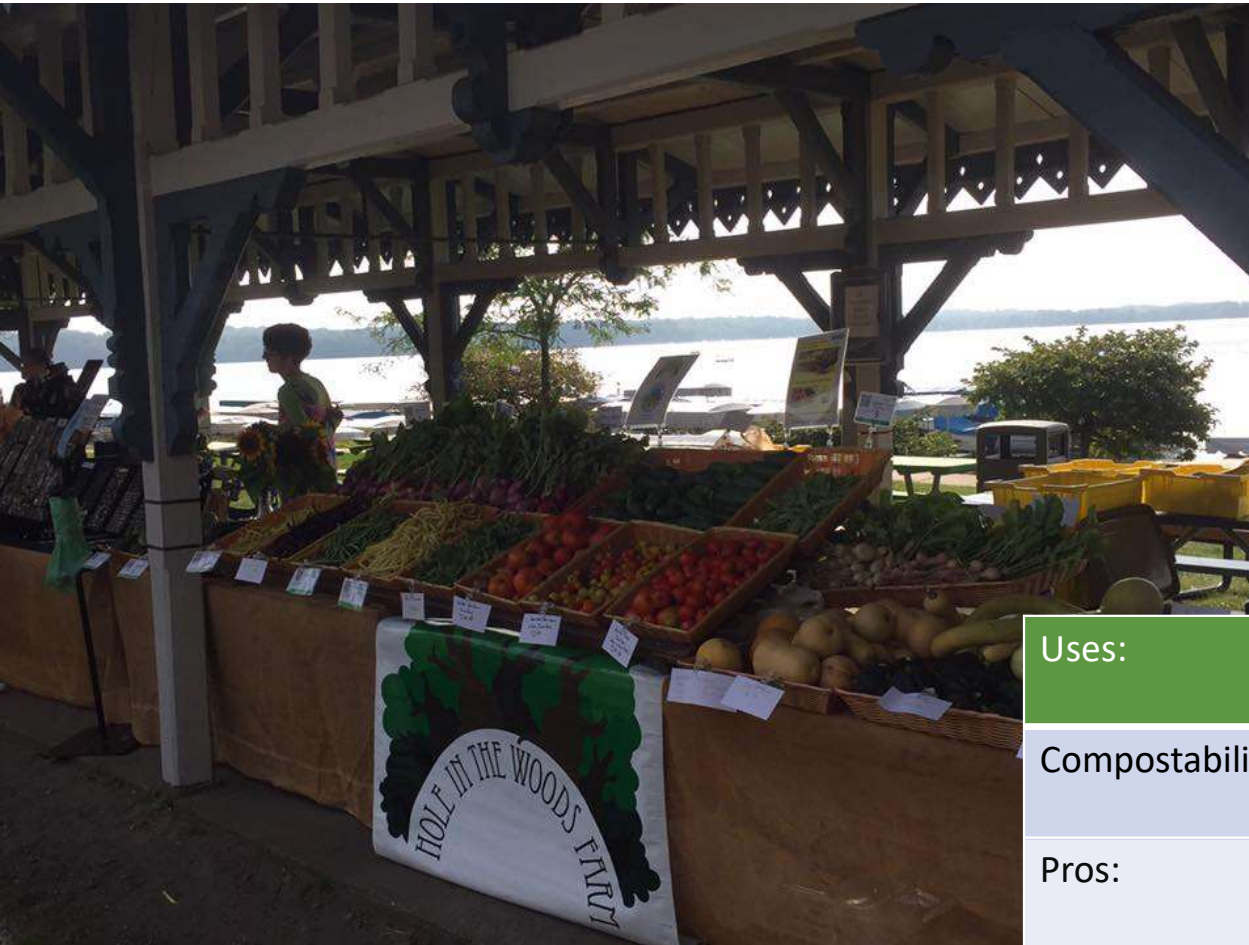
Uses:	Larger orders, delivery, breads, mushrooms, most stuff that doesn't need moisture control
Compostability:	Very good
Pros:	Familiar, stand upright, branding opportunity (stamps/printed)
Cons	Not suited to things that need to prevent drying, may discourage larger purchases because hard to carry



Pulp Boxes



Uses:	Fruits, esp. berries, unit pack for small veggies – cherry tomatoes, new potatoes, etc.
Compostability:	Extremely good. Vermicopost - > worm's favorite
Pros:	Inexpensive (but shipping will kill you), familiar, useful for propping things up on market display, compost well
Cons	Undyed ones hard to find, can absorb excess water, disturbing to see in dog poop



PLA “Biobags”



Uses:	Greens, delivery, wet produce (root veggies that have been spritzed, etc)
Compostability:	Extremely good. Very fast even in home compost
Pros:	Compact, fast composting, familiar, good shelf life on greens, worms like them
Cons	Not transparent, break down in sun, may compost faster than produce, hard to open, easily torn when old or with sharp produce, sticks to wet produce





PLA Lined Paper



Uses:	Microgreens, cinnamon rolls, small things.
Compostability:	Good to moderate. Shredding improves
Pros:	Compact/travels well, fairly attractive, gives good shelf life – especially on micros
Cons	Lids ship wrapped in plastic and take up a lot of space. Expensive. Not microwavable



Wood Pulp Cellophane



Uses:	Salad Greens, bread?
Compostability:	Good, especially in vermicompost
Pros:	Transparent, moderate cost, compact
Cons	Time consuming to fill/seal, can pop open, bad in sun, difficult to carry in bulk, short shelf life



PLA Clamshells



Uses:	Baby greens, salad mixes, mushrooms
Compostability:	Poor. Best in commercial composting. 14-18 months in our compost, about 2 years in most customers'. Shredding helps.
Pros:	Familiar, excellent display, EXTREMELY good shelf life for greens, fast to pack, waterproof
Cons:	Expensive, space inefficient, complicates waste streams, customers will assume they're plastic



