

CASE STUDY #3

Tyger Valley Shopping Centre

Glamorous on the surface, green at the centre!



Graeme Pieterse

Tyger Valley is a sparkling retail experience, with sophisticated decor, top quality retail outlets, restaurants and coffee shops. At its heart beats a green environmental consciousness. Graeme Pieterse, as the Tyger Valley Centre Operations Manager, set about turning the shopping centre into becoming a green building complex. All recyclables have been separated and reclaimed since 2007, and the centre is working towards being self sustaining from an energy point of view. As part of this initiative, Graeme sought out an effective way of turning food waste from the restaurants into rich compost. Green Genie and the Joraform range of composters was a natural partner to support Tyger Valley. Graeme is a ground-breaker, with a passion for greening the centre. Whilst customers are sipping their coffees and shopping, underneath them the recycling depot is a hive of activity. The team, led by Kevin Combrink, works hard at separating different types of waste and recycling. Not pretty jobs, but work that is crucial to making the most of the waste produced. It is here that the food waste and wood pellets are loaded into a JK 5100, coming out 4 weeks later as compost, which is then used on the gardens to beautify the surrounds.

Benefits

Tyger Valley is a leader in the field of environmental practices. This corporate responsibility sets a powerful example not only for the local community, but also for shopping centres across South Africa.

- 22 tons per year of food waste are prevented from going to landfill. This represents a saving to the environment of over 49 tons of greenhouse gases p/a. Any reduction of greenhouse gases contributes to reducing the rate of climate change.
- The centre **saves over R16 000** per year on composting costs alone.
- There is **no negative smell at all and no mess**.
- Customers, agencies, partners & suppliers see it as a definite benefit that Tyger Valley is **environmentally responsible**.
- Tyger Valley is aware that waste disposal costs will increase steadily until organic waste is finally banned from landfill.
- The regulations with regard to the Environment, and with regard to Waste Management, will continue to be strengthened and enforced. **Tyger Valley is well positioned for the future.**



Operating the Joraform Composter



In November 2013, Tyger Valley purchased a JK 5100 and found the results to be "mind-blowing". The centre could now reduce wet waste to landfill by almost 2 tons each month.

- The JK 5100 is a robust, automated machine with the body being made of stainless steel. All moving parts are replaceable for an optimal working life. The compost machine has a programmable unit, which can easily be adapted to the type of waste being processed.
- About 60kg of food waste from the restaurants is put into the JK 5100 daily.
- Wood pellets are used as the carbon source to mix in the composters with the food waste.
- Twin Chambers ensure bacteria free compost.
- The waste can be turned into compost within 4 weeks - generating over 1000kg of compost a month, **(13 tons a year)** which is used in the shopping centre gardens.

As leaders in the field, Tyger Valley Centre will continue to strive in their ongoing journey for a better green future.

There are a number of opportunities in the waste cycle for further improvement. These include:

- Streamlining the sorting process at source at each of the shops and restaurants in the centre
- Expanding the capacity to compost food waste
- Promoting environmental initiatives into the neighbourhood

Green Genie look forward to continuing support to Tyger Valley in their quest to be an environmental ground breaker and responsible corporate citizen.

