# *Thank you for your commitment to green initiatives at the University of Illinois. One of the ongoing requirements listed in the terms of the funding agreement for your project is the submission of semesterly reports with key information about your project. In addition to this form, please provide additional financial documentation and/or progress photos if available.*

# *Please be as accurate as possible in describing the project (including possible setbacks or challenges in meeting the initial goals of the project). Not fully meeting your project's goals will not disqualify you from making future funding requests as long as your reports are as complete and accurate as possible. If you have any questions, please contact the Student Sustainability Committee, at* *sustainability-committee@illinois.edu**.*

**Project Name:** NSRC Composting

**Date of Report Submission:** 9/9/2021

**Project Purpose:**

The purpose of this project is to pilot the first composting tumbler on campus. The tumbler is housed at iSEE so it is carefully monitored by sustainability staff and not contaminated or misused. This project establishes a foundation to expand small-scale composting on campus and promote greater awareness of organics recycling initiatives; the success of this project led to additional funding requests (SSC-funded Campus Compost tumblers in spring of 2021). The current compost tumbler at NSRC has provided great educational opportunities and engagement for students, staff, and faculty on food waste, compost production, and organics recycling. The compost generated will eventually be used to fertilize the pollinator garden on the south side of the building at NSRC.

**Detailed Accounting of Expenditures to Date:**

See attached.

**Project Progress to Date:**

The compost tumbler has been in place since April 2021. Various people across campus have taken advantage of this drop-off opportunity, and many people have come by to simply look at the bin for educational value. The pollinator garden was planted in early summer 2021 and is thriving. Countertop compost receptacles have been purchased but have not been distributed to building occupants to avoid contamination, as the building is not fully occupied as it was pre-COVID.

**Student Involvement and Outreach to Date:**

How have students been involved in your project so far?
Student groups, such as Red Bison and From the Ground Up, were instrumental in the planting of the pollinator garden. iSEE interns are monitoring interest from other waste reduction RSOs and other individuals who have reached out to iSEE with questions or to express interest in the program.

**Marketing and Promotion Efforts to Date:**

The iSEE Communications Team has promoted the compost tumbler on the various social media platforms, and visible signage is placed around the tumbler itself for marketing and educational purposes.

**Additional Comments:**

We are very appreciative of this funding and have received tremendously positive feedback. The campus community is very receptive of organics recycling and has expressed demand to expand the program. Thank you, SSC! Please reach out if we can provide any supplemental details or information.