

Compost Bins

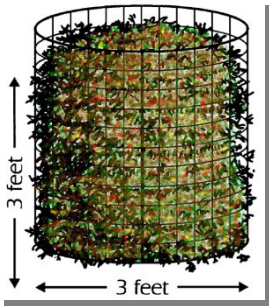
Eco Stack



Aero Bin



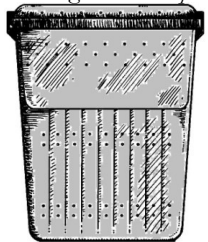
Wire Mesh Bin



Worm Bin



Garbage Can Composter



Deluxe Pyramid



Tumbling Composter



Compost Tumbler



Vermi-culture

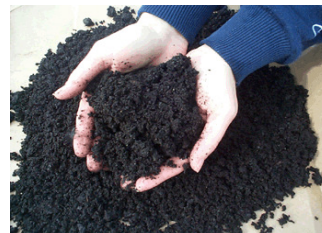
Composting

Vermi-culture composting is a composting technique that uses earthworms to break down organic matter. Several earthworm species can consume organic wastes rapidly and then fragment the materials into fine particles. These particles contain essential nutrients such as nitrogen, phosphorus, potassum and calcium that are valuable to plant growth.



**Immature
Compost**

From Garbage to Garden



**Finished
Compost**

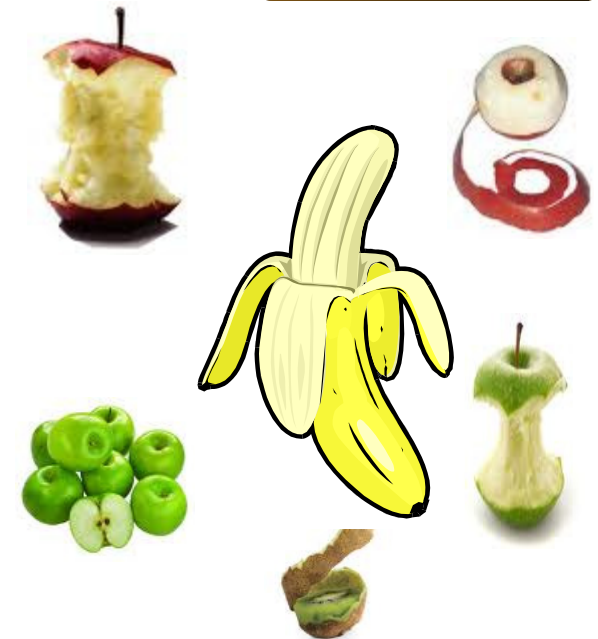


**Where to Use
Compost**

City of Greenville Composting Program

Composting Has AP - PEEL

Composting 101



**For More information
contact:
Public Works 329-4522**

What is Compost?

Compost is a dark crumbly and earthy smelling material made up of decomposed organic matter such as food scraps, leaves, grass clippings and wood chips. Compost contains living organisms that require food, oxygen and water to survive.

Composting is our way of speeding up Mother Nature's decomposition progress.

Passive vs. Active Composting

Passive composting is virtually labor-free. It requires a holding bin and takes between 8-12 months to get finished product.

Active composting requires more frequent turning and will produce compost much quicker than passive composting.

50:50 Brown to Green Ratio

It is important when composting to maintain a balance between carbon based materials (browns) and nitrogen based materials (greens).

Brown materials include: dried grass, autumn dried leaves, saw dust, wood chips (untreated wood), and straw.



Green materials include: Fruit and vegetable scraps, coffee grounds, tea bags (without staple), and eggshells.

Why Compost?

There are many benefits to composting. It is a simple and inexpensive way to dispose of and recycle food scraps and yard waste that would otherwise enter the waste stream. Compost also helps improve the health and quality of the soil that it is added to.

Composting:

- Reduces the volume of garbage
- Enriches and adds nutrients to the soil
- Improves soil structure for better root growth, increased moisture and nutrient retention
- Balances acid and alkalinity (ph) of the soil
- Suppresses disease and harmful pests
- Reduces the need for chemical fertilizers

DO Compost:

- any vegetable or fruit scraps
- egg shells
- coffee grounds and filters
- tea bags (remove staples)
- newspaper, paper towels
- leaves and grass clippings



DO NOT Compost:

- meat
- fish
- dairy products
- diseased plants
- pet waste
- cat litter
- fats and oils
- wood and charcoal ash
- Grass clippings treated with herbicides
- non-organic material like plastic and metal



How to Compost

1. Choose an area about 4 x 4 x 4 feet that is not in direct sunlight and is an easily accessible spot on grass or soil. Place the compost pile away from the house.
2. Start with a 6" layer of woody stalks at the bottom of the pile. Alternate 4" layers of brown material and 2" layers of green material. Add mater as needed. The pile should be as wet as a wrung sponge. Continue to add food scraps year-round by burying them in the pile and providing more brown material as needed.
3. Turn or stir the pile regularly to aerate.
4. The compost is ready when it looks dark and crumbly and the starting ingredients are no longer visible.

Troubleshooting

Problem(s)	Solution(s)
Compost smells	Turn the pile and add brown
Too wet	Turn the pile and add dry material
Too dry	Turn the pile and add water, then shade
Cool to touch	Add more greens
Pile attracts flies, pets, or rodents	Do not add any meats, bones or fatty or starchy foods

WHEN IN DOUBT, LEAVE IT OUT!