



compost

By: Shauna Turner
and Annica howe

What is compost?

Composting is recycling food and yard waste. That decompose over a short period of time to create rich, nutritious soil that is perfect for your plants.



- Organic material is broken down into two groups: Green & Brown.
- Greens are kitchen scraps and grass clippings
- Browns are leaves, branches, hay/straw and sawdust

The process of composting



1. Choose a shady location,
The soil under it should be well drained.
2. Place the bin
3. Add 6 inches of brown materials.
4. Add 2- to 3-inches of green matter.
5. Repeat until the pile is 3 to 5-feet tall and fills the bin. Water each layer
6. In 2 days, stir up thoroughly, to mix it all in
7. Cover the pile with a tarp to keep the water in and rain off.
It won't heat up the pile gets too moist or too dry.
8. Throw in wood chips, manure and worms/beetles now and then to speed it up



Cold composting

Is when you have your composting bin or pile and you throw in randomly what you want. This takes longer. But it is usually used more.

What not to add

Kitchen scraps like meats, oils, fish, dairy products, and bones as they attract unwanted visitors

- Weeds that have produced seeds or that spread by their roots
- Diseased or infested plants
- Treated grass clippings or weeds
- Pet or pig excrement



Is there a way to speed up the process

- Keep it moist and warm.
- Add proper ratio of Greens
- Turning it once in a while will help
- Leave it open to the elements.
- Bacteria, actinomycetes, worms, beetles and fungi will help.



How does it help?

The soil

When you compost you create rich soil, add nutrients to your soil and helps your garden and lawn.

How does bugs help in the composting process?

Bugs thrive in the decomposing matter it provides a place to stay, safe from predators and full of food. As time goes by, they eat the vegetation and it breaks down in their tiny systems it also mixes with other various snacks they may have eaten, creating a very nutritious soil.



How does composting help plants?

It helps by giving your plants fresh, rich soil that contains lots of nutrients and bacteria, to help your plants and grass grow faster and stronger. It also reduces or eliminates the needs for chemical fertilizers.

What happens if it goes to landfill?



Many people think that it will decompose in the landfills. It does but it also becomes toxic from all of the chemicals and gas in the landfill. The more we put in are landfills the faster they fill up. Composting reduces this dramatically.



Fast facts

- Between 2000 and 2004, the total amount of matter composted by waste management companies in Canada grew by 70% to 1.7 million tonnes
- All organic material will break down over time
- Composting cleanses 99.6% of the chemicals in the air.

sources

- http://eartheasy.com/grow_compost.html
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- Composting for Dummies, <http://www.dummies.com/how-to/content/making-compost-black-gold-for-your-organic-garden.html>
- Wastes - Resource Conservation - Reduce, Reuse, Recycle -Composting, <http://www.epa.gov/epawaste/consERVE/rrr/composting/basic.htm>
- (For tips see)How to Speed Up Your Composting, <http://www.doityourself.com/stry/how-to-speed-up-your-composting>
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