

Benefits of Backyard Composting and More



One way to reduce waste and help out your gardens

5 Benefits of Home Composting

1. Adds nutrients to the soil.
2. Introduces valuable organisms to the soil.
3. Recycles kitchen and yard waste by 25%.
4. Reduces landfill waste.
5. Good for the environment!

What is composting?

Composting is really farming - you're trying to raise and multiply as many bacteria to munch the organics you're putting into your pile as possible. Just like you, they need food, water and oxygen in the right amounts. So **3:1 carbon/browns:nitrogen/greens** is the food, enough water is where the pile, when well mixed and squeezed in a ball, is moist but does not drip water and oxygen means that you are fluffing / turning the pile at least weekly. I actually have no problem putting in sticks and large objects, e.g. sticks, bark, etc. just to be sure there are air spaces. Hope that makes sense. So...you can have too little oxygen from not enough fluffing or too much water filling up air pockets and thirdly you can have too dry a pile so you may need to add water...as long as you keep to the **3:1 carbon:nitrogen rule.**

Composting Basics Good Things to Compost (Greens and Browns)

Greens = Nitrogen

- Fruits and vegetables
- Eggshells, peanut and nut shells
- Coffee grounds and filters
- Tea bags
- Nut shells
- Yard trimmings (No Weed seeds)
- Grass clippings
- Houseplants

Browns = Carbon

- Shredded newspaper
- Cardboard
- Paper
- Hay and Straw
- Leaves
- Sawdust
- Wood chips
- Cotton and Wool Rags
- Vacuum cleaner lint
- Hair and fur
- Fireplace ashes

Things **NOT** to Compost

- Black walnut tree leaves or twigs
- Coal or charcoal ash
- Dairy products (e.g., butter, milk, sour cream, yogurt) and eggs
- Weed seeds
- Diseased or insect-ridden plants
- Fats, grease, lard, or oils
- Meat or fish bones and scraps
- Pet wastes (e.g., dog or cat feces, soiled cat litter)
- Yard trimmings treated with chemical pesticides
 - Might kill beneficial composting organisms

The 2 most commonly used compost methods by homeowners

1 - Vermicomposting - Red worms in bins feed on food scraps, yard trimmings, and other organic matter to create compost.

https://youtu.be/V8miLevRI_o

COMPOSTING with WORMS

What can be composted with worms?
What will they eat?
FRUIT & VEGGIE SCRAPS
CARDBOARD
GRASS CLIPPINGS & LEAVES
EGG SHELLS
COFFEE GROUNDS

How much can they eat?
How long does it take?
WORMS CAN EAT 1/3 TO 1/2
THEIR BODY WEIGHT EVERY DAY.
THEY DIGEST THE WASTE
INTO SOFT COMPOST CALLED
CASTINGS OR VERMICOMPOST.



2 -Aerated Static Pile Composting -

Aerated static pile composting produces compost relatively quickly (within six months).

<https://youtu.be/swLkA1cHJ4Y>



How to get started with composting!

- 1 - Select a spot in your yard for your compost site
- 2- Pick the type of composting you would like to do:
 - A - Open pile
 - B - Create a bin with air flow
 - C - Buy a bin/container
- 3 - Begin to prepare items for composting - cutting into smaller pieces will help the composting process happen quicker
- 4 - Keep the pile moist and well aired
- 5 - Observe it

Compost Problems - Smells

Smell - Rot

Cause - not enough oxygen and the pile produced hydrogen sulfide

Fix - turn your pile over to get more oxygen, once a week should be good

Smell - Ammonia

Cause - too many green materials creating a nitrogen smell

Fix - spread the pile out to release the smell, then add more brown items to your pile

Questions on composting at
home????

Don't want to compost at your House, but like the idea and benefits of composting?

Our local waste collection company RWS is here to inform you about another option now available in town!!



RWS RESIDENTIAL CURBSIDE COMPOSTING

WHAT'S INCLUDED

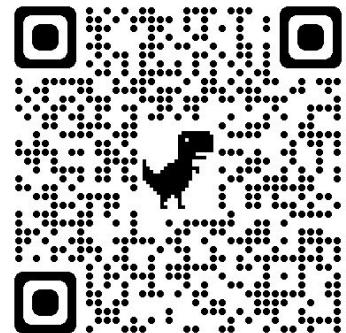
- 5 Gal. Curbside Bin with locking lid
- Countertop Bin with a Compost Guide
- Your first Roll of Compostable Liners

Proudly Servicing the Communities We Grew Up In

CALL OR TEXT 203-334-1660
Or fill out the form online at Resiwaste.com/Compost

\$9.99 PER MONTH*

(every other week service/ set up fee applies)



What you
can
compost
with RWS

COMPOST



MEAT & BONES



SHELLFISH & FISH PRODUCTS



EGG SHELLS & DAIRY



FRUITS & VEGETABLE SCRAPS



BREADS & CEREALS



COFFEE GROUNDS, FILTERS, &
TEA BAGS

OTHER THINGS TO COMPOST:

CONDIMENTS & SPICES | PITS & PEELS
FOODS SOILED PAPER | UNCOATED PAPER PLATES
PAPER TOWELS | PLANTS & HERBS | INCIDENTAL OILS & FATS



HAVE QUESTIONS?
Please call or Text 203 334 1660



DON'T COMPOST



CORKS



PLASTIC



CANDLES



METAL / ALUMINUM FOIL



STYROFOAM



GLASS OF ANY KIND



GUM

OTHER THINGS TO NOT COMPOST:

TWIST TIES | RUBBER BANDS | DISPOSABLE MOPS | CLEANING SHEETS
FIREPLACE OR BARBECUE ASHES | HOT LIQUIDS | PLASTIC GLOVES
ENGLISH MUFFIN CARTONS | WAXY CARDBOARD | MILK CARTONS
CLEAN PIZZA BOXES (RECYCLE) | COFFEE PODS | PET WASTE



HAVE QUESTIONS?
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Links on how to make your own compost - DIY Style

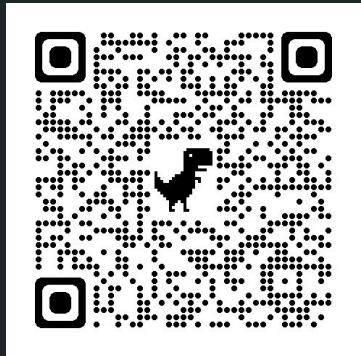
We hope you enjoyed learning about composting . . . maybe you can take this on and help reduce waste, plus help your garden

35 Cheap And Easy DIY Compost Bins That You Can Build This Weekend

<https://www.diyncrafts.com/33618/home/gardening/35-cheap-easy-diy-compost-bins-can-build-weekend>

31 DIY COMPOST BIN IDEAS YOU'LL WANT TO GET TO WORK ON NOW

<https://www.backyardboss.net/diy-compost-bin-ideas/>



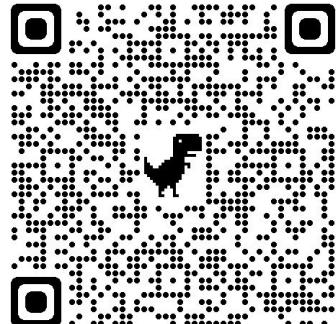
Information collected from the following sites

United States Environmental Protection Agency

Support Green Philly

CT.Gov-below is the link

<https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Waste-Management-and-Disposal/Organics-Recycling/Home-Composting---Turn-Your-Spoils-into-Soil>



<https://www.planetnatural.com/composting-101/making/problems/>



Want to get involved

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