

Composting



**From
Garbage
to Garden**

It's Compost Time!

What is composting?

- Composting recycles various organic materials - otherwise regarded as waste products - and produces a soil conditioner (the compost). Compost is rich in nutrients. It is used for example in gardens, landscaping, urban agriculture and organic farming. The compost itself is beneficial for the land in many ways, it's a natural fertilizer and a natural pesticide for soil.



What to compost

- ❖ All compostable materials are either carbon or nitrogen-based, to varying degrees. The secret to a healthy compost pile is to maintain a working balance between these two elements.



Carbon :

- Branches
- Wood chips
- Pine needles
- Newspaper
- Leaves

Nitrogen :

- Grass clippings
- Fruit and vegetable scraps
- Flowers
- Chicken manure

Neutral :

- Eggshells

❖ *A healthy compost pile should have much more carbon than nitrogen.*

How to compost

- 1. Start your compost pile on bare earth.** This allows worms and other beneficial organisms to aerate the compost and be transported to your garden beds.
- 2. Lay twigs or straw first,** a few inches deep
- 3. Add manure,** green manure (clover, buckwheat, wheatgrass, grass clippings) or any nitrogen source. This activates the compost pile and speeds the process along.



4. **Keep compost moist**

5. **Cover** with anything you have – wood, plastic sheeting, carpet scraps.

6. **Turn.** Every few weeks give the pile a quick turn with a pitchfork or shovel. This aerates the pile. Oxygen is required for the process to work, and turning “adds” oxygen.



The benefits of composting

- ✓ Adds nutrients to your plants
- ✓ Helps retain soil moisture
- ✓ Recycles Kitchen and Yard Waste
- ✓ Introduces Beneficial Organisms to the Soil
- ✓ Composting offers a natural alternative to chemical fertilizers
- ✓ Reduces Landfill Waste



Thank you for your attention !!



Sources:

<https://learn.eartheasy.com/guides/composting/>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Compost>

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