

Happy May everyone! The May flowers are about to bloom, animals are coming out of hibernation, and it's warming up outside! Remember to check your worm bins to see if it is ready to harvest! If your worm bin is ready to harvest, email The Worm Lady! thewormlady@reaps.org

What are the different kinds of compost?

1. Vermicomposting
 - Red Wiggler worms are kept in a bin to feed on food scraps and other organic material to create castings which is a nutrient rich compost.
2. Onsite composting
 - Composting small amounts of food waste onsite. Like in your backyard.
3. Aerated (turned) windrow composting
 - Suited for large amounts of food waste generated by high volume food-processors like restaurants.
4. Aerated static pile composting
 - Unmoving pile of large quantities of dry material and organics / food waste.
 - Often used by farmers or landscapers
5. In-vessel composting
 - Processes large amount of waste of any kind in a large container that is mechanically aerated

Which items can go in a compost bin?

(Circle the correct items)



Send any questions, art or inquiries to:

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What are the benefits of composting?

Composting organic materials prevents them from ending up in the landfill and producing methane gases that pollute the air. Compost, when it has fully broken down can be used in your garden to improve its health by providing nutrients to the soil from the broken down waste. Compost can help conserve water, it is spongy which helps it retain water that's why it is great to put on top of your garden bed, so the topsoil doesn't dry up.

When all of your excess food waste is put into a compost it helps to reduce your personal food waste, because you are now preventing it from going to the landfill, improving your carbon footprint.



Did you know?

Items like avocado pits and peels, corn cobs, egg shells take a long time to decompose in a compost bin. To help speed up the process you can break these items down into smaller pieces so it's easier for worms and bacteria to break it down.

Different ways to use compost!

- Use as a top soil layer by spreading it over the top of your garden, or gently mix it into the soil
- Mix it in with potting soil for happy house plants
- Make compost tea by steeping some compost in water then pouring the tea into your garden/pots. Compost tea helps get all of those nutrients right into the roots of your plants.
- Sprinkle on your lawn
- Add to fruit trees by sprinkling some around the base.