

Composting

The Natural Way to Recycle

Carbon & Nitrogen

Sources for Compost

Carbon Materials



Nitrogen Materials



Why is composting Important?

Composting plays an important role in reducing the amount of waste entering our landfill, while also creating a product that is useful in the environment. Organics are often a large contribution residential waste.

On average, landfill volumes from 2011 to 2019 for residential waste have shown a 59% increase in the summer months. This is influenced by yard waste entering the black residential bins. By composting this increase in volume can be reduced, and in turn will save valuable space in the landfill, which will also reduce associated costs in higher volumes of waste. There are a few simple ways in which people can reduce the volume of organics in residential waste. **Residents can drop off yard waste for free at the landfill to be composted, or they can set up a simple back yard composting system, view back side of this page for more information.**

What is composting?

Composting can be described as **breaking down organic materials**, such as food and yard waste into a soil amendment.

Compost is made with the help of **special microbes that decompose organic matter** in an oxygen rich and moist environment. There are four key ingredients for making a healthy compost, **browns, greens, air, and water**. Browns are carbon rich materials, such as leaves, saw dust, and fine woodchips. Greens are nitrogen rich, grass, fruits, and vegetables. Air and water are important for the microbes which decompose the organic material.

Composting has many benefits. Applying your backyard compost to soil and plants can improve their overall health and productivity. It can act as a natural fertilizer for lawns and gardens.



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Environmental Services Department

For additional information on Composting visit www.saskwastereduction.ca/compost