



What is composting?

Composting is the regulation of decomposition of organic matter. Decomposition occurs naturally, but when we compost we regulate it by feeding a bin or pile with food scraps and garden trimmings and manage the conditions of the compost bin or pile.



How to compost

Composting works in steps

1. Put your food and yard scraps (like dead leaves and lawn clippings) in a container
2. Place scraps into your compost bin over 8 inches of sticks
3. Turn your compost over periodically while adding more scraps
4. Incorporate your finished compost into your soil!



Believe it or not...

Most products advertised as compostable, like some utensils and straws, are only compostable in industrial facilities.

Composting 101

So what can you compost?

YES!

- Fruits / Veggies
- Bread /Pasta
- Tea /Tea Bags
- Coffee Grounds
- Coffee Filters
- Shredded Newspaper
- Crumbled Eggshells
- Napkins
- Paper Towels
- Yard Clippings
- Dryer Lint
- Hair



NO!

- Meat
- Eggs or Dairy
- Plastic
- Invasive Weeds
- Diseased Plants
- Oily Substances
- Cat or Dog Waste
- Diapers





Smaller pieces compost better!



The decomposition process works much faster when the material is smaller, so cut up your scraps before adding them to your bin/pile!

Why should I start composting?



Composting can save you money by reducing the amount of garbage you produce. It can also save you money you would spend on buying fertilizer for your garden!

It also lowers your carbon footprint! Because you are producing less waste, you are reducing the amount of energy expended by transporting and getting rid of your waste.

Turn over your pile twice a week



Turning your pile over with a rake or shovel maximizes microbial activity and speeds up the decomposition process

Notice something smelly?

Your compost might have too much water or too many greens



Fix this by letting it dry out a little or add more browns

Visit CCE Nassau for more information!



Is your compost done?

If you are turning and feeding your compost, it should be done between 6-8 months



Finished compost should be moist, uniform in size and color, and smell like soil



<https://ccenassau.org/horticulture/soil-testing-services>

<https://planthardiness.ars.usda.gov/>

<https://www.greatnorthernregreenery.com/10-tips-keep-garden-healthy/>