

COMPOSTING AT HOME

Plant Waste + Moisture + Warmth + Air + Micro-organisms + Time = COMPOST



Benefits of Composting

Conservation of Landfill Space

Landfills are very expensive to operate, and they take up a lot of space. By diverting some waste from the landfill, we can decrease the land required for disposal.

Aerobic Decomposition

In a landfill, organic waste breaks down via anaerobic digestion and produces many volatile gases. Composting keeps the digestion aerobic and natural, which decreases the amount of pollution produced.

Waste Expense Savings

The City of Deerfield Beach pays for transportation and disposal of solid waste. By diverting organic waste from the landfill, the City saves money, which translates to more efficient use of City funds.

Excellent Fertilizers

Produced free of charge, compost serves as an environmentally sound alternative to commercial fertilizers.



Buying an Earth Machine Compost Bin

To purchase a compost bin, call the City of Deerfield Beach Department of Recycling & Solid Waste Management at 954-480-4391.

Earth Machine compost bins are being sold at the low price of \$50.

Did You Know?

- There are more micro-organisms in a teaspoon of soil than there are humans alive on the planet.
- The average U.S. household generates 650 pounds of compostable materials each year
- Over 40% of what goes into the landfill is organic waste that could be composted.



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Will it smell?

A compost pile that is working well should not have an unpleasant odor. If it does, the materials may be too wet or compacted. Turn the pile to let it dry out, or add dry materials such as leaves.

How to Harvest Finished Compost

After a few months, the material near the bottom of your composter will no longer be individually identifiable. This means your compost is ready. Just lift the harvesting door on your bin, and dig the compost out!

Where to Use Your Compost

Compost can be used in your garden, on your lawn, and around trees and shrubs.

What is compostable?

While not a complete list, here is a large compilation of acceptable and non-acceptable products to compost.



Acceptable Food	Acceptable Other	Not Acceptable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coffee grounds & filters • Corn cobs & husks • Tea bags & leaves • Eggshells • Fruits & vegetables • Grains (cooked or uncooked) • Nut shells • Old spices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Algae (pond weeds) • Cardboard rolls, clean paper & shredded paper • Cotton & wool rags • Dryer and vacuum cleaner lint • Fireplace ashes • Grass clippings • Leaves • Sawdust • Wood chips • Yard trimmings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black walnut tree leaves or twigs • Coal or charcoal ash • Dairy products • Diseased or insect-ridden plants • Fats, grease, lard or oils • Meat or fish bones & scraps • Pet wastes • Yard trimmings treated with chemical pesticides

