Food Waste and Composting

What is compost? Compost is a nutrient rich, dirt-like material that can be used to enrich soil and nourish growth.

You can make compost at home by sorting and creating a bin or pile of organic material, such as food scraps, leaves, grass clippings and allowing it to decompose. While this process takes time in nature, we can help speed it up by creating the ideal environment. By adding carbon (browns) and nitrogen (greens) to organic material, combined with lots of air and water, you can create a nutrient rich substance that can be used as natural fertilizer to soil - sustaining future growth.

Here are just some of the benefits of compost:

Improves Soil Structure

Natural proteins in compost help dirt bind together, which helps soil retain nutrients and moisture. Did you know that soil can retain 16,000 gallons of water per acre for every 1% of organic material? That means that adding compost to soil can reduce the water needed for crops.\*

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It’s A Natural Fertilizer.

Compost introduces both microorganisms like bacteria and fungi; and nutrients like nitrogen, copper, phosphorus, and zinc, to soil, which makes it more fertile.

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Reducing Diseases.

Compost makes soil healthier, causing plants to be more resistant to diseases and harmful insects.

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It helps us to have a healthier planet.

Throwing organic material into the garbage is harmful to the environment. Organics make up about 1/3 of our waste, removing organic material from our garbage reduces the amount of trash we send to landfills.

Plus, organics don't belong in the trash. Organic material decomposing in landfills releases harmful methane, a gas 20 times more effective at trapping heat in the atmosphere than carbon dioxide. Landfills make up 17% of the United States' methane emissions. By composting we can substantially reduce harmful emissions to the environment.\*