BACKYARD STATIC COMPOSTING GUIDE

GREEN OCEANSIDE

Turn your food scraps and yard trimmings into garden gold!

Composting is nature's way of recycling. There are many benefits to properly disposing of organic material such as food scraps or lawn clippings. Composting prevents greenhouse gas emissions from landfills and improves the quality of home gardens.

Making your static compost bin.

- Find a dry shady spot with access to water to keep your bin
- Start with a few inches of organic material such as branches, dry leaves, newspaper, cardboard, lawn clippings, food scraps or coffee grounds
- Larger pieces should be chopped or shredded
- Moisten materials as they are added

Maintaining your compost.

- Add brown (branches, dry leaves, newspaper, cardboard) materials and green (lawn clippings, food scraps, coffee grounds) materials to your bin as they are collected
- Avoid bones, meat, and dairy products
- Your compost bin should have roughly an equal amount brown materials and green materials
- Once your compost pile is established mix grass clippings and other green waste into the pile and bury any food scraps under a few inches of material
- Keep your compost bin covered to help ensure that material stays moist, but not wet
- Turning and mixing of the materials in the compost bin every few weeks can significantly speed up the composting process
- The exact time it takes your materials to compost depends on the materials used

Using your compost.

- When the material at the bottom is dark and rich in color your compost is ready to use
- Compost can be sprinkled on top of flower or vegetable beds, raked into tree beds, or spread on top of your lawn.

For more information on vermicomposting and all Green Oceanside programs visit greenoceanside.org