

# COMPOSTING

Nature's Way of Recycling



# What makes a good habitat?

- “Food” - 2 parts brown/dry to 1 part green/fresh
- Water - as wet as a wrung out sponge
- Air- turn pile regularly



# “Food” for the bin

YES! DO compost

Green (one part)

Fresh grass clippings

Green leaves and  
plant stalks

Annual weeds/no seed  
heads

Veggie and fruit scraps

Coffee filters, tea bags,  
egg shells

Brown (two parts)

Dried leaves, twigs  
and grass

Shredded newspaper

Straw, wood chips

Old potting soil

# “Food” for the bin

NO! Do NOT Backyard compost

Diseased plants

Weeds with seed heads

Invasive weeds

Pet wastes

Dead animals

Bread and grains

Meat or dairy

Grease, oil, oily foods

# Other important control factors:

**Volume** - ideal bin is 3'x3'x3'



**Particle size** - chop it small for more surface area



# More ways to compost:

- Tumblers  
(batch composting)



- Turning bins  
(hot composting)



# Ways to compost:

- Holding bins (open-air composting)



# Uses for compost

- **Soil amendment**  
Mix 2-5" into garden beds.
- **Potting mixture**  
1part compost / 2 parts potting soil
- **Mulch**  
Spread 1-2" around annual flowers, vegetables; up to 6" around trees and shrubs.
- **Top-dressing for lawns**  
Mix sifted compost with sand and sprinkle evenly over lawn.

