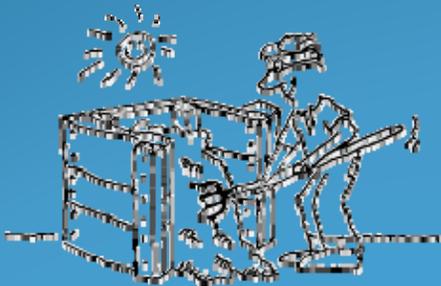




Composting

Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Program



9 Florida Friendly Landscape™ Principles

- Right Plant , Right Place
- Water Efficiently
- **Mulch Correctly**
- Recycle
- **Fertilize Responsibly**
- Managing Yard Pests
- Stormwater Runoff
- Protect the Waterfront
- Attracting Wildlife to Your Backyard



Build It Yourself?



Compost For Sale





#0131650

GardenPlus

**1.4 Gallon/ 5,5L
Kitchen Compost Pail
Cubeta de abono para cocina**

- 9.45 in. x 9.8 in. x 8.9 in.
- Eliminate frequent trips to the composter
- Odor-free with 1 pc. built-in charcoal filter
- Replace charcoal filter every 3 months
- 24 cm x 24, 90 cm x 22,60 cm
- Elimina los viajes frecuentes a la pila de abono
- Sin olores con un filtro incorporado de carbón de 1 pieza
- Reemplace el filtro de carbón cada 3 meses

Item/Artículo #0131650



6 936863 094716

Model/Modelo: #9471

Distributed by/Distribuido por:
L G Sourcing, Inc.
P.O. BOX 1535
N.Wilkesboro, NC 28659
www.lgsourcing.com

**MADE IN CHINA
HECHO EN CHINA**

TCB6800

Price/Convenience/Behavior



Organic Matter

- When preparing soil for planting, improve the nutrient and water holding capacity of a sandy soil by adding...
 - Manure
 - Earthworm castings
 - Compost
 - Mulch



Why Compost?

- Improves the Soil Structure
- Attracts Beneficial Organisms
- Improves Plant Health
- Reduces Landfill Requirements- 3Million Tons
 - 15% of Municipal Waste in FL.
 - 8.3 lbs. per person per day

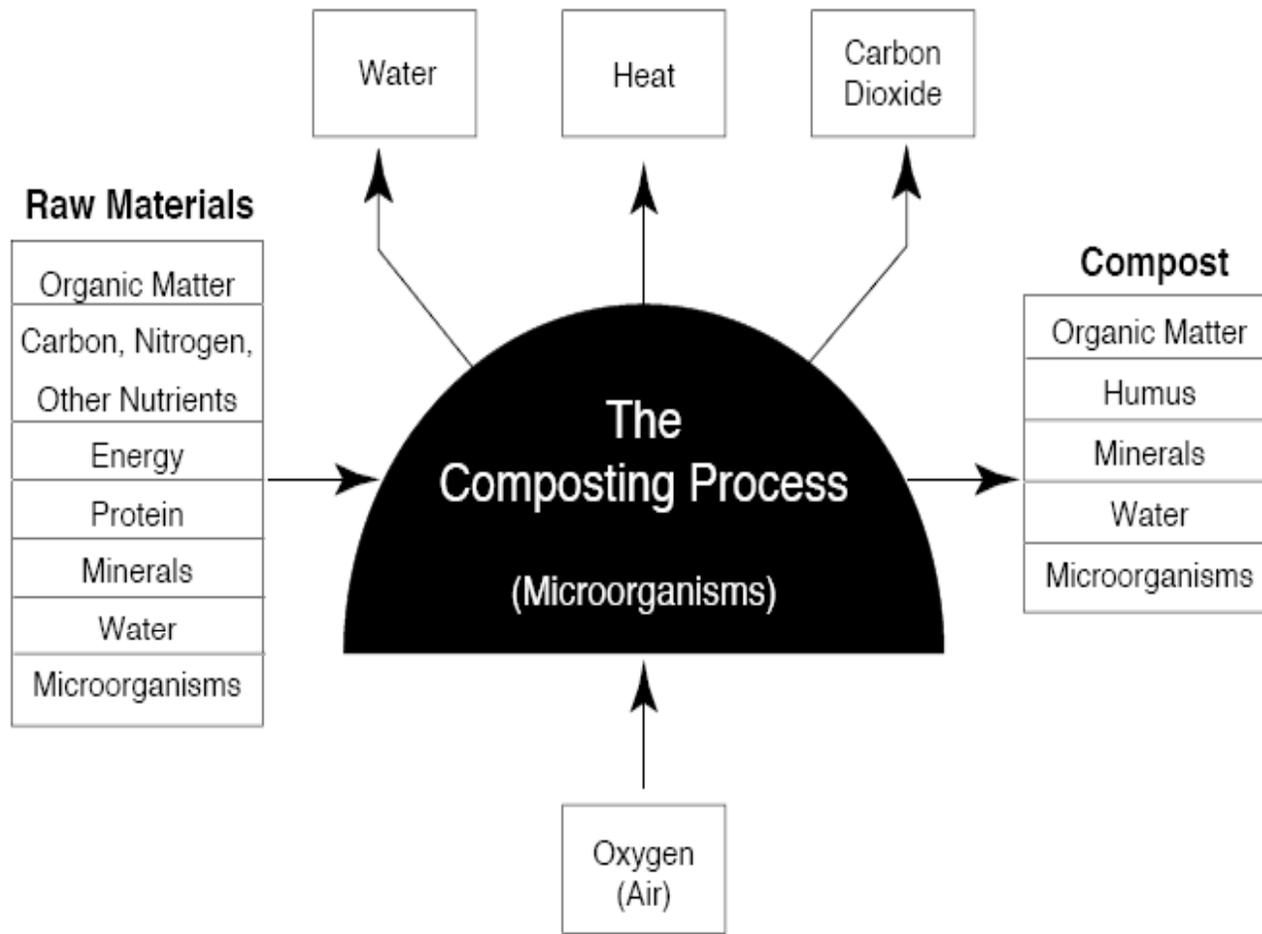




Nutrients

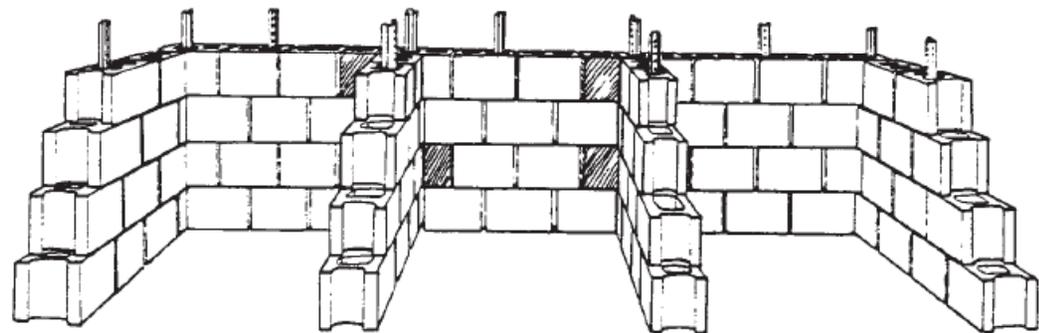
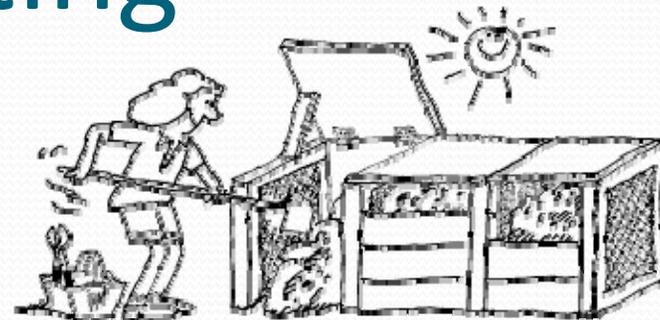
- Plants need nutrients to thrive
- Browns & Greens Mixture
- C/N Ratio (Optimum ration 30/1 or less)
- Usable nitrogen form- microbial action necessary for quick plant uptake
 - Liquid or solids

Fig. 1. The composting process.



Types Of Composting

- Pile or Heaps
- Garbage Can
- Three - Bin System
- Hot -Fast
- Blender
- Barrel
- Mobile Bin



Concrete-block, three-bin turning unit



Decomposition/Composting

Needs: Food/Water/Air

- **Finished Compost**

- Dark in color
- Earthy smell
- Can't recognize particles

- **Unfinished Compost**

- Variety of colors
- Particles recognizable
- Issue- may rob plants roots of nutrients- especially nitrogen

Making Your Pile

- Save Scraps from Cooking (Veggies) and Coffee Grounds
 - Store Under Sink or in Freezer
- Collect Leaf Litter and Branches
- Grass Clippings
- Wood Chips
- Sand
- Moisture Source



Factors Effecting Action

- Aeration
- Turning
- Moisture
- Carbon-To-Nitrogen Ration C:N
- Particle Size
- Degradability
- Temperature
- Time



Particle Size





Decomposers

- Microorganisms
- Bacteria, fungi (yeasts and molds), Actinomycetes (branching bacteria)
- Heat produces
- Invertebrates
- Mites, millipedes, earthworms, snails
- Thrive later in process



Earthworms

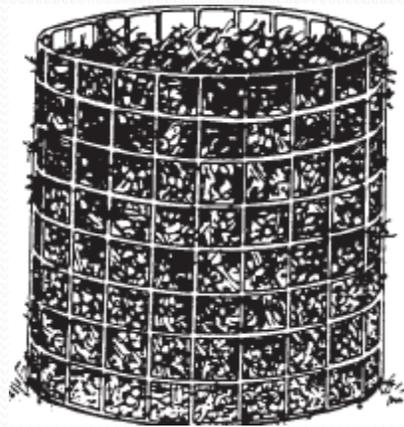


Credit: L.M. Bugallo Sánchez

- Indicator of soil quality
- Burrowing mixes soil
- Ingestion of soil material
 - Decomposition of plant residues
 - Nutrient cycling
 - Casts create aggregates

UF-IFAS Solutions for Your Life!

- <http://compostinfo/tutorial/methods.htm>



**Florida's Online
Composting Center**



Go UF/IFAS!!!!



The logo for the University of Florida, featuring the letters 'UF' in a bold, blue, serif font.

UNIVERSITY *of*
FLORIDA

IFAS Extension

Florida
Yards &
Neighborhoods

The logo for Florida Yards & Neighborhoods, featuring a stylized green and blue graphic of a yard with a blue wave-like shape below it.

Contact Information:

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- www.seminolecountyfl.gov/fyn

