

## Why Compost?

### Reduce Greenhouse Gases

Methane is 20x stronger than CO<sub>2</sub>.



Diverting organics from the landfill reduces methane emissions.

### STOP Soil Loss

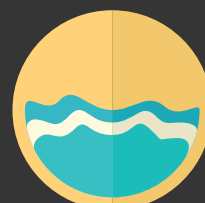
24 billion tons of fertile land is lost every year.



Composting returns nutrients back into soils.

### Save Water

Organic matter retains 18-20 times its weight in water.



1% organic matter in the top 6" of soil can hold 27,000 gallons of water per acre.

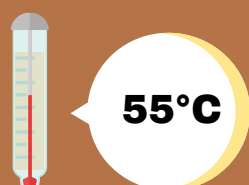
## Types of Composting

### BACKYARD



(SIMPLE)

### HOT COMPOST PILE



(EFFECTIVE)

### BOKASHI



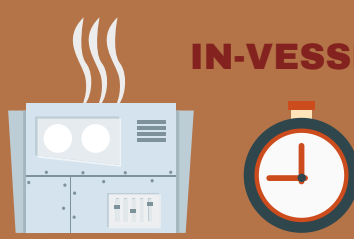
(FERMENTATION)

### VERMICOMPOSTING



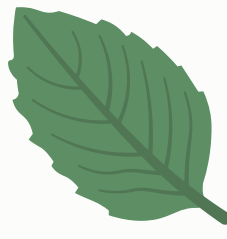
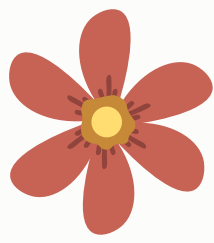
(WITH WORMS)

### IN-VESSEL



(QUICKEST)

## Compost Tips



### Build Diversity

One spoon of good garden soil contains

- \* BILLIONS of bacteria
- \* YARDS of fungal filaments
- \* THOUSANDS of protozoa
- \* SCORES of nematodes.



Feed the soil and the plants will grow.

### Use It Right

Soil amendment  
(Tilled into the soil)

Top dressing or mulch  
(To be absorbed over time)



One inch (or 2 cm) of finished compost can kickstart a garden.

### Recall the Ratio

Finished Compost has a Carbon to Nitrogen ratios 12:1 to 20:1.



The right mix of browns (carbon) and greens (nitrogen) will ensure a smooth composting process.

### Sources

About Food Scraps Recycling Metro Vancouver <http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/solid-waste/recycling-programs/food-scraps-recycling/about/Pages/default.aspx>

United Nations News Climate and Environment <https://news.un.org/en/story/2019/06/1040561>

Soil Health Key Points. United States of Agriculture. [http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE\\_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb1082147.pdf](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb1082147.pdf)

The secret life of soil. Oregon State University. <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/gardening/secret-life-soil-0>

Compost - What Is It? California's Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Organics/CompostMulch/CompostIs.htm>

The Secret to Successful Living. Compost Council of Canada <http://www.compost.org/healthysoilpr/>