

COMPOSTING

An innovative way to save
money and help your
local environment



Purchase a COMPOSTER from the Franklin Lakes Environmental Commission for \$60. Visit www.franklinlakes.org/compost.

- Sturdy and can be left outside indefinitely
- Completely enclosed to prevent rodents or other animals
- Lightweight and easy to move

Food Waste Facts

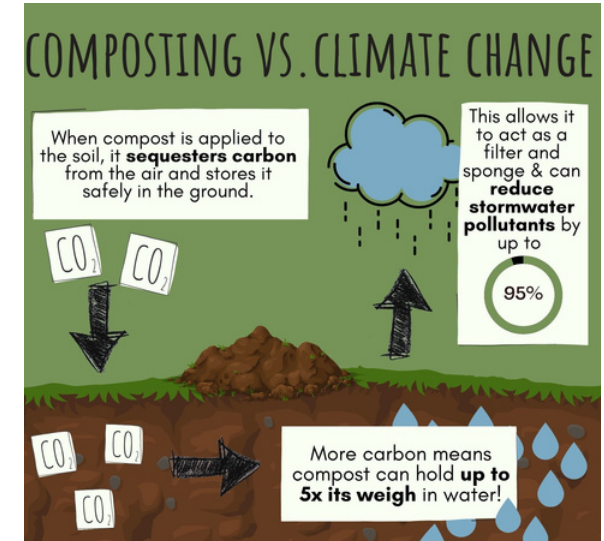
- Over 1/3 of food is wasted in the United States
- The average American family of four wastes \$1,500 of food yearly
- Food waste in the US is equivalent to the greenhouse emissions of 37,000,000 cars
- 6-8% of human-caused greenhouse gases can be reduced by wasting less food



To Learn More

- <https://earth.org/facts-about-food-waste/>
- <https://www.epa.gov/recycle/composting-home>
- <https://www.epa.gov/sustainable-management-food/reducing-impact-wasted-food-feeding-soil-and-composting>

How does composting affect me?



- Compost can build healthier soil, prevent erosion, conserve water, and boost plant growth.
- Reduces your use of fertilizer and pesticides.
- Reduce methane emissions.



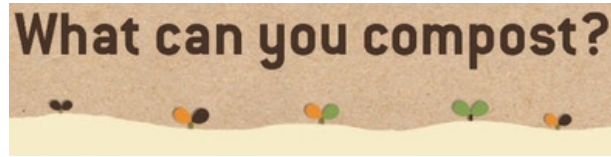
Composting Benefits



- It saves landfill space
- Reduces greenhouse gas emissions
- Involves minimal effort, equipment, and expenses

What is Composting?

Composting is a process that converts organic materials into nutrient-rich soil or mulch through decomposition.



YES! <u>ALL FOOD</u>	NO! <u>NON-FOOD</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fruits• Vegetables• Grains• Shells• Coffee grounds• Tea bags with no staples	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Plastic• Metal• Glass• Styrofoam• Liquids• Chemicals• Paper/cardboard• Stickers, labels

How to Compost

1. Determine how you will collect and store your browns and greens (compost)
2. Set aside space for your compost pile or buy a bin
3. Prepare your ingredients for composting -- break down big pieces
4. Make a layer of your browns (twigs, sticks, woodchips) and then layer it with your bin items
5. Make sure the ratio of browns to green is at least 2:1
6. Add water to dampen if needed



The Research

The research for this brochure was conducted by Ramapo High School student, Erin Freeman. She is the student representative on the Franklin Lakes Environmental Commission.

