



# COMPOST: Impacts More Than You Think




Composting is the aerobic decomposition of organic materials by microorganisms. It transforms raw materials—such as leaves, grass clippings, garden trimmings, food scraps, animal manure, and agricultural residues—into compost, a valuable earthy-smelling soil conditioner, teeming with life.

**One Person's Trash is...**  
...another's black gold.

Every year, U.S. landfills and trash incinerators receive **167 MILLION TONS** of garbage.

**> 50%** of typical municipal garbage set out at the curb is compostable.

Landfills and incinerators are dangerous. Every bag thrown out contributes to:

-  Pollution of surrounding soil, air, and water
-  Climate change
-  Health hazards to humans and animals



- 21%** is food scraps alone
- 15%** paper/paperboard
- 8%** yard trimmings
- 8%** wood waste