

Composting at Home:



There are numerous ways to compost at home. Choose the right compost bin for your situation: the space you have available, the materials you want to compost, your budget, and the amount of time and energy you want to spend.

- If you are low on outdoor space, and have primarily kitchen scraps to compost, an indoor vermicomposting bin (or worm bin) might be best.
- When composting both yard waste and food waste, an enclosed compost bin or barrel, a home-made turning or holding unit, or even a simple compost pile or heap could work.

When combining organic materials to make compost, the carbon-to-nitrogen (C:N) ratio is important. Decomposers are the most active and efficient when the C:N ratio is 30:1.

- Too much carbon (brown material like dead leaves and newspaper) will slow the decomposition process.
- Too much nitrogen (green material like fresh cut grass and vegetable scraps) causes ammonia gas (odors).



Proper aeration (mixing and turning) and moisture levels (40-60% or damp to the touch) are also important for providing optimal conditions for decomposition.

There is so much information about composting available on-line, but here are a few good places to go if you want to know more:



The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has some basic information, with links to other great resources, on its website: www.epa.gov/recycle/composting-home

The U of A Division of Agriculture Cooperative Extension Service has some excellent publications available online at: uaex.edu/publications/order.aspx or printed versions are available at the local extension office here in Fayetteville at: 2536 N. McConnell Ave.

**BE BIG→
START SMALL**



**CITY OF
FAYETTEVILLE
ARKANSAS**

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www.fayetteville-ar.gov/recycle

RecycleSomething.org

**City of Fayetteville
YARD WASTE COMPOSTING**



Composting Starts at Home!



WHY COMPOST?



Organic wastes (food and yard wastes) make up almost one third of all the Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) generated in the U.S.!

Unfortunately, much of that ends up in the landfill, when it could be turned into “black gold.”

- Arkansas legislation prohibits disposal of yard wastes (grass clippings, leaves and shrubbery trimmings) in landfills.
– Act 751 of 1991
- Composting offers an opportunity for individuals and families to help divert waste directly and in a hands-on way that can benefit their garden.
- Home and garden composting is the least expensive way to manage organic waste, and it ‘recycles’ nutrients close to where they can best be used.
- Compost improves the soil by adding organic matter, retaining moisture and nutrients, providing vital aeration to plant roots, and attracting earthworms that further improve soil structure.

YARD WASTE PROGRAM

- Yard waste is collected on the same day as your recycling and household trash.
- Grass clippings and leaves should be bagged in compostable brown paper yard waste bags (available at many local stores).
- Yard waste can also be placed in trash cans (35 gallon maximum) visibly marked as “Yard Waste.” **DO NOT** use City issued trash carts for yard waste!



- Brush must be bundled and tied, no more than 4 feet in length, with no limbs more than 6 inches in diameter.
- Bags, Bins, and Bundles should weigh no more than 50 lbs.
- **NO PLASTIC BAGS OR OTHER PLASTIC, TRASH, ROCKS, OR DIRT.**

Please place yard waste within 5ft. of the curb & at least 3ft. from your trash cart the night before your scheduled trash collection day.

CITY COMPOST FACILITY

The City of Fayetteville’s Compost Facility is located at 1708 S. Armstrong Ave.

Hours: Tues. & Thurs. 8AM-3PM
Nov.-Mar.: 1st Sat. 8AM-noon
April-Oct.: 1st two Sat. 8AM-noon

Yard waste may be dropped off at the compost facility for free by Fayetteville residents (bring water bill with Recycling & Trash charges for proof of residency), or by non-residents and commercial businesses for a fee:

- \$5/Compact pick-up truck
- \$8/ Full-size truck
- \$10/Trailer up to 14ft
- \$15/Trailer over 14ft

Fayetteville residents may purchase one scoop (approximately 2 1/2 cubic yards or a regular size pick-up bed) of City compost for \$20, plus tax. Bags (40-50 lbs.) of compost may also be purchased for \$4 each, plus tax. For bag orders of 10 or more bags please call in advance at 479-575-8398 to have the bags ready for pick up.

Anyone may purchase City mulch (made from ground up trees and limbs) for \$10 per scoop.