

JULY FOCUS

COMPOSTING IN YOUR YARD

What is composting?

- Composting is the natural breakdown of organic materials, like food scraps and yard waste, managed by people to create nutrient-rich soil.
- It works best in open, breathable spaces with oxygen and moisture (like a backyard) where microbes thrive.



Why compost?

- It saves money by reducing trash-bag use and replacing store-bought fertilizers.
- It improves soil health by recycling organic matter and providing better water retention and less erosion.
- Composting cuts down landfill waste and reduces harmful greenhouse gasses like methane.

WHAT TO COMPOST?

Brown Material (carbon-rich)

- Dry leaves
- Shredded cardboard
- Nutshells

Green Material (nitrogen-rich)

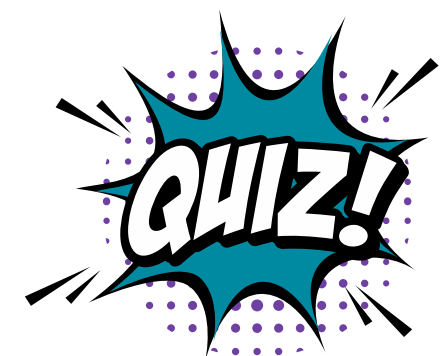
- Fruit peels and rinds
- Grass clippings
- Eggshells

Don't Compost

- Meat and bones
- Dairy
- Oil and grease

HOW CAN I GET STARTED?

- Find a space in your yard then buy a composting bin
- Visit the EPA's website at [Epa.gov/Recycle/Composting-Home](https://www.epa.gov/recycle/composting-home) to learn about the composting process
- Local composting companies can also pick up your materials and compost it off-site



Take the quiz to test your knowledge on composting. Once you take the quiz, you'll be entered into a drawing for a kitchen compost storage bin.

