



Home Composting

Reminders

Wet or green materials: fruit and vegetable peelings (all), eggshells (crushed), tea bags and herbal teas, coffee grounds (with filters), bread, pasta, rice, cereals, legumes, plants and flowers (annuals), stems and leaves, algae, etc.

Dry or brown materials: dead leaves, straw, nutshells, garden soil (in small quantities), potting soil, dried flowers, sawdust (untreated wood), small branches and twigs, shredded cardboard contaminated with food waste, paper and cardboard, paper napkins, natural fabrics (linen, cotton, wool), etc.

Materials to avoid: meats, fish, bones, dairy products, fats and oils, animal waste and litter, weeds and seeds, rhubarb leaves, leaves containing tannins (oak leaves), ashes, grass, chemicals, etc.

Reminders:

- Alternate adding dry and green compostable materials.
The ratio of wet to dry materials is 2 to 1.
- Chop/Shred
Small pieces (chopped food waste, shredded leaves) will decompose faster than larger ones.
- Aerate
Every 7 to 10 days.
- Control humidity
Keep the compost moist to the touch; use rain or cooking water, if necessary.



Dundee
Elgin
Franklin
Godmanchester

Havelock
Hinchinbrooke
Howick
Huntingdon

Ormstown
Saint-Anicet
Saint-Chrysostome
Sainte-Barbe
Très-Saint-Sacrement



Home Composting

Reminders

- In the fall, fill some bags with dead leaves that have been shredded by a mower. This will serve as a reserve of dry material.
- In the spring, turn the compost completely by mixing the dead leaves with the moist material deposited over the winter.
- In winter, if necessary, place a few containers just outside your door to reduce travel to and from your bin.
- **Small flies:** Place a layer of dry material on top of the composter, if necessary, use newsprint or corrugated cardboard.
- **Odours:**
 - Avoid adding materials that do not compost.
 - Aerate regularly (turning completely if necessary).
 - Check the carbon-nitrogen balance (2 parts dry matter to 1 part wet matter)
 - Control moisture (mildew smells like rot).
 - Avoid adding grass (prioritize grasscycling), or add in small quantities (alternating thin layers of grass with dry material).
- **If the compost seems dry (slow decomposition)**
 - Remove the cover during a light rain.
 - Pour in cooking water (rich in minerals).
 - Add water with a watering can.
 - Add nitrogen-rich material (e.g. grass in small quantities)
- **If the compost is too wet (risk of mold):**
 - Add dead leaves and turn it over completely.
- **Major problems:** Turn the compost over completely.