

Compost can also increase the stability of soil which enables it to become more resistant to erosion and compaction and to hold more moisture.

Because composting can reduce the need for fertilisers, herbicides and pesticides, you may be able to eliminate the need for harsh chemicals which can leach into our waterways and groundwater.

Did you know?

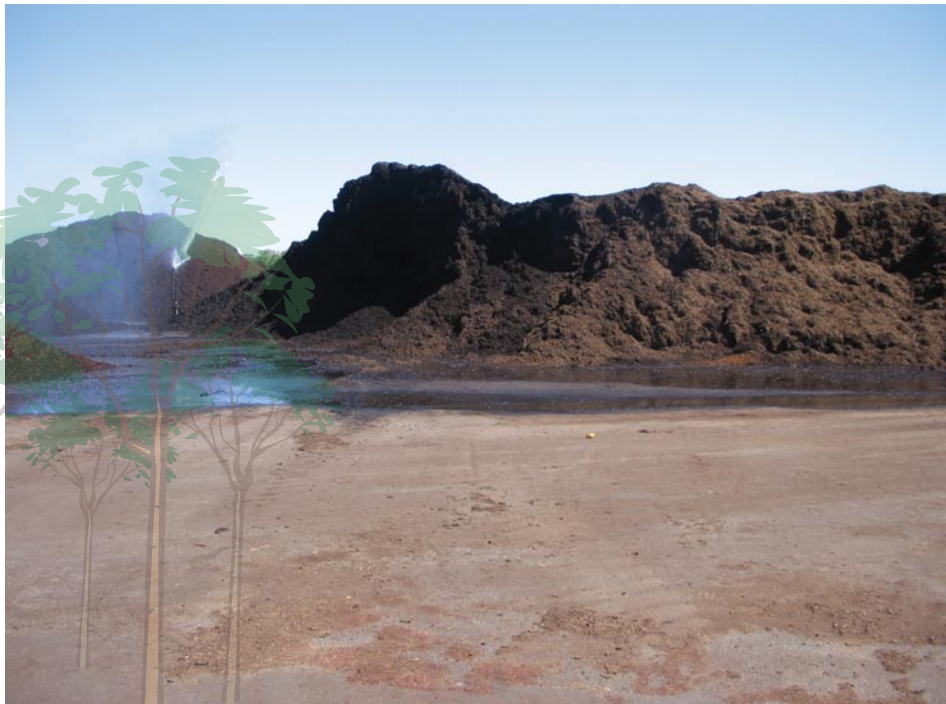
Compost can:

- reduce soil erosion by up to 30 per cent through adding structure to the soil
- assist in the slow release of macro and micro-nutrients in the soil that



are vital for plant growth and this can also reduce the need for fertiliser

- be applied at any time of year
- improve the flavour and nutrient content of fruits and vegetables
- assist in addressing the cause of nitrification and salinity of soil.



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Focusing on the benefits of...

COMPOSTING

For keen gardeners, vegetable growers, land owners or indeed any Western Australian who has an interest in improving the quality of the plant life around them, composting can hold the key to achieving a greatly improved, nutrient rich soil.



in improved plant growth, health and establishment.

Best of all, compost encourages nature to work for you. Earthworms and many other beneficial creatures flourish in enriched soils. Their activities help release

essential nutrients that assist in strengthening plants and increasing their resistance to disease.

What is compost?

Composting is the process implemented to break down organic matter into small particles which can be integrated into the soil for overall improvement. Essentially compost is a natural fertiliser and its use enables valuable organic matter to be returned to the soil.

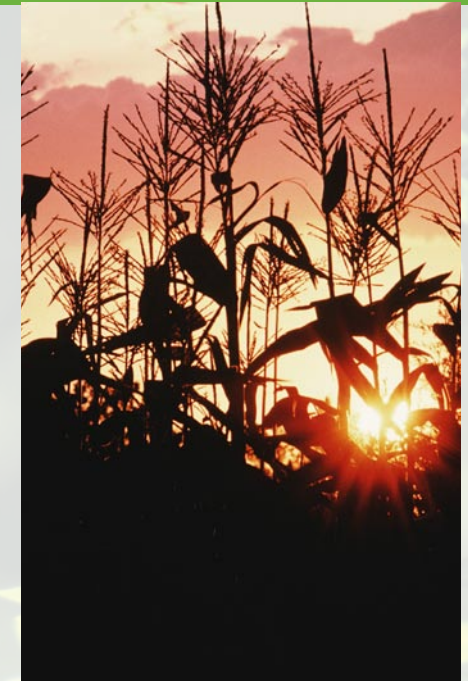
Why compost?

Compost can contribute to sustainable land management by improving soil quality and structure, which can result

Why it's good news for plants

Compost provides food for soil life and is an excellent natural source of essential plant nutrients, including manganese, zinc and iron, which are often only readily available from the soil once an artificial fertiliser is applied.

And that's not all. Compost assists in binding clusters of soil particles together and helps to develop tiny air channels



and pores where roots can grow. This can help in increasing the nutrients necessary for healthy plant growth and intense colours throughout the growing season.

The benefits of applying compost to your soil include:

- improved water retention
- assisted plant growth and disease resistance
- reduction of filter runoff, which can protect streams and waterways from erosion and pollution sources
- less need for commercial herbicides or pesticides
- increased soil structural stability
- protection from soil erosion

- improved weed suppression
- increased soil nutrient levels.

Why composting can benefit your back pocket

Over time, continued use of compost can save you money by reducing the need for water and fertiliser. Increased soil organic matter can also contribute to soil health, which can reduce garden management and maintenance requirements.

Why compost benefits the environment

By using compost, not only can you help to reduce the amount of waste that goes into landfill, you can also help reduce greenhouse gases.

