

General Compost Uses and Instructions

Follow these tips to get the most out of your compost!

Spring Composting:

- Prepare flowerbeds a month before planting by mixing 2 inches (50.8mm) of compost into the top 8 inches (203.2mm) of soil;
- Get ready to plant new lawns by rototilling 2 inches of compost into the top 6 inches (152.4mm) of soil before seeding;
- Get indoor seedlings ready for transfer by planting them in containers with 1 part compost to 4 parts soil.



Summer Composting:

- Topdress established lawns with 1/4 inch (6.35mm) of compost;
- Topdress existing trees and shrubs with 1/2 inch (12.7mm) of compost;
- Side dress plants by applying a 1/4 inch layer of compost around the base of the plants, not directly to.



Fall Composting:

- After removing finished plants from a garden pot, mix 2 inches of compost with soil to restore nutrients;
- Plant bulbs and tubers in 1 part compost to 4 parts soil;
- After aerating lawns for Fall, apply a thin 1/4 inch (6.35mm) layer of compost that will work into the soil slowly over the winter months.



Winter Composting:

- Using 1 part compost to 4 parts soil for indoor potted plants;
- Brew "Compost Tea" by soaking leftover or extra compost from the growing season in water for at least 24 hours. Can be used as a foliar spray on indoor plants, potted plants, or around root systems.



District of Summerland's Compost



Compost Composition

District of Summerland's compost is high quality, sustainable, and safe Class A biosolid compost. The Class A government designation means that the product can be sold with no restrictions. It can be safely applied to lawns, flowers, shrubs and gardens.

Compost Pricing

Head up to the Summerland Landfill with your containers/bags and shovel, and pay 2 cents per kilogram (minimum charge \$2.00) for premium District of Summerland Compost! If needed, we can load your truck, approximately \$22.00 per load. Trucks can be loaded Monday through Friday 9:00am-2:45pm, except between 12:00-12:30 for lunch.

Benefits of Using Compost

- Prevents erosion and stabilizes soil.
- Lowers irrigation and watering needs.
- Provides necessary nutrients for plant growth.
- Diverts waste from landfills.
- Increases water retention.
- Helps plants withstand pests and disease.
- Reduces weeds.
- Lowers winter damage and nutrient loss.
- Increases soil infiltration.
- Adds beneficial microbes to soil.
- Reduces thatch build-up.
- Saves money by reducing the number of garden products and watering needs.



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