

# 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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