



User Guide for Composting



The Composting Technology

The composting process begins with the homeowner separating the organic matter from the household waste. The Mountain View Regional Waste Management Commission trucks pick up the organic matter from your home *green bins* and the community grass bins and deliver to the Olds College Composting Technology Centre. The organic matter is formed into long piles called "windrows".

Micro-organisms start to decompose the organic matter within days of delivery. The windrows are managed by turning regularly to blend the composting matter and re-incorporate air. The high temperatures produced by the micro-organisms ensure pathogen destruction.

The windrows are closely monitored and managed for 4 to 6 months, until the material resembles a dark soil-like amendment. After the curing process is complete, the mature compost is screened to a 5/8" particle size.

To ensure excellent quality, samples of the compost are sent to an independent laboratory for testing.

Compost Bins

Composting our County's organic wastes just makes sense. Not only are we saving landfill space and money, but we are conserving valuable organic matter and nutrients, which we can then return to enrich the earth! Your dedication to this program is continuing to make it a great success!

Please ensure that the composting program is successful by making sure that there are no contaminants in your green bin.

The following materials can be placed in your green bin:

- **fruits and vegetable waste**
- **pasta, rice, bread**
- **coffee grounds, filters, tea bags**
- **egg shells**
- **meat, bones**
- **fish, solid fats**
- **dairy products**
- **grass clippings, garden and plant waste**
-

Disposal of contaminated or non-compostable material in the green bins is not permitted.

CONTAMINATED BINS = GARBAGE

GARBAGE = INCREASED DISPOSAL COSTS