

**COMPOSTING:
Nature's Way of Recycling!**

ABOUT THE CENTER

The Compost Education Center was created in 1995 to educate citizens about the benefits of backyard composting and the ways to do it. The center features an educational kiosk, demonstration bins, mulch made of recycled pallets, benches made out of recycled plastic and native and drought tolerant plants.

WHY COMPOST?

By composting your food scraps and yard trimmings, you are saving valuable landfill space, creating a nutritious soil amendment that can reduce the need for fertilizers and watering, and reducing the amount methane (a powerful greenhouse gas) that is created when organics decompose in a landfill.



To view a copy of this brochure or download the free compost recipe card, scan the QR code below or visit the Backyard Composting Page at:

www.raleighnc.gov
919-996-6872



City of Raleigh
Solid Waste Services
PO Box 590
Raleigh, NC 27602-0590

City of Raleigh

COMPOST

EDUCATION

CENTER



A guide to compost bins and methods highlighted at:

**City of Raleigh Yard
Waste Recycling Center**

900 N. New Hope Road
Raleigh, NC 27610

THERE ARE MANY WAYS TO COMPOST...

...DISCOVER WHICH METHOD IS BEST FOR YOU



HOME COMPOSTER



GEOBIN



TUMBLER

STATIONARY BINS:

There are many commercially available stationary bins that are popular for backyard composting, such as the Home Composter and the Earth Machine. These high capacity composters fit nicely into urban backyards. Their snap together pieces make assembly easy and vents on the sides allow for air to circulate. The open bottom allows beneficial interaction with decomposers in the soil, however turning and watering the compost can be more challenging with this type of design. These bins, made from recycled plastic, are typically an affordable and easy solution.

WIRE AND MESH BINS:

Wire or mesh bins are convenient, economical, and can be easily built at home out of wire screening or chicken wire. This design promotes good air circulation necessary for composting but may dry out quickly and require more frequent watering. If compost is not well managed, pests could become an issue with the open design. Assembly is easy, usually requiring no tools beyond a pair of wire cutters for homemade bins. The mesh bins are lightweight but durable and easily moved around.

TUMBLERS:

There are also many styles of compost tumblers available for purchase. Usually the most expensive option, their design does allow for easy mixing and quick production of compost. Elevated design with convenient door and turning grooves make this a user-friendly and pest resistant option. Internal mixing fins make turning the compost easy and accelerates the compost process. Tumblers work best when all materials are added at once and turning can become difficult if the bin is too full.



EARTH MACHINE



WIRE BIN



TUMBLER

PILES:

As the saying goes, "Compost Happens." You don't need a bin to compost, it's easy to start a pile in the yard. This option follows the same principles as composting in the bin. Choose a well drained location that is out of direct sunlight and somewhat protected from the elements. If you live in an urban area, consider that your neighbors may find a pile unsightly and construct the pile in a discreet area of your yard.