

What is Composting?

Composting systems are used to accelerate the natural decaying process. A compost pile is a collection of organic materials (materials made from plants and animals) such as leaves, yard trimmings, food scraps and manures that will decompose over time to create compost.

Compost is the end product of the decomposition of these materials. It improves soil in a number of ways. Compost increases aeration (the ability of air to circulate), water-holding capacity and helps plants absorb nutrients.



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The Benefits of Using Compost...

PHYSICAL

- ★ Compost improves soil structure and increases water holding capacity.
- ♻️ Compost improves drought tolerance.
- ♻️ Compost reduces soil erosion.

BIOLOGICAL

- ♻️ Compost increases microbial activity in soil – releasing nutrients from organic matter.
- ★ Compost can reduce soil-borne plant diseases.
- ♻️ Compost helps plants develop thicker and more active root systems in a short period of time with compost.

CHEMICAL

- ♻️ Compost is a good source of macro/micro nutrients with slow release.
- ♻️ Compost can reduce fertilizer needs by up to 50 percent.
- ♻️ Compost helps soil hold nutrients and resist leaching.

COMPOST APPLICATIONS

- ♻️ Compost can be used for landscape projects.
- ♻️ Compost can be used as a soil amendment for use in turf and garden applications.
- ♻️ Compost can be used as mulch.
- ♻️ Compost can be used as a growing media component.
- ★ Compost can be used as a top-dressing.
- ♻️ Compost can be used as garden bed establishment.
- ♻️ Compost can be used for erosion control.



What is 'GeorgetownGreen?'

"GeorgetownGreen" is a Class A,* humus-like material that is a result of biosolid composting. It is made from a mixture of treated sludge received from the Murrells Inlet and Pawley's Island Waste Water Treatment Plants, the Regional Waste Water Treatment Plant and yard waste collected at the Georgetown County Landfill. The sludge is tested for polychlorinated biphenyl's (PCBs) and toxicity characteristic leaching procedure (TCLP) prior to receipt at the compost facility. The yard waste and sludge are mixed at a 3:1 ratio.

A quality check of the compost can be made by testing seed germination and the growth rate of flowers and vegetables.

The Georgetown County Compost Facility uses an aerated static pile composting approach. Temperature and moisture content are monitored daily. Before

"GeorgetownGreen" is sold it must meet strict temperature requirements. Each batch of compost also is analyzed by a certified laboratory for metals and fecal coli form. These steps are taken to conform with both the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (U.S. EPA) and the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control's (DHEC) regulations as well as ensure that "GeorgetownGreen" is of the highest quality.

*Class A compost meets time, temperature and moisture requirements of the U.S. EPA and DHEC.



Where can I get 'GeorgetownGreen?'

"GeorgetownGreen: The Lowcountry's Best Compost" is available from the Georgetown County Regional Compost Facility (GCRCF). The facility is located at 203 Landfill Road, Georgetown. GCRCF is open Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturdays 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. (except holidays).



"GeorgetownGreen" costs \$25 per ton with a \$10 minimum. All sales are bulk sales (NO bags or containers). Compost facility staff will be available to load it for you and answer any questions you may have. For additional information, please call (843) 545-3443.



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