

## SUSTAINABLE MORRISTOWN

### Talking Points on Compost

1. What compost does?
  - a. It holds moisture and nutrients allowing plants to grow larger and taste much better
  - b. Creates Black gold
2. Why Compost
  - a. Food Waste is a problem
    - i. Feeding America stated: "An estimated 40% of food grown, processed and transported in the US will never be consumed."
    - ii. Food and Agriculture Organization: "1/3 of the food produced in the world get wasted each year, equally 1.3 billion tons"
    - iii. EPA: "97% of all food waste go into a landfill"
    - iv. "Less than 3% of food waste is composted."
    - v. UNEP stated "The amount of food waste produced by a person each year is more than 480 lbs of food waste in the USA"
  - b. Savings
    - i. Business and individuals can save up to 700 dollars annually by composting
      1. Cost of transporting and disposal of waste
  - c. Compost enables Healthy Soil and Gardening
    - i. Compost provides a more moisture and nutrient soil which thereby helps your garden and lawns become more luscious
    - ii. Help plants fight more diseases
  - d. Protecting local biodiversity
3. How to Compost
  - a. It is not a science anyone can take yard waste, kitchen scraps, paper (non-glossy) into a pile or container and let it compost
    - i. Generates its own heat, faster in the summer slower in the winter. Only labor is some periodic turning
4. Composting Essentials
  - a. Ingredients for good composting
    - i. Green/brown material
      1. Green material

- a. Fruit
- b. Vegetables
- c. Food scraps
- d. Weeds
- e. Used coffee grounds
- f. Manure
- g. Corn husks
- h. Grass clippings
- i. Tea bags

2. Browns

- a. Twigs
- b. Leaves
- c. Shredded paper
- d. Egg cartons
- e. Coffee filters
- f. Weeds
- g. Cardboard

3. Moisture

ii. Aeration

- 1. Turn to give oxygen to speed up the process. Breaks down the compost faster with bacteria and heat

5. What can't be composted

- a. Meat
- b. Bones
- c. Shells
- d. Fat
- e. Dairy
- f. Eggs (shells are okay)
- g. Yard waste
- h. Feces
- i. Diseased plants

6. Different Composting Options

- a. Tumbler
  - i. Which speeds up process with aeration
- b. Vericompost
  - i. Which has worms to speed up the process of decomposing
- c. Compost Heaps/Pile
  - i. Just leave and turn every once and awhile
- d. In vessels
  - i. Great for large companies
  - ii. Allows everything and breaks it all down