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# 6 REASONS COMPOST

#### 3. It's Easy!

Start

Composting

Missoula Compost delivers our collections to Missoula Garden City Compost. This commercial facility allows the community to compost a greater variety of natural materials in a higher quantity at a faster rate.

All you need to do is put the right materials in our green bins, whether at home, work, or one of Missoula's many events.

Zero Waste. What is Industrial Composting and How Does It Work?. April 14, 2023

# **4.**Conserve Water

Using compost soil in landscaping and gardening increases the grounds ability to retain water. Studies have shown 3 inches of compost increased the water holding capacity by 250% when compared to native sandy soil.

Using compost soil reduces periods of water stress on plants and lessens the amount of water needed for healthy lawns, gardens, and houseplants.

M. Charles Gould, Michigan State University Extension - October 16, 2015

# 1. Reduce Landfill Waste

In 2017 the US alone generated 268 million tons of waste. Every bag thrown out contributes to pollution of soil, air, and water.

At least 28% of typical garbage put on the curb is compostable.

EPA. Facts and Figures about Materials, Waste and Recycling. December 2022

# 2. Restore Local Soil

When plants grow they absorb nutrients such as nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium from the soil. The more nutritious the soil, the healthier the plant.

Using and creating compost soil is a great way to restore depleted soil with important nutrients for strong and prosperous growing seasons.

Hattabaugh. Atlas Organics. 4 Ways Compost in Used in Ecological Restoration. 2021

### **5.Reduce Erosion**

Compost increases quality of soil structure, air flow, and water content leading to quicker establishment of new vegetation and decreases erosion rates.

University of Georgia. Compost Utilization for Erosion Control. 6/8/2023

# 6. Reduce Gas Emissions

Landfills are packed so tightly, compostable items are forced to break down without oxygen. When food and other compostable materials break down in this way they produce harmful gasses; primarily methane. These gasses then accumulate in the atmosphere leading to environmental damage.

Compost material to restore nutrients in your community instead of sending them to the landfill to decompose dangerously. EPA. Facts and Figures about Materials, Waste and Recycling. December 2022