

# 10 Reasons to Love Compost

# 1. Make a positive environmental difference

#### 2. Send less to landfills

➤ 1/3 of materials being sent to landfills are organic materials

## 3. Reduce greenhouse gases

➤ 38 per cent of Canada's total methane emissions come from organics that are buried in the landfill. (Environment Canada)

#### 4. Recover Valuable Material

Compost is the single most important ingredient for healthy productive soil

#### 5. Decrease soil erosion

Compost helps enhance soil structure and binds soil particles together.

## 6. Revitalize the soil

Compost helps provide sustenance for biological diversity in the soil

#### 7. Reduce the need to water

Compost improves soil structure which helps water retention

## 8. Reduce the need for pesticides

Compost can help suppress plant diseases

## 9. Save money

No longer need to buy soil amendments

## 10. Make your garden grow

Compost increases the health, vitality, and fertility of your garden.



The Municipality of Sheenboro will be composting by 2020.





Municipality of Sheenboro



# Sheenboro's Composting Initiative

The government of Québec has set out an initiative to remove all organic waste from household garbage being sent to the transfer site by the year 2020. Failure to do so will result in an extra disposal charge.

Organic waste makes up more than 20% of household garbage! The cost of transporting household garbage is approx. \$200 per ton! This expense is funded by our taxes. Therefore, the only way to reduce this expense is by removing organic waste from our garbage!

# How you as a resident can help!

In order to achieve the goal of reducing organic waste in our garbage, it is important that you as residents begin composting at home!

Composting in a rural municipality however, is not the same as composting in the city, but don't worry it's not hard!

### Composting in the city:

All food (cooked or uncooked), diapers, litter, meat and bones, etc., can be put into collection bins.

#### Composting at home in a rural municipality:

Organic waste is place inside your composter and mixed with sand and a little bit of water.

This composting is perfect for making healthy soil without attracting animals or foul odors

## What can I compost at home?

In your home composter:

- Fruit and Vegetable wastes
- Grain products
- Egg shells
- Nut shells
- Tea bags and coffee grounds/filters
- Leaves (chopped)
- Grass (dry, untreated)
- Plants/ weeds, old potting soil
- Shredded paper
- All natural fibres (ex. Cotton)
- Dryer lint
- Wood chips

## In the Digester:

- Meat products
- Cooked foods
- Dairy products
- Sauces
- Grease, fat, and oil

### Do **NOT** put in composters/ digesters:

- Plastics and metals
- Chemical products
- Pet waste/litter
- Barbeque ashes
- Diseased plants

(Government of Canada: environment and climate change)

As it becomes harder and harder to dispose of household waste in Sheenboro, the municipality is taking steps to help this composting intitiative! The municipality will soon be providing digesters at the transfer site!

For more information on how you can begin composting at home please refer to:

- www.recyc-quebec.gouv.qc.ca
- The Composting Council of Canada
- NOVA Envirocom (www. novaenvirocom.ca)
- Government of Canada: environment and climate change (www.ec.gc.ca)