

# FREE COMPOST

## SHOREWAY ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER

### 333 SHOREWAY ROAD, SAN CARLOS



**Residents\* Get Free Compost Year Round!**

Getting your free compost is easy!

1. Go to the scale house (main entrance via Gate 1) and show proof of residency (e.g., utility bill or identification card) to the attendant.
2. Proceed to the Transfer Station for the compost, up to two 3-cubic feet empty paper bags are available for you.
3. Shovel your own compost into the bags. Shovels are provided.



Limit is two bags per visit, up to two visits per week, based on availability. The free compost is for residents in the RethinkWaste service area\* only, and not for commercial use.



Compost is made from food scraps and yard waste set out by residents and businesses!



**Simple. Smart. Green.**

[RethinkWaste.org](http://RethinkWaste.org)

\*RethinkWaste service area: Atherton, Belmont, Burlingame, East Palo Alto, Foster City, Hillsborough, Menlo Park, Redwood City, San Carlos, City of San Mateo, parts of unincorporated San Mateo County, and the West Bay Sanitary District

# COMPOST IS GARDENER'S "BLACK GOLD"



- ◆ Improve moisture retention
- ◆ Amend sandy and clay soils
- ◆ Grow healthier plants
- ◆ Reduce pest problems
- ◆ Reduce use of pesticides
- ◆ Save money

## Using It as Soil Amendment

Dig or rototill 1 to 3 inches of compost into 6 to 12 inches of top soil. Mix and water well.



## Using It as Mulch

Spread compost 2 to 3 inches thick like you would regular mulch to help control weeds, conserve water and prevent soil erosion.

## Using It as Potting Mixture

Combine 1/3 compost, 1/3 sand and 1/3 soil to make your own potting mix.

## Using It as Lawn Top Dressing

Spread 1 inch of compost on top of your lawn, rake in and water well. Continuing to rake it over time will help it sink into the soil.

## Using It as "Compost Tea"

Place a cloth or mesh bag of compost, or loose compost into a bucket of warm water and let it steep for several days, stirring occasionally to aerate. It should look like weak tea when ready. If using loose compost, strain through a cheese cloth or some similar item. Then use the "tea" to water your plants and gardens. The wet compost can also be used in your garden.



**Never plant flowers and other plants in compost only. When using as mulch, keep compost away from the main stem or trunk of plants. Never use smelly compost tea on your plants as it can harm them.**