

How To Apply Compost

Existing Flower Beds - Add about 5 cm (2") of compost and work into the soil. Water until the entire root zone is saturated.

New Beds - Add 5 cm (2") of compost and mix to at least a 13 cm (5") depth, then plant and water the flowers.

Vegetable Gardens - Apply about 2.5 cm (1") of compost and mix to a depth of 13 cm (5"). Be careful not to apply too much compost as many vegetables won't grow in abundance if there's too much nitrogen in the soil, which actually increases soil acidity and reduces other nutrients.

New Lawns - Apply 5 cm (2") of compost and mix to a depth of 13 cm (5") before you sod or seed your lawn. Water thoroughly.

Seeded Lawns - Apply the seeds and a slight dusting of compost to cover. Once you have seeded your lawn, water thoroughly.

Topdressing - Aerate the entire area before topdressing. Rake 1.25 cm (1/2") of compost evenly over the area. Water thoroughly.

Mulching - Mulch around plants using a 5 cm (2") layer of compost.

Mulching Around Trees - Arrange the mulch so that water flows away from the tree trunk. When mulching, choose a coarse-textured compost to reduce weeds and provide a thick cover to the area.

Tree Planting - Dig a hole about 3 to 5 times the diameter of the root ball of the tree. Before planting, add 30% compost to the original soil and mix thoroughly outside of the hole. Place the tree in the hole and use the compost-soil mixture as backfill around the root ball. Water thoroughly.

Benefits of Composting

When we compost, we reduce waste in our landfills, reduce methane production and green house gases, and enrich our soils, naturally.

Composting Reduces Waste & Helps the Environment - The more kitchen and yard waste we compost, the less waste goes into our landfills. Keeping organic waste out reduces methane production and resulting green house gases.

Using Compost Improves Soil & Plant Health - The application of quality compost improves the soil in our lawns and gardens in so many ways:

- Provides slow release macronutrients and organic material
- Improves drainage and aeration in dense, clay soil
- Enables light soil to retain nutrients and moisture
- Makes most soils more workable for replanting and weeding
- Attracts earthworms and other beneficial organisms
- The dark colour attracts and holds the sun's warmth