

# COMPOSTING AT HOME

## WHY

- To recycle yard and food scraps instead of disposing of them
- To create healthy fertilizer for your garden

## WHERE

- Anywhere in your yard, preferably in the sun
- In an open pile
- In a purchased composting bin
- In a homemade composting bin
- 4 used pallets fastened at corners
- Chicken wire
- Anything that will let air and rain in and through

## WHAT

- "browns" – sawdust, shredded brush and branches, leaves, straw, wood shavings, dry grass clippings
- "greens" – weeds, grass clippings, wood stove ashes, flowers, grain-eating livestock manure, vegetable and fruit scraps, grain product scraps (bread, pasta, etc.), crushed egg shells, coffee grounds, tea bags, (Leave out meat, fish, bones, or cheese if you don't want animal visitors)

## HOW

- Place the materials that you have available in your pile
- Try for at least half "browns" to let the compost "heat up"
- Layer your materials or mix them up
- When you have more to add, just pile them on top, or dig a hole in the pile, put them in and cover them
- Either leave the pile alone for a year or so, or if you want faster results, turn the pile every few weeks to let the air get to the inside
- When you can't tell what went into it anymore and the pile is all brown and crumbly – That's Compost!

## WHO BENEFITS

- We do when you keep materials out of the waste stream
- You do when you use your compost – "brown gold" – as fertilizer for your garden to make soil healthy and rich!