



Get inspired for the 2021 edition of EWR

Don't throw it away COMPOST IT with your neighbours

Do you have room at home for a compost? If not, you can start a collective compost in your neighbourhood! Participants can bring their decomposable and non-polluting waste in a common compost bin, collecting then a natural and organic fertilizer after 6 to 12 months.

Which waste can I compost?

As a general rule, all organic material can be composted in a neighbourhood composting site. But remember to keep a balance among:



Green waste

All waste that is relatively humid (fruit and vegetable peels, coffee grounds or even eggshells).



Brown waste

Drier waste and helps to aerate the compost (leaves and small dead branches, handkerchiefs or even uncolored cardboard).



Not welcomed

Only decomposable and non-polluting materials are welcome in your compost (Plastics - even compostable, synthetic textiles, vacuum bags, carpentry wood, ash and disposable diapers).

If **reducing food waste** is the best way to reduce your organic waste, **compost** is an easy and economical way to recover it.

How can I compost?



Vermicompost

Ideal on the balcony, cellar, kitchen. Adopt some worms to get rid of your organic food.



Collection

Not ready for your own compost? Sort your organic waste and garden waste from the rest.



Garden compost

Classic and traditional, you just need a barrel or a bin.



Community compost

Keep reading this factsheet to learn more about community composting.

Basic rules to start a **community compost**



Gather good companions

Surround yourself with motivated people with whom to carry the project. The success of community compost depends on the commitment of the participants.



Find the right spot

Plan a land provision agreement with the owners, whether private or public (municipality, region, etc.).



Check the local regulation

Get in contact with your municipality or municipal waste management company to understand the local regulation on composting sites. In fact, depending from the country, it could be not allowed to collect organic waste in the community compost.



Define some management rules

Establish good management rules: appoint one or two site managers, and organize the input of compostable materials and maintenance and distribution of ripe compost.



The more the merrier!

Keep the residents of the neighborhood informed and recruit participants using leaflets, Facebook groups or social events.

Why should I start a **community compost**?



To connect people

Bring residents together around sustainable projects at the scale of an entire neighborhood improves the environment and activate social connections.



To promote organic food

The neighborhood composting sites can become places to gather people and promote sustainable food (through vegetable gardens, workshops, bread ovens, etc.)



To value waste

It reduces your waste while giving a new value to it: transform your waste in a quality fertilizer!



To reduce CO²

It reduces the production of CO² emissions of transport and treatment processes related to residual waste.



More green

Adding trees, climbing plants and hortages in the composting sites promotes the presence of biodiversity in the city!



Inspired by



Source (in French):

[Why should I compost my organic waste?](#)
[The neighborhood compost](#)
[Professional bio-waste facilitator](#)

What can I do during the EWWR?



Raise awareness about food waste

Involve your community (school, office, neighborhood) in activities aimed at discovering how to avoid food waste. For instance, organise a cooking class to explain how to reuse the food that you forgot since a while in the fridge.



Sort the organic waste

Encourage your family, friends and colleagues to sort the organic waste from the residual one. Check your municipality's website to know how the collection is managed (door-to-door, collection points, eco-centre, etc.)



Join a Community Compost initiative

Check if community composts are already active nearby your house and become part of the community bringing your organic and biowaste. In exchange you might get an high-quality compost to use in your garden or for your indoor plants.



Start a community compost

As public administration, association or private company, start a community compost in your area. It's important to always get in touch with the public company in charge of the municipal waste management. Check [the guide of Zero Waste Europe](#) on community compost.

Do you need more inspiration? Check this out!

WORMS asbl

Management and recovery of organic waste in Brussels (in French)

ShareWaste

An app to donate/ receive organic waste to/from your neighbours all around the world

Dhor el Compostador

A project to involve students in building a school compost

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20-28
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