



CCCA W.I.L.D. RANGERS

# THE DIRT ON SOIL

## HOW TO MAKE YOUR OWN COMPOSTER

### Materials:

- a tote/large Rubbermaid bin
- Drill
- Soil
- Water
- Shovel
- "Brown" organics (i.e. leaves, pine needles, lawn clippings, or even shredded newspaper/paper)
- Food waste (mostly focus on veggies and fruits)

### Steps:

1. Drill holes into the lid and bottom of the tote (aeration + drainage)
2. Fill about 1/3 of your tote with brown organics of your choice and then fill about half a tote's worth of soil
3. Put in your food waste
4. Stir it all up
5. Moisten the soil

## TIPS AND TRICKS OF COMPOSTING:

1. You can put tea bags and coffee filters in your compost
  - a. You can even put your coffee grinds right into soil of your garden
2. Avoid adding any animal by-products (oils, fats, bones, dairy products, meat scraps, etc.)
  - a. HOWEVER egg shells can go in your compost and are actually very beneficial for gardens
3. Put your composter in an area it won't get drenched by water but receives some sunlight
4. Worms can help but are not necessary
5. Make sure you mix up your compost about once a month (more if ambitious)
6. Banana peels contain minerals that really benefit plants, soak in water and use the water for your plants before composting.

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