



Outrageous Compost Facts

Food waste

- Food and paper are the two largest contributors to landfill, and make up more than half of all landfill waste – more than all plastics, diapers, Styrofoam, and tires, COMBINED. [source: US EPA]
- Food and paper are biodegradable in nature but not in landfills, due to lack of OXYGEN being buried deep and saturated with water. Landfills EMBALM food and paper for many years. The only real decomposition is anaerobic (lacking oxygen) which produces methane horrible greenhouse gas (see global warming).
- Food is the #1 LEAST recycled material [US EPA]
- The average American produces 4 lbs of landfill waste every day – that's more than 50 TONS over a lifetime. Half of this waste is compostable .
- The US is far behind the rest of the world in recycling– most Asian and European have far more advanced recycling efforts, in many cases with steep fees and more categories for separating recyclable materials (including compostables). In some countries, clear plastic trash bags are required so that “trash police” can inspect trash and issue fines for non-compliance.
- We are literally running out of landfill space – even with all of our wide open western and mid-western states. Suburban sprawl requires hauling trash longer and longer distances to landfills – with great expense and environmental impact.
- The US creates more and more trash every year, despite increased recycling attention. This is because of population growth and overall economic growth (we're buying and trashing more stuff as we “trade up” to higher levels of prosperity). In many cases, even the rates of recycling are decreasing, due to general apathy/complacency.
- Many communities in the US don't even have curbside collection of recyclables

NatureMill automatic composters

- A NatureMill unit recycles its weight every 10 days – two tons over its life span
- Energy consumption is just 10 watts (\$0.50/month) – less than a trash truck uses to haul the comparable amount of trash
- Can handle up to 5 lbs of food and paper waste per day – because most food is water which evaporates, and paper is mostly air which gets compressed down
- No odors because compost cultures work so quickly, with good oxygen circulation
- Unlike backyard compost piles, NatureMill can handle meat, fish, chicken, dairy, because of guaranteed high compost temperatures (insulated walls, internal heater)
- The world's first fully automatic indoor composter (Patent pending)
- Mother nature – in a box, for lazy people
- Global reaction from day one: orders from Finland, Belgium, Korea, India, etc....
- Empty just once every two weeks – less work than emptying regular trash

Compost

- Compost is a gardener's gold: high in nutrients (nitrogen-based), and highly absorbent means less watering
- Compost is organic – not a chemical fertilizer (which contaminates drinking water, kills fish, frogs, etc.)
- Compost offers “closed loop” sustainability: from table, to compost, to garden vegetables, back to the table.
- Home composting offers a hands-on sense of ownership – make your own
- Commercial composting is essential for the “organic” movement
- Compost produces heat – which could be used to (in theory) for power generation to supply homes with heat and electricity.
- Compost is the most efficient type of recycling: it does not involve chemicals, huge amounts of power, or diesel trucks (as do other types of recycling)
- backyard composting can be a real challenge: rats, raccoons, bears, snow, rain, apathy, back-breaking mixing, E. coli, moisture level, carbon:nitrogen ratio, etc.
- large-scale municipal composting can be difficult: permitting obstacles, occupational health, NIMBY, lots of diesel trucks, etc. (it is done widely in California)
- Worms offer another way of composting, but they are gross, and tend to die

Gardening

- Gardening is the #1 pastime in America, surpassing even baseball and football (source?). Gardening is even more popular in other parts of the world such as Europe, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, etc.
- Americans are spending big money on gardening/patio: automatic irrigation systems, exotic plants, teak wood furniture, etc.
- Most gardeners do not pay any attention to soil: pH, nutrients, salinity, etc.
- Gardeners enjoy fresh healthy organic living, but dump chemical fertilizers into their food chain anyway.