



COMPOST 2019

Ron Dulceak, Head of Facilities



BACKGROUND

In 2018 Facilities began separating out our composting materials in several usable piles with the intent that Collections would begin using the materials throughout the grounds. There has been a compost pile in Ware Field collecting materials for roughly 18 years. Upon separating the large pile into several smaller usable piles Kris Bachtell collected several samples to be tested for nutrients and weed seed content. The results were that we had a product that was rich in nutrients and minimal perennial weeds.

COMPOST BENEFITS

- Soil Quality Enhancements - adds organic matter to soil, prevents nutrient runoff and erosion
- Water Quality - reduces the need for synthetic fertilizers that contaminate local water sources and deplete the oxygen levels in the water
- Landfill Capacity - reduces the amount of material into our local landfills
- Greenhouse Gases - reduces methane gas production, landscape waste increases the production of methane gas in landfills



COMPOST SITE

STAGE 1



STAGE 2



STAGE 3



FUTURE ACTIONS

- Mulch three of the piles to breakdown the large debris
- Use compost in the Arbordale plot and throughout the grounds
- Continue to add wood chips and turn each pile quarterly to optimize the breakdown of the organic materials
- Investigate using paper towels as a source of compost materials and reduce our landfill waste



COMPOST & MULCH PROCEDURES

- PILES SHALL BE NO TALLER THAN 15' HIGH
- PILES SHALL BE NO WIDER THAN 15'
- SPACING BETWEEN WINDROWS SHALL BE 20' FOR SAFETY
- ALWAYS USE THE OLDEST MATERIAL FIRST
- WHEN ROTATING PILES, PLACE AN 8" LAYER OF FRESH CHIPS AND THEN ADD TURNED COMPOST ON TOP OF CHIP BASE
- AVOID COMPACTING THE PILES



Why Rotate?

- IT INCORPORATES OXYGEN
- DISPERSES MOISTURE
- AIDS IN BREAKDOWN
- KEEPS HEAT DOWN



Why Rotate?



MULCH FIRES



FIRE & SAFETY

1. NOTIFY SECURITY TO CALL LWFD
2. NEVER PUT YOURSELF OR OTHERS AT RISK
3. AVOID **USING WATER TO EXTINGUISH FLAMES**. THIS CAN CAUSE FUTURE HEAT WHICH WILL LEAD TO COMBUSTION
4. USE EQUIPMENT TO PULL THE BURNING MATERIAL FROM THE PILE
5. KNOCKDOWN AND SPREAD THE BURNING MATERIAL TO SAFELY BURN OUT OR THEN EXTINGUISH WITH WATER
6. ONCE SAFE ADD MATERIAL BACK TO THE PILE



COMPOSTABLE MATERIALS

- ANNUAL FLOWERS AND PLANTS
- PUMPKINS AND GOURDS
- STRAW
- PLANT TRIMMINGS
- GRASS CLIPPINGS
- SPRING AND FALL CLEAN-UP
- WOOD CHIPS



NON-COMPOSTABLE MATERIALS

- PLASTIC, BOTTLES, BAGS, OR CONTAINERS
- WIRE OR ROPE OF ANY KIND
- METAL OR ROCKS
- STUMPS OR LOGS
- KITCHEN SCRAPS OR ANIMAL WASTE
- TREATED LUMBER



APPLICATIONS

- TOP DRESS & SEED LAWN AREAS
- REJUVENATE GROWING PLOTS



APPLICATIONS

- AMEND POOR SOIL CONDITIONS
- TRANSPLANTING TREES, SHRUBS, AND FLOWER



RESULTS

