

# Composting

**Composting is a simple way to reduce the amount of waste you dispose of.**

The Municipality of Dysart et al sells two different types of composting units: Composters (\$57 flat fee) and Digesters (\$124 flat fee) can be purchased at the Haliburton Landfill, 222 Industrial Park Road, Haliburton, during regular operating hours.

## Composter

Composters use air, moisture and the layering of different materials to aid decomposition and create nutrient rich soil as a finished product.

### 50% "green" materials



Raw fruit and vegetables



Coffee grounds and filters, tea bags



Egg shells



Fresh (green) yard clippings, plants, leaves

### 50% "brown" materials



Dry leaves and plants



Dry sticks (broken up)



Hair and fur

### Tips

- Place in a sunny area that can be easily reached during all seasons.
- Start with a layer of twigs and sticks. Add materials, alternating between "green" and "brown" layers.
- Turn the pile with a shovel to add air.
- The pile should be as damp as a wrung-out sponge.
- A well-managed composter produces finished compost in one to two years.
- Spread finished compost on lawns or add to gardens to return nutrients to the soil.



## Digester

Digesters promote decomposition without air. Micro-organisms breakdown organic waste and it leaches into the ground, feeding plants that surround it.



Cooked food



Baked goods



Coffee grounds and filters, tea bags



Dairy



Eggs and egg shells



Green yard clippings, plants, leaves



Meat and bones



Raw fruit and vegetables

### Tips

- Place in a sunny area that can be easily reached during all seasons.
- Place the digester over a 1 meter (3 foot) hole.
- Install the digester and then start adding kitchen waste. Limit meat/bone/fish for the first 4-6 weeks until the digester is established.
- If your digester is placed at least 10 feet away from your veggie garden, you can even add pet waste. If adding pet waste, ensure cat litter is not added to the unit.
- Ensure quantities of leaf and yard waste in your digester are limited.
- Digesters do NOT produce compost/humus.



Do NOT place compostable/biodegradable plastics (bags, cups, take out containers, utensils, etc.) to your Composter or Digester. These products will not breakdown in either type of composting unit.



Municipality of  
**Dysart et al**

705-457-1740 [www.dysartetal.ca](http://www.dysartetal.ca)

