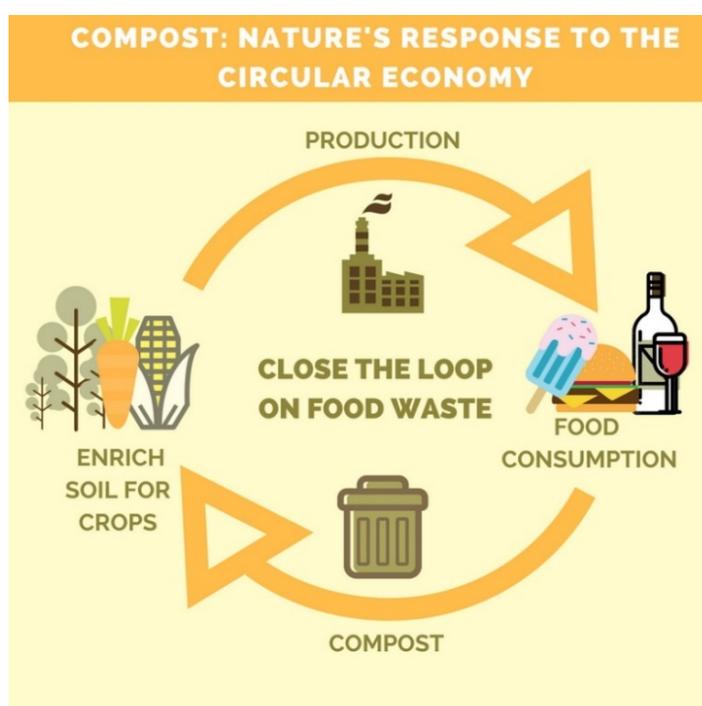


MEDIA RELEASE

COMPOST: Nature's Circular Economy

With available area for landfill in low capacity and increasing levels of carbon emission, the need to facilitate organic recycling becomes ever more crucial. Organic recycling refers to recycling waste from food scraps and garden waste that if left to decompose without air in landfills becomes a deadly environmental component, methane - a gas that is 25 times more potent than carbon dioxide.

In recent years, the concept of “Circular Economy” has become an industry buzzword and a popular approach towards a productive economy aiming to improve long-term sustainability. It is an approach that goes beyond just recycling and attempts to prevent food waste going to the landfill. Composting is nature's Circular Economy, where food waste is reduced and reused and its nutrients recycled into fertiliser. By returning these nutrients back to the soil, rather than letting organic waste rot away in landfills we can feed diverse life in the soil. The bacteria, fungi, insects and worms in compost support healthy plant growth, which will help offset greenhouse gas emissions.



May 7th to 13th marks International Compost Awareness Week (ICAW) in Australia. This is a week during which Australians are encouraged to promote the importance and benefits of composting, through workshops, demonstrations or tours. All types of composting events that encourages and celebrates composting can be registered and promoted on the official ICAW event calendar - <http://www.compostweek.com.au/core/events/register-an-event/>

“We need to close the loop on food waste and encourage more families and local communities to repurpose waste through composting. Each time we throw away organics such as food scraps and garden waste in the rubbish bin we are contributing to climate alteration. A lot of people are still unaware of this and we believe that if they knew, they would try to do things differently”, explains Eric Love, Chairman of the Centre for Organic Research & Education (CORE) – the not-for-profit



Centre for Organic
Research & Education



International Compost Awareness Week
7-13 May 2017
Australia

organisation has been championing this international campaign exclusively in Australia for 12 years in an effort to reduce the amount of organic waste going to landfill.

Major supporters of this year's campaign include the Queensland Department of Environment and Heritage Protection and Penrith City Council. Penrith Mayor Councillor John Thain said "Penrith is a leader in sustainable and responsible waste management, and organic composting plays an important role in that. I congratulate and thank our community for their commitment and actions, as Penrith continues to reap the benefits of organic composting."

Below are some ideas for disposing your organic waste:

- Compost it using a compost bin or make your own compost heap!
- Feed it to a worm farm – avoid citrus, spicy food, garlic, onions, meat, dairy and processed foods such as bread, pasta...
- Feed it to your chooks – if you are lucky enough to have a backyard!
- If you live in an apartment, the Bokashi Bin Bucket might be more suitable or you can also find a community garden near you to give your organic waste to, they usually have a few compost bins and worm farms.

ENDS

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Major Supporters

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