

Brix Bounty Farm – Resources for Composting and Irrigation



Composting has many benefits, including:

- 1) Reducing the amount of waste entering our solid waste stream – i.e. landfills or incinerators.
- 2) Creating a natural fertilizer to help improve our garden soils.
- 3) Improving the availability of nutrients from other natural sources, i.e. – rock amendments (soft rock phosphate, greensand, etc.).

The basic keys to composting are to strive for the appropriate carbon/nitrogen ratio (browns to greens).

Composting Bins are available from the Greater New Bedford Regional Refuse Management Office, 300 Samuel Barnet Blvd. (Industrial Park) in New Bedford. They have 2 sizes available, 30 cu ft. (\$30) and a 24 cu. ft. (\$24). Hours: M-F 9AM-3PM, Sat 8AM – 10AM. Contact Marie Alves at 508-763-5924 with questions.

Books about Compost and Vermicompost

Fletcher Sims Compost by ACRES USA

<http://www.acresusa.com/books/closeup.asp?prodid=43&catid=51&pcid=2>

Let it Rot: The Gardener's Guide to Composting by Stu Campbell, Storey Publishing, 1998.

<http://www.storey.com/>

The Rodale Book of Composting, Martin and Gershuny, ed. The Rodale Press, 1992. www.rodalestore.com

Worms Eat My Garbage by Mary Appelhof. Flower Press, 1997. www.wormwoman.com

Websites focusing on Compost

ATTRA publication of Notes on Compost Tea - <http://attra.ncat.org/attra-pub/compost-tea-notes.html>

Cornell Composting - http://www.css.cornell.edu/compost/Composting_homepage.html (site maintained by [Cornell Waste Management Institute](http://www.css.cornell.edu/compost/Cornell_Waste_Management_Institute)) and <http://cwmi.css.cornell.edu/smallscalecomposting.htm>

EPA Compost Page - <http://www.epa.gov/waste/conserve/rrr/composting/index.htm>

A basic website covering composting 101 - <http://www.howtocompost.org/>

Journey to Forever, focusing on appropriate technologies - http://www.journeytoforever.org/compost_farm.html

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Mass DEP - <http://www.mass.gov/dep/recycle/reduce/composti.htm>

Mass DEP – Composting Workshop Notes <http://www.mass.gov/dep/recycle/enforcement/comwkshp.htm>

Websites focusing on Vermicompost – including where to get worms!

ATTRA Publication - <http://attra.ncat.org/attra-pub/PDF/vermicomp.pdf>

** Cape Cod Worm Farm (Buzzards Bay, MA) - <http://www.capecodwormfarm.com/index2.php>

Mass DEP <http://www.mass.gov/dep/recycle/reduce/vermi.htm>

**The Worm Ladies of Charlestown (Rhode Island) - <http://www.angoraandworms.com/index.htm>

Worm's Way - <http://www.wormsway.com/Default.aspx?AC=1>

Information on Rain Barrels and Drip Irrigation

** Great to be Green (Swansea, MA) - They have rain barrel supplies and equipment, a store and also at the Padanaram Market in Dartmouth on Friday afternoons. Phone: (508) 567-0274 and info@greattobegreen.com

Drip Irrigation for Home Gardeners (Colorado State) - <http://www.ext.colostate.edu/pubs/garden/04702.pdf>

Healthy Landscapes – Drip Irrigation from URI - <http://www.uri.edu/ce/healthylandscapes/dripirrigation.htm>

Drip irrigation supplies are often available locally at hardware stores and garden stores or online through a number of outlets, including: Johnny's Selected Seeds – www.johnnyseeds.com

Soaker hoses are an alternative to drip irrigation and make sense in certain situations; they're also easy to find.

Commercial Scale Vendors

Drip Works USA (CA) - <http://www.dripworksusa.com>

Rain Bird – www.rainbird.com

Trickl-eez Company (PA) - <http://www.trickl-eez.com/>

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