

# Composting is for everyone

Canada has been celebrating International Compost Awareness Week since 1995. Sponsored by the Compost Council of Canada, this year's event will take place from May 5 to 11, with the theme "Feed the Soil . . . COMPOST!"

Both industry and individuals are the targets of this awareness campaign. Composting is an eco-friendly activity within everyone's reach, whether you live in a downtown apartment, a pretty country house, or even if you own a business. All you have to do is to adapt it to your lifestyle.

Composting consists of recuperating organic waste, which eventually turns into a dark brown soil matter that enriches gardens. Best of all, it reduces pollution and the amount of garbage going to waste management sites. The composting process takes between three months and three years, depending on the chosen method.

A Canadian household can reduce its yearly garbage production by up to 40 percent simply by composting. All it takes is a small investment for the purchase of a domestic composter as well as a container for kitchen waste. After that, all you need is your kitchen waste and lawn cuttings!

One of the most persistent myths about composting is that it smells bad.

True enough, mixing kitchen waste, leaves, and maybe even a few worms in the same container doesn't seem very appealing. However, it is really just a matter of chemistry. Compost will not smell if the different elements of a good composting recipe are respected.

If you'd like to start composting, your first step should be to learn all about the procedures to follow. And even though this natural fertilizer can be made throughout the year, don't forget that spring is the best time to start.

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**Halton REGION**

**2014 Rain Barrel**

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Part of Halton's water efficiency program

Date	Location
Saturday, May 24, 2014 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Halton Regional Centre, (enter off North Service Road) 1151 Bronte Road, Oakville
Saturday, May 31, 2014 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Robert C. Austin Operations Centre, 11620 Trafalgar Road, Georgetown
Saturday, June 7, 2014 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Milton GO Train Station Parking Lot 780 Main Street East (Main, west of Thompson), Milton
Saturday, June 14, 2014 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Mapleview Mall, (lower parking lot by the Bay) 900 Maple Avenue, Burlington

**Halton residents only**  
(must provide proof of Halton Region residency)

**New this year:** optional online pre-payment and home delivery service available directly through the supplier.

For more information, visit **Halton.ca/rainbarrels**.

Please contact us as soon as possible if you have any accessibility needs at Halton Region events or meetings.