

Compost & Climate

Presented by:



Learn how to compost and
how it affects our environment!



Compost Now!

The Importance of Composting

1 What to Compost

2 Methods of Composting

3 Techniques for Healthy Soil

Questions • Free GEOBIN Info





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Founding director of ReSoil Sacramento, community compost network.

- 1.4 million lbs diverted to local soils.
- 25 Farm-to-Fork Restaurants, 2 Farmers Markets, Residential
- 20+ Community gardens, urban farms, schools, private residences.
- Designed for pedal-power.



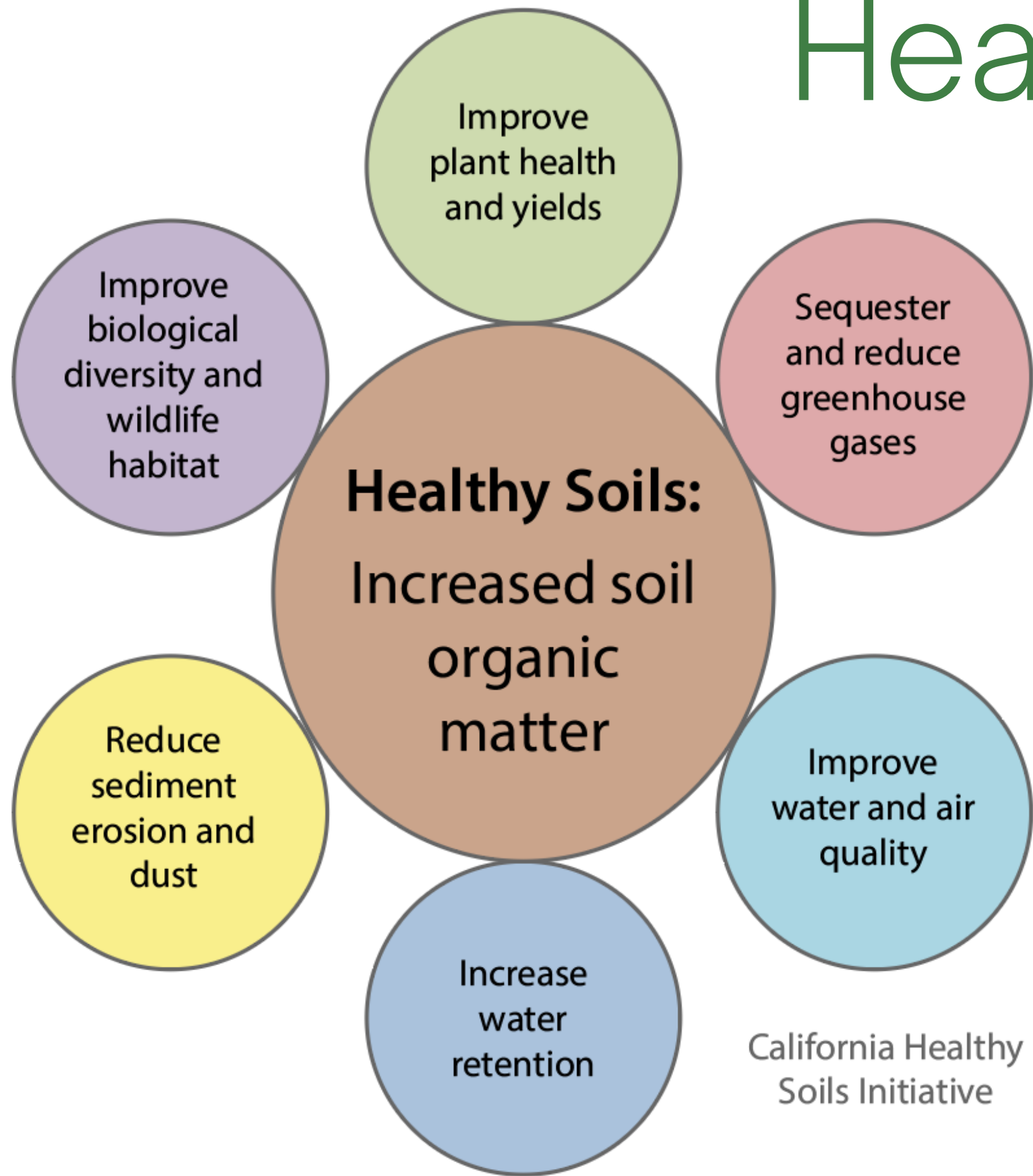
Compost Now!!!

Eliminate Greenhouse Gases

Build healthy, living landscapes
and ecosystems



Healthy Soils



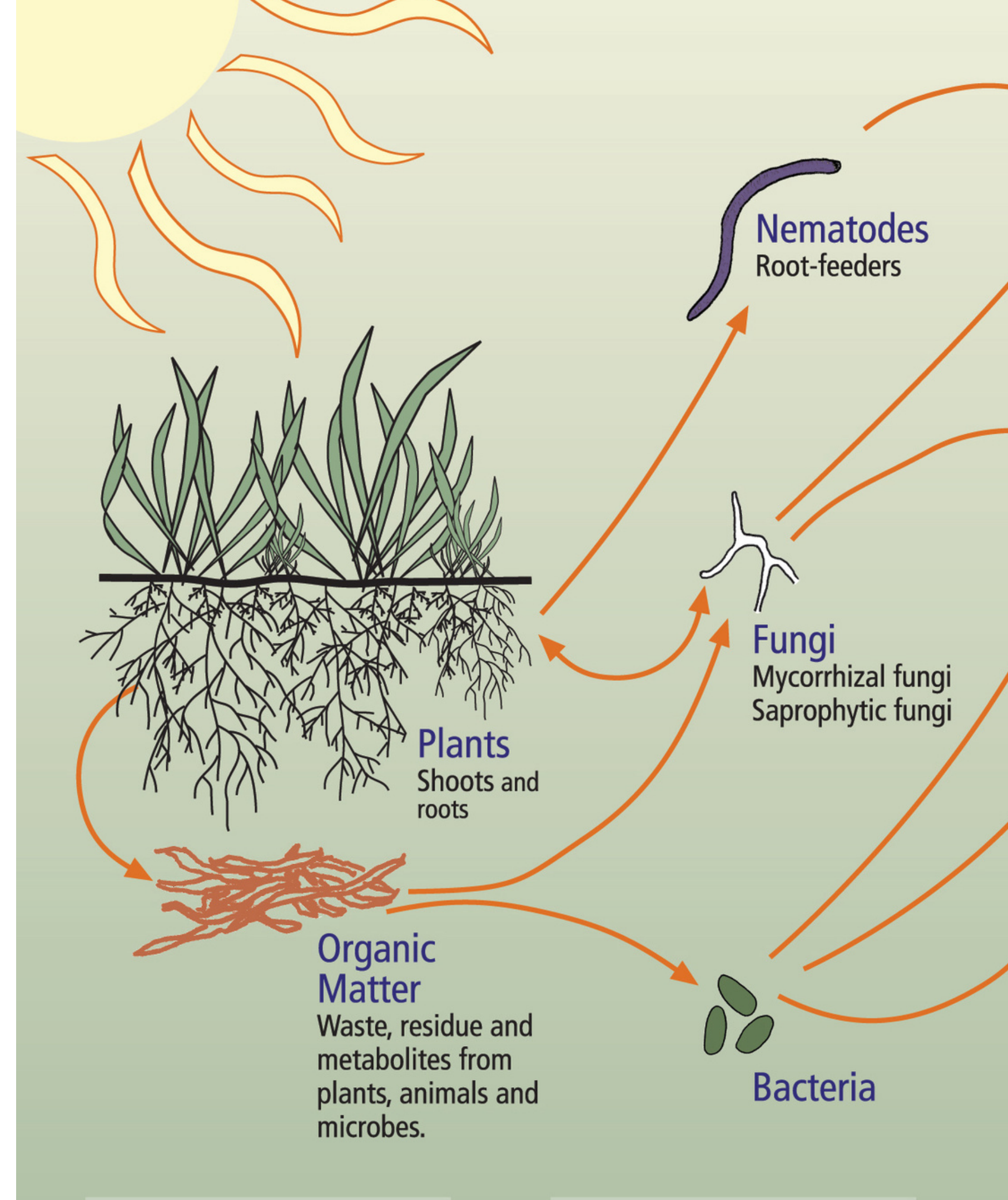
Soil Life

Carbon is everything!
Ourselves, nature, fuel, and
more.

Carbon imbalance in the
atmosphere.

Carbon stored in soil -
Feeds life, plants and
ecosystem.

The Carbon Cycle



What to Compost

GREENS - Vegetable Scraps, Egg shells, coffee grounds. **WET** - High Nitrogen



BROWNS - Leaves, Straw - **DRY** - High Carbon



NO! NIMBY

Industrial Composting Facility

- Meat/ Processed foods
- Oily foods
- Compostable bags
- Weeds & diseased plants

NOT COMPOSTABLE:

- Plastic, cork, rocks, glass, metal



What NOT to Compost



Methods of Composting

Compost Happens



Hot Composting

UC or Lasagna Method



- Minimum size = 1 cubic yard
- Metabolic activity heats pile
- Microbes require oxygen (aerobic process)
- Turn the pile every 4 to 7 days
- Balance nitrogen, carbon, air, water

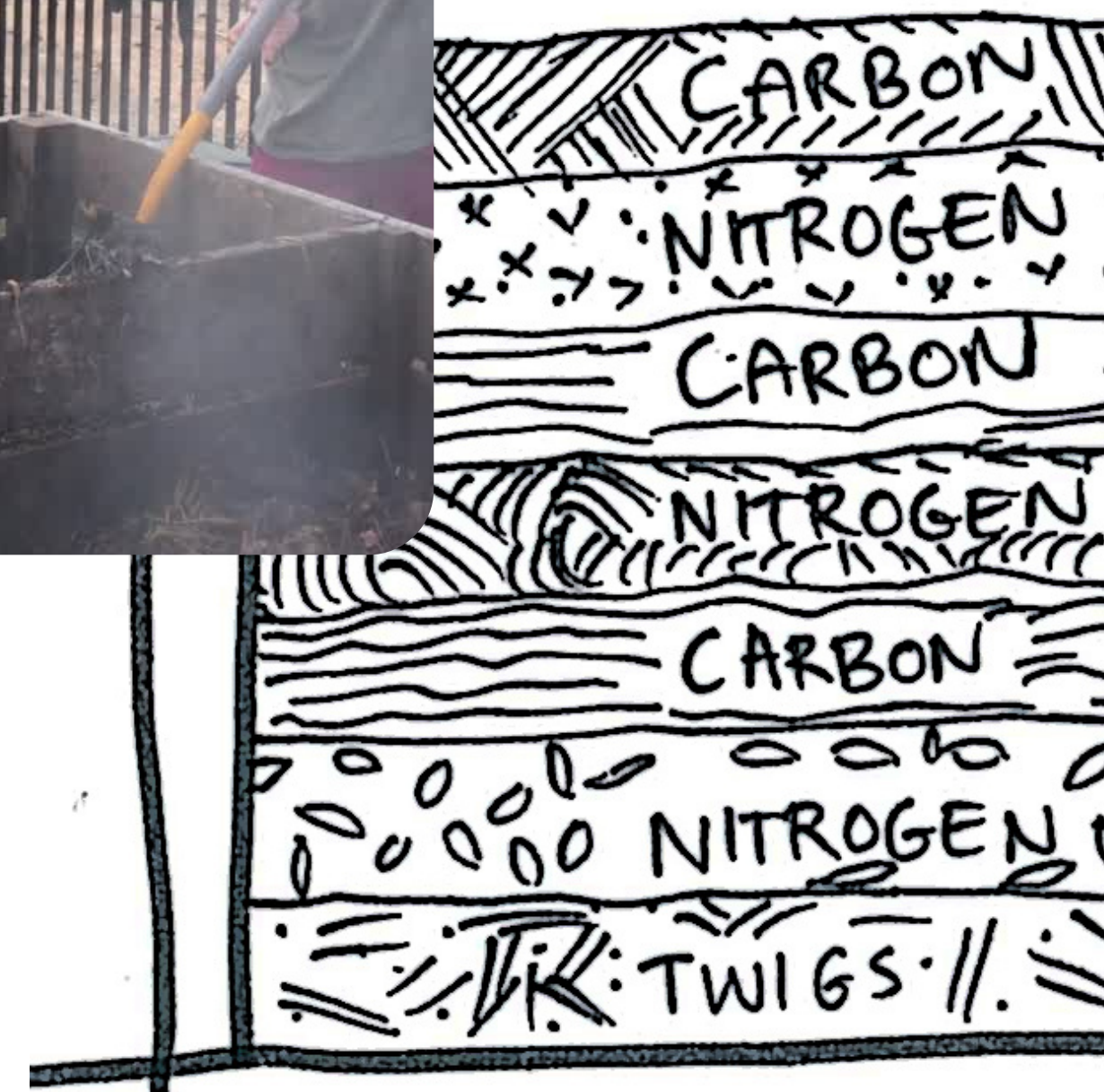


Hot Composting

How to Build a Hot Pile

Choose a designated location:

- Away from visited areas
- Shade through summer
- Roll GEOBIN to appropriate size
- First Layer: Browns, twigs, sticks
- Green layer - 2 inches max
- Brown Layer - 2 inches max
- Alternate Layers
- Top Layer: Browns



Sheet Composting

Feed Soil Directly

- Experiment with a spot in the far corner.
- Clear mulch or leaves to bare soil.
- Place scraps on soil and spread to 1 inch.
- Cover well. Spritz with dirt and cover with 2 inches of mulch (leaves, straw, wood chips, etc.)
- Do not remove. Move on to another spot.



Sheet Composting

- Create a moist layer under the straw or leaves for the soil life to thrive.
- Like nature - build soil from the top down.

NOTE:

- Does not produce finished compost that you can collect.





Worm (Vermi) Composting

More Worms, Please.



- Closed container that contains hundreds of worms.
- DIY or Worm Factory. Red wigglers.

IN THE GARDEN:

- Free range worm farm.
- Cultivate conditions in landscape.

Compost Happens!



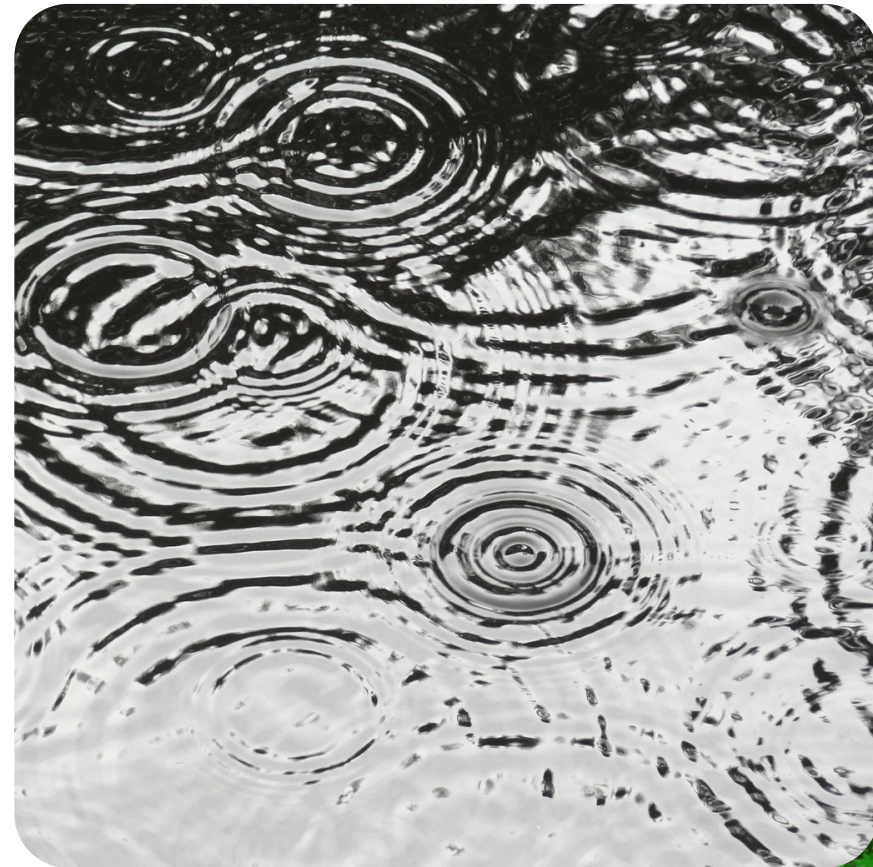
Techniques for Healthy Soil



Protect Soil

- **Cover** - Armor with mulch, wood chips, leaves, cardboard. Keep weeds down.
- **Don't Disturb** - Soil and the life underground. "**No Till.**"
- **Perennial Plants** - Living roots feed the soil, acting as a living mulch.





Store Water

Healthy soil holds water

- Your property can hold thousands of gallons of water in the soil.
- Ensure roof rain water drains into gardens, not out to street.
- We want water to stay on property as long as possible.
- Rain barrels can be useful.

More Practices

- Applying compost - Cover with mulch and water to keep it moist and alive.
- Compost is alive = Soil biology. Not concerned with N-P-K values.
- ORGANIC: no pesticides, herbicides, synthetic fertilizers.
- Removing lawns: Cover lawn with cardboard and material, rather than dig out.



Embrace Nature & Life

- **Microbial action** - Both gut and soil microbiomes. Fermented beverages, more.
- **Diversity of plant life** - Natives encourage bees, butterflies, birds, etc.
- **Friends of Compost** - BSFL, Roly-Poly Bugs, Fruit Flies, Black Phoebe.



- Carbon sink - Healthy, living green landscapes.

Together, we can sequester carbon to build healthy, living soils to regenerate our ecosystem and the climate resilient of our region.

A large pile of dark brown, rich soil is shown on a green tarp. The soil is piled high and appears moist and fertile. The green tarp is visible around the edges of the soil pile.

Questions?

Thank You

for attending our Compost
& Climate webinar today.

Each household attending today
is eligible to receive a free Geobin
hoop-style compost bin, and a copy
of the Backyard Composting Guide.

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FREE

