

LiveWell Kids

COMPOST DO'S AND DONT'S

DO put in the bin:

"Green" Stuff

- Raw vegetable and fruit scraps
- Green grass clippings without chemicals
- Weeds without seeds
- Coffee grounds
- Seaweed
- Rabbit pellets
- Eggshells

"Brown" stuff

- Dry brown leaves and grass clippings without chemicals
- Non-glossy newspaper,
- Brown paper and cardboard products (toilet paper rolls, paper bags)
- Dryer lint
- Coffee filters and tea bags

DON'T put in the bin:

- Dairy products
- Meat
- Oils or oily food
- Cooked food
- Food with dressings or sauces
- Diseased plants
- Pet waste
- Weeds that root easily (such as Bermuda grass and Crabgrass)

Guidelines:

- Use **1 part greens per 2 parts browns** when building compost.
- The smaller the surface area of the material, the better. Cut up scraps into small pieces, crush dry leaves and eggshells and shred paper.
- Moisten the pile with water after adding materials to it until it is as wet as a "wrung out sponge"; the contents should not be soaking.
- Add oxygen by "aerating" the pile as often as possible, either by stirring with a pitchfork or moving contents from one section to the other.
- It's best **NOT** to add sticks, branches or pine needles to the bins as they take a long time to break down.

Please report any problems (i.e. strong smell, too wet, too dry, "nothing's happening", explosion of insect population) to the Garden Education Coordinator.