

## **Greening Your Environment: Composting**

### ***Objective:***

With the challenges and stresses our ecosystems are coming to face daily due to global warming, more than ever before, it is important to understand and appreciate nature. The main objective of *Greening Your Environment* is to lessen the impact of global warming on communities and to help build sustainable communities.

Whether it's in the school, in your community, or at your home, you can help the environment in many different ways, one method in particular is ***composting!***

### **Composting:**

The benefits of composting to the environment are numerous. By composting organic waste from lunches, or schoolyard waste, you reduce the amount of organic waste going to the landfill. In turn reducing the amount of emissions from the fossil fuels used to transport the waste to the landfill and reducing the amount of methane emissions that organic waste produces in the landfill. Not only is composting beneficial to the environment, but it is beneficial to the school. Composted soil can be applied on school gardens to nurture the plants, eliminating the need for commercial fertilizer.

Composting is a big initiative that requires a group of committed students. You build a compost unit or purchase one. A maintenance crew would be ideal to check up on your compost regularly. It is also important to consider the student population, such as raising awareness and keeping them informed. One great way to inform the student body about their waste is through a waste audit event.

The following link will provide you with all information you need to set up your own compost pile:  
<http://www.ns.ec.gc.ca/udo/paydirt.html>