



COMPOSTING: NOT JUST FOR GARDENERS!

What you need to know about MSW

Our trash, also referred to as municipal solid waste (MSW), consists of items we use and then discard for curbside garbage collection. These materials typically consist of food waste, grass clippings, furniture, and packaging. Did you know that food waste which is 100% renewable makes up approximately 14 per cent of our waste stream? Yard trimmings account for an ***additional*** 14 per cent of the renewable waste stream. Last year, Haddon Township households generated 5830.89 tons of trash. If only *half* of our households composted or grasscycled these organic materials, we could save over 46,000 dollars!

Not only does keeping grass and food waste out of our MSW save tax dollars, but also generates valuable environmental benefits. These benefits include the reduction of landfill by-products, methane gas and leachate. Leachate is the liquid produced as landfilled materials break down. This liquid is highly toxic and must be collected and processed to avoid ground water contamination. Methane gas is produced when bacteria decomposes materials without access to oxygen(anaerobic decomposition.) Methane is often captured and burned at landfills because it is a potent greenhouse gas. Methane traps 10 times the sun's energy in the atmosphere than carbon dioxide!

REDUCE YOUR TAXES! REDUCE YOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT!