

### Composting and Stormwater

Lawn debris, such as leaves, are often amassed in large piles at the end of roads or in people's back yards. When the leaves decompose they release nitrogen which can be picked up by stormwater and carried into our water. You can help protect our water by composting your lawn debris, allowing the nitrogen to be put back into the soil.

### What to do with your compost

- Use it to plant seeds and in your garden.
- Perfect for landscaping.
- Sell it!

*Materials to add: fruits, vegetables, bread, paper, coffee grounds, eggshells, and lawn debris.*

## Compost Bin

### Materials:

- 4 shipping palettes
- 14 gauge wire, cut into approximately 18 inch pieces
- 2 hinges
- 1 latch
- Drill and screws
- Chicken wire (enough to cover inside of palettes)
- Staple gun

### Construction:

1. Attach 2 side palettes to the back palette using wire to tie together.
  2. Using screws, attach the hinges to one of the sides.
  3. Attach the spacer blocks to the bottom of the door palette. This will help the door swing open.
  4. Attach door to hinges.
  5. Add latch to door.
  6. Using the staple gun, line the inside of the bin with chicken wire to keep pests out.
  7. Optional: Using a piece of plywood and 2 additional hinges you can add a lid.
- lawn debris to your compost bin. Using a pitchfork, turn the material regularly to aerate and increase the rate of decomposition.
- The process is complete after material has fully decomposed and created a dark, rich soil.

### Maintenance:

- Add food scraps and



Town of Falmouth Yard Waste Composting Center

If you are unable to have your own compost bin the Town of Falmouth Yard Waste Composting Center accepts yard clippings, leaves, household plants, and pine needles. This is a great, free alternative to composting in your backyard. The compost center is located off of Blacksmith Shop Road and is open Tuesday-Saturday 8:15-3:30. Larger items including branches and stumps can be taken to Blacksmith Farms for a fee. Additional information can be found on the town's website.

