



COMPOSTING and GRASSCYCLING in TEGA CAY

In today's economy we're looking for inventive ways to reduce, reuse and recycle and repurpose! Here are two ways to do this in your own backyard.



Compost all your leaves and grass. Every year tons of leaves and yard waste are taken to the landfills. Tons of valuable organic material that could easily be converted to compost or mulch for one's yard. It can also reduce up to 30% of your garbage, and your plants and shrubs will love the extra nutrients! The soil produced is a natural fertilizer, whereas most store-bought brands are chemically enhanced.

HOW DO I COMPOST? Buy or create a compost bin. Lowes Hardware has one for \$53 or create a wire fence one for \$5 to put the yard waste into. All your fruit and vegetable waste is compostable, as are leaves, lawn clippings, paper towels, napkins, newspaper, paper bags and even dryer lint! For complete details on how to compost in your yard visit: http://www.scdhec.gov/environment/lwm/recycle/pubs/sg_part2.pdf



Grasscycling is leaving grass clippings on the lawn after mowing. When done properly, clippings quickly decompose and return nutrients to the soil naturally. Grasscycling makes caring for your lawn easier and reduces lawn maintenance by as much as 50 percent because you don't have to bag or dispose of the clippings. This process also slows water loss through evaporation and reduces the need for fertilization. You save money and the environment by not using

bags.

For complete details and benefits go to: http://www.scdhec.gov/environment/lwm/recycle/pubs/dyp_grasscycle.pdf

The South Carolina Smart Gardener Program is designed to help you learn the basics of going green in your backyard. The program covers a variety of topics including healthy soil, composting, natural lawn care and smart watering as well as limiting or eliminating your use of pesticides. Any of these recommendations, if turned into practices by you at home, will help conserve resources, protect South Carolina's environment and save you money. Access it at : <http://www.scdhec.gov/environment/lwm/recycle/compost.htm>

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