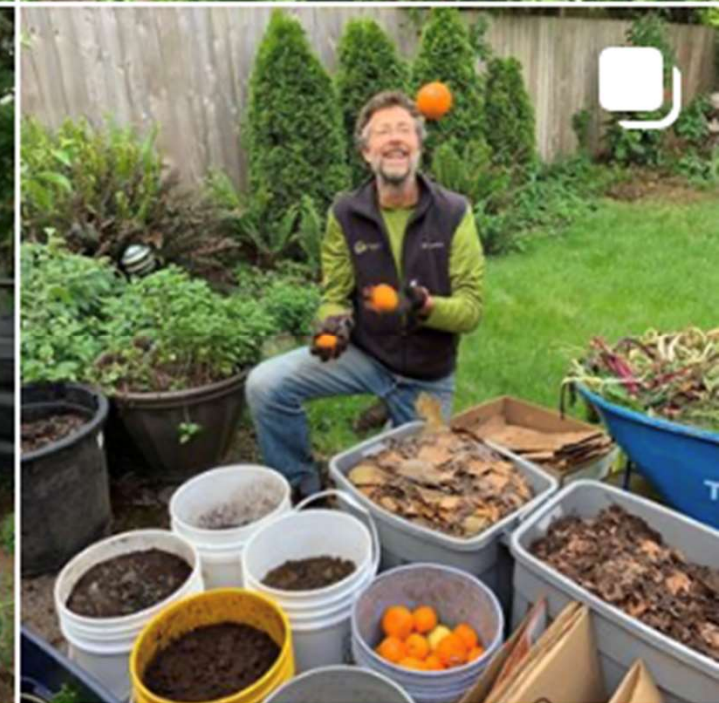




Backyard Composting

Peter DuBois



Where is Away?



140 (40 foot) containers a week

160 miles upriver . . .

To Boardman, Oregon



Then 12 miles to Finley Buttes Landfill.



Food Waste Sent to the landfill	Est. %	Est. Tons
Total:	13.8%	57,889

Municipal solid waste landfills are the third-largest source of human-related methane emissions in the United States







Wasted Food Scale

How to reduce the environmental impacts of wasted food



Learning objectives

Techniques for composting

Using Compost

Speeding up the process

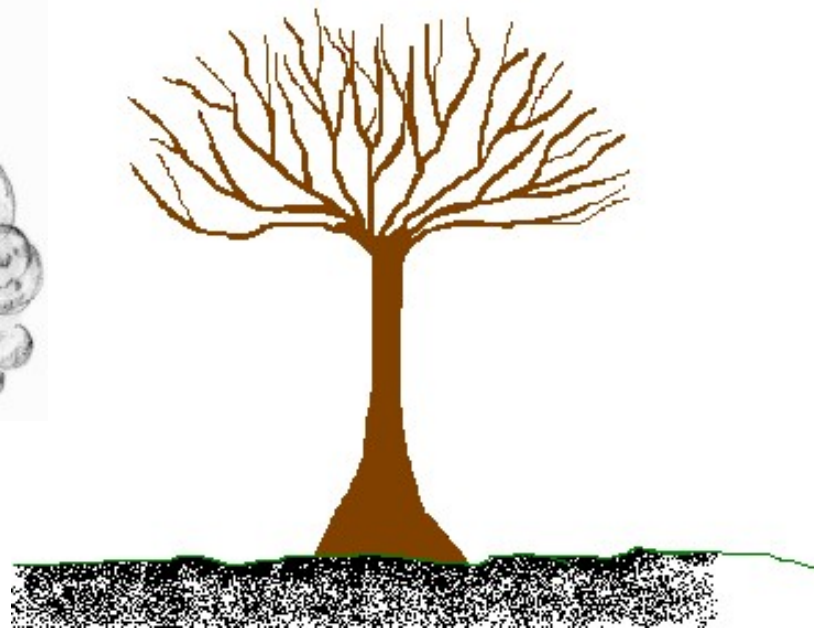
How to store and manage your organics

What is Composting?

- In nature it's called humus
- In your bin it's called compost
 - Controlled decomposition of organic matter



The Decomposers



BEFORE



AFTER









Passive Composting

1. Dump kitchen scraps
2. Cover with “dry/browns”
3. Repeat



Trench Composting

- Good for all kitchen waste
- Dig a trench 12 inches deep
- Throw in items
- Chop and mix with soil
- Cover with remaining soil
(at least 8")
- Plant into trench in 3 months



Tips for pest prevention and odor control:

- Rinse kitchen pail after use.
- Spray vinegar & water solution inside pail.
- Keep pail or tub inside freezer or fridge.
- Keep lid closed.

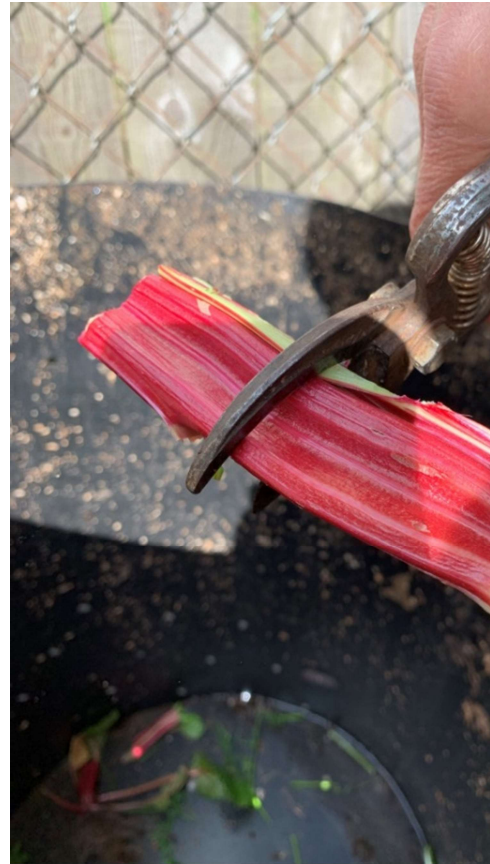
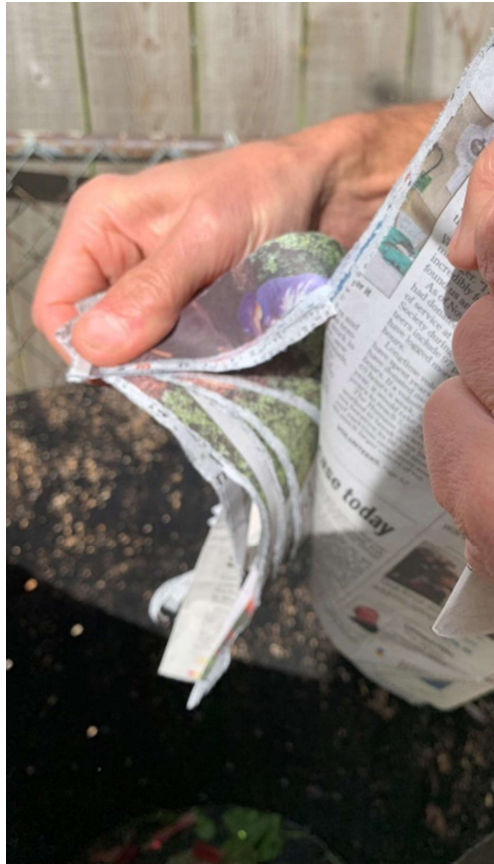


Use the **SMART** method for success

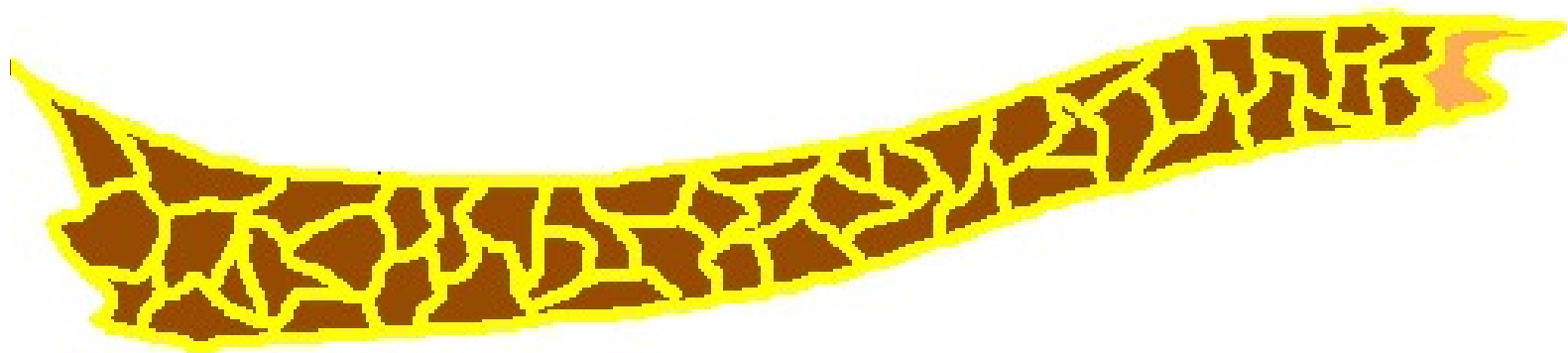
- **S**ize
- **M**oisture
- **A**eration
- **R**atio
- **T**ools



Size Clip, Chop, Tear, Rip, Chip



Size increases the surface area
exposure to microbial attack





Moist like a
wring-out
sponge

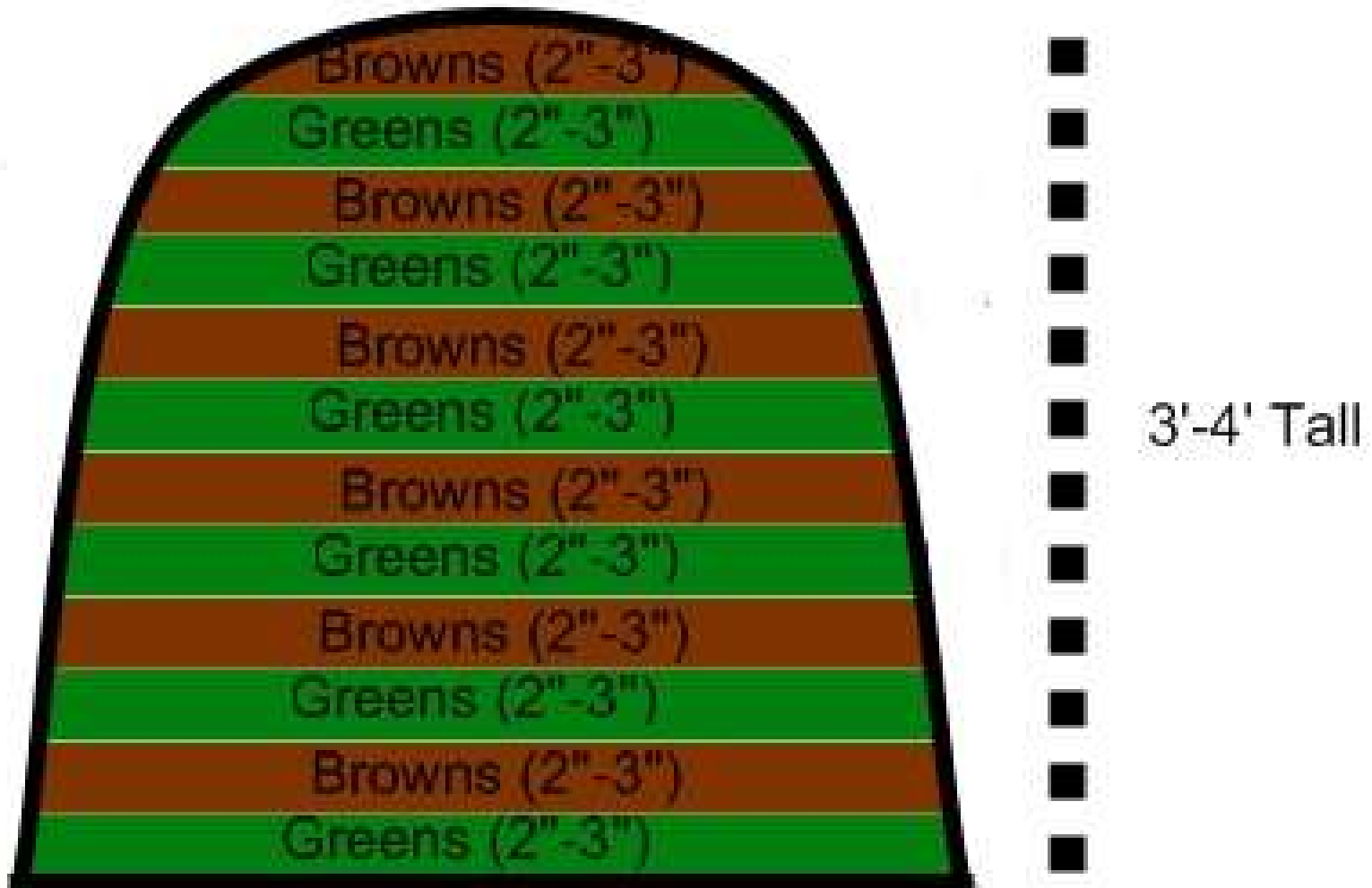
- Not too dry
- Not too wet

Aeration supports aerobic organisms

- Turn and fluff
- Stir in place



Ratio 1 part browns : 1 part greens



Examples of Browns



Leaf Mold Compost



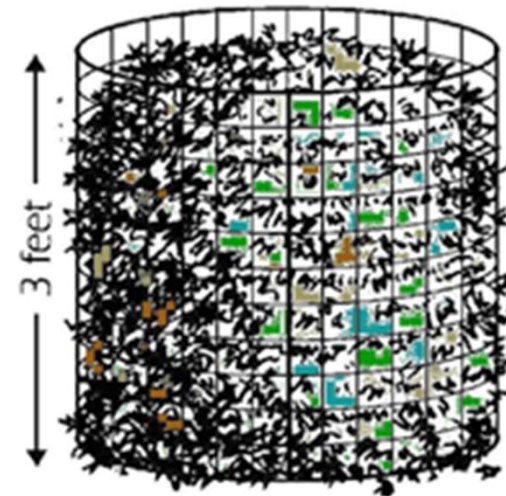
Examples of Greens



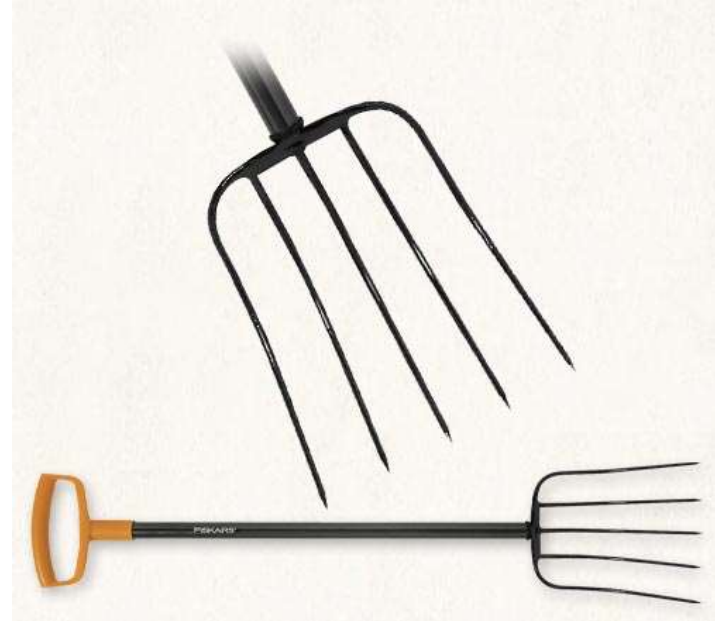
Grass: Green or Brown



Tools - which compost system?



More tools to compost like a pro



Manure Hierarchy

Kind of animal	Nitrogen (N)	Phosphate (P2O5)	Potash (K2O)
Alpaca	1.7	0.7	1.2
Rabbit	2.4	1.4	0.6
Chicken	1.1	0.8	0.5
Sheep / Goat	0.7	0.3	0.9
Cow	0.7	0.3	0.4
Horse	0.7	0.3	0.6
Coffee Grounds	2.0	0.3	0.3

What is in our compost pile?

The Living:

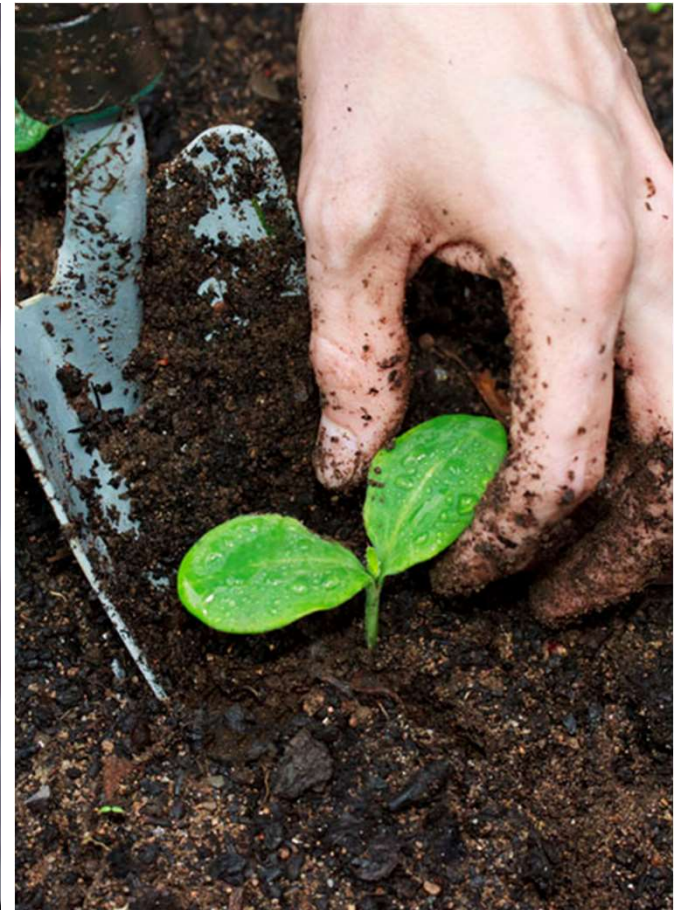


The Dead:



The Transformed:





Using the compost you made

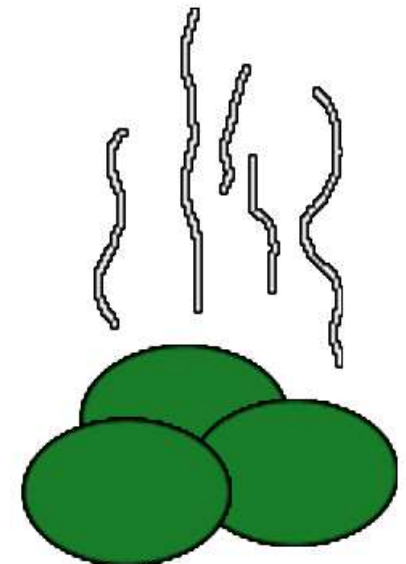
Why use compost on your soil?

- Slow-release source of plant nutrients
 - N, P, K, S, micronutrients
- Soil moisture-holding
- Soil tilth and structure
- Food and habitat for soil biotics



Troubleshooting

- Situation:
 - Ammonia like odor
 - Rotten eggs or worse
- Problem:
 - Too wet / no air
- Solution:
 - Turn the pile and add more brown material to balance the pile.





Critters you might encounter

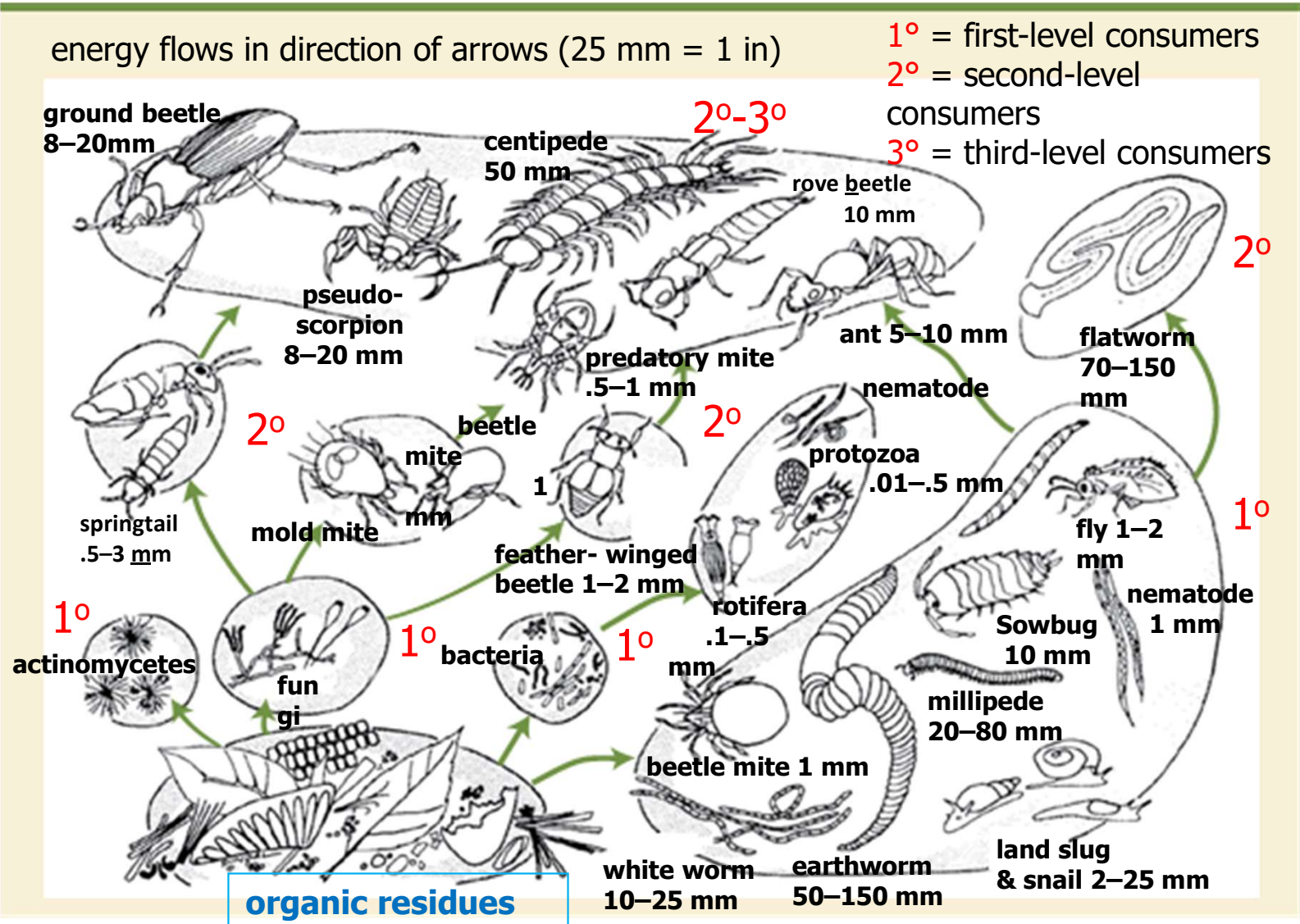


Figure 4.1. Soil organisms and their role in decomposing residues. Modified from D.L. Dindal (1972).

Backyard Compost Bin



Worm Bin



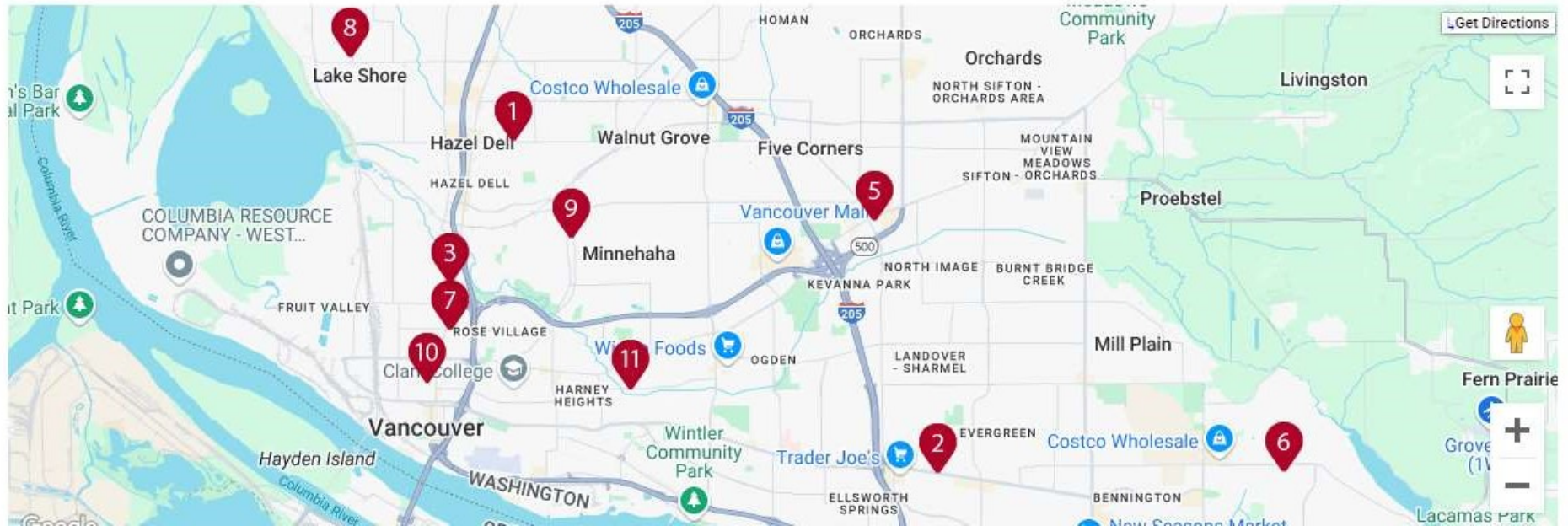
Bokashi





Community Hubs for ALL Food Waste

WE COMPOST COMMUNITY HUB LOCATIONS



Active Community Hubs: 10

- 1 education center
- 1 food bank
- 1 commercial business
- 7 congregations

Scan for Location
Map



FAQs

- What about inks from papers?
- Will my compost pile catch fire?
- Should I add commercial activators?
- Can I plant straight into compost?
- Will weed seeds be killed?
- Do I need to add worms to my compost?
- Can I add wood ash to my compost?

Other Questions?



info@clarkcountycomposts.org

564.397.7333

www.clarkcountycomposts.org