

## The many benefits of composting:

*Reducing methane emissions that contribute to climate change*

*Sequestering/storing carbon*

*Improving biodiversity and soil, water, and air health*

*Reducing water consumption for all soil types*

*Conserving water during drought and flood events*

*Decreasing soil erosion and stormwater runoff*

*Decreasing reliance on chemical fertilizers and pesticides*

*Increasing landfill diversion*

*Creating green jobs and infrastructure*

Find out more about composting in Illinois by visiting any of the websites linked below.



Compost  
Research &  
Education Foundation



US Composting  
Council®



IFSC  
ILLINOIS FOOD SCRAP COALITION



COLLECTIVE  
RESOURCE™  
COMPOST



GO GREEN  
WINNETKA



## International Compost Awareness Week • May 1-7, 2022

### The week of May 1-7, 2022 has been designated as Compost Awareness Week in Illinois!

This week is designed to raise public awareness regarding the widespread benefits of composting food scraps, yard waste, and other organics, as well as using finished compost. Composting and using finished compost reduce methane emissions, capture and store carbon, and enrich soil, water, and air quality. Composting and using compost also contribute to less consumption overall, less waste overall, and a more circular economy, all of which ultimately leads to a more just and sustainable world.

Compost Awareness Week in Illinois is thanks to the collaborative efforts of State Senator Laura Fine, who introduced a Resolution in the Illinois General Assembly to recognize the week, as well as the U.S. Composting Council, the Illinois Food Scrap Coalition, Collective Resource Compost, and Go Green Winnetka, each of whom was integral to the Resolution's introduction, promotion, and adoption. Compost Awareness Week in Illinois follows the dates and theme of International Compost Awareness Week, a comprehensive publicity and education initiative of the compost industry sponsored by the Compost Research & Education Foundation.



The 2022 theme of **Recipe for Regeneration: Compost** reflects the importance of using conservation and rehabilitation approaches to food and farming systems rather than extractive approaches. The theme also reflects that composting and using finished compost are crucial ingredients and part of the recipe for more nutritious food, cleaner air and water, and a healthier climate. Composting is like cooking and using finished compost like using spices or sauces to complement and enhance a meal.

Individuals, businesses, and other organizations in Illinois are encouraged to learn about, explore, play with, and take advantage of the many benefits of reducing food and other organic waste and creating and using compost during Compost Awareness Week, May 1-7, 2022.