



Chelan County Public Works  
350 Orondo Avenue  
Wenatchee, WA 98801  
Phone: 509.667-6415

Dryden Transfer Station Compost Facility  
9073 highway 2, Dryden, WA 98821

Phone: 509.548-5592

**Reduce, Reuse, Recycle**

Chelan County Solid Waste on the Web:

[http://www.co.chelan.wa.us/pw/pw\\_solid\\_waste.htm](http://www.co.chelan.wa.us/pw/pw_solid_waste.htm)

## Compost from the Dryden Facility

*Chelan County Public Works and Solid Waste in cooperation with the Solid Waste Council, made up of representatives from the cities of Cashmere, Chelan, Entiat, Leavenworth and Wenatchee, have been working for years to develop a recycling facility for woody wastes, biosolids, grass clippings, and fruit wastes. This facility has been producing compost since the summer of 2003.*

*One of the reasons that local governments have developed the Dryden Composting Facility is to assist local communities in finding a process to treat biosolids. Composting is one method to treat biosolids and create a marketable end product that is easy to handle, store and use. Another critical aspect of the facility, is preventing such materials, as grass clippings and wood waste from entering the current solid waste stream and ending up in the regional landfill, thus enabling a longer life for the local landfill and providing economic benefits from reduced landfill fees.*

**Compost is for sale on a limited basis, Tuesday to Friday.**

**Price per cubic yard: \$15.00**

The compost batches do sell out quickly,  
call 548-5592 for availability.

## Dryden Compost Recipe

Thank you for considering or purchasing compost produced by Chelan County at the Dryden Compost Facility. We are excited to be providing this natural soil stabilizer, moisture retaining and nutrient rich material for homeowners and agriculturists.

We are using wood chips, dried biosolids from Wenatchee's drying beds, lawn clippings, and occasionally fruit waste. Compost made with biosolids must be treated by a process to reduce pathogens such as composting or heat treatment. At Dryden, composting means piles must be maintained at a temperature of at least 131 degrees Fahrenheit for 15 days, and during that 15 days, it must be turned at least 5 times. Our compost process meets all applicable federal and state regulations for biosolids.

Compost made from Wenatchee's biosolids and composted at the Dryden

Compost Facility, is safe to use as a natural soil stabilizer, moisture retaining additive and nutrient rich material for homeowners and agriculturists. Long term scientific studies have repeatedly demonstrated that recycling of biosolids is safe.

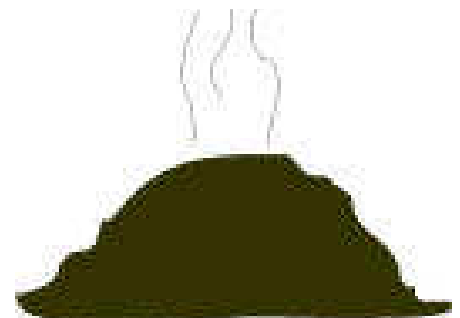
The end product from composting is usually a Class A, humus-like material with minimal detectable levels of pathogens, (< 2 MPN of fecal coliform per gram in test results from January 2009) that can be applied as a soil conditioner and fertilizer to gardens, food and feed crops, and rangelands.

At this point in time, because of the inclusion of biosolids from sewage sludge in our compost, the USDA National Organic Program has ruled that such compost can not be used in the production of certified organic food.

Compost holds nutrients in the soil until plants can use them, serves to loosen and

aerate clay soils, and helps retain water in poor soils. This compost provides large quantities of organic matter and nutrients such as nitrogen and potassium to the soil, improves soil texture, and elevates soil cation exchange capacity, all characteristics of a good organic fertilizer.

Even though the compost contains nutrients, it should not be considered a total substitute for fertilizers. Always use this product in accordance with intended use; flower beds, nurseries, lawns, tree and shrubs. As with all products, wash hands after use.



# Dryden's Compost

When growing food crops with composted biosolids it is recommended that the user maintain the soil pH at or above 6.0. Keeping the soil pH at this level immobilizes any trace metals in the soil, minimizing absorption by plants. Of the various metals found in biosolids, cadmium and lead are of the greatest concern to human health. Our compost has tested a general range around the pH of 7.0. We suggest you have your garden pH tested with a local soil testing lab.



*The picture above, shows the first piles of compost made at the Dryden Composting Facility in the summer of 2003. Compost samples are analyzed for nutrients, trace metals, trace organic pollutants and microbes at least once a year at Dryden. The following analysis information is from testing results of finished compost made from Wenatchee's biosolids in January 2009.*

*"When growing food crops with compost made from biosolids, it is recommended that the user maintain soil pH at or above 6.0"*

### Test Results from Dryden's Compost -- January 8, 2009 (units in mg/kg) pH = 6.6

Nitrogen	Copper	Molybd	Phosph	Potass	NO3/NO2	Selenium	Zinc	Arsenic	Cadmium	Lead	Mercury
26,500	300	4.17	7020	4010	202	5.42	380	<5.252	2.69	46.0	0.279

## Uses for Compost

As a soil amendment: Mix 1-4 inches of compost into flower gardens each year before planting. For new tree and shrub plantings, mix several inches of compost into the back fill and surround soil.

When using compost as a potting mixture, sift the compost to make a

rich, light potting soil for houseplants and seedlings. To enrich purchased potting soils, add one part compost to two parts soil.

Compost makes a great mulch around annuals, trees and shrubs to help keep roots moist, smother weeds, and pre-

vent soil compaction. Start a few inches away from a plants stem and continue to a point beyond its outermost leaves and branches. Spread an inch or two of compost around annual flowers, and up to six inches around trees and shrubs.

**Mixes for Soil Types** requires an understanding of your general soil type and the measurement of the area you want to cover. First measure length and width of the area, then multiply to calculate total square footage. Then rate your existing soil fertility as:

High—characterized by high organic matter content, regular applications of compost, good yields, and/or minimal disease pressure. 2) Medium 3) Low—characterized by high clay or sand content, little to no compost added in the past years, low yield and/or significant disease pressure.

Next refer to the table to find your coverage and your total square feet by the suggested square feet that different thicknesses of compost cover. This will aid in purchasing the right amount of compost.



### Existing Soil Quality

High Fertility

Medium Fertility

Med-Low Fertility

Low Fertility

### Application Rate

One inch (1") layer

Two inch (2") layer

Three inch (3") layer

Four inch (4") layer

### 1 C. Y. of Compost Covers

324 sq. ft.

162 sq. ft.

121 sq. ft.

81 sq. ft.