



16, rue Northumberland St.
Toronto ON M6H 1P7
Ph./Tél. : (877) 571-GROW(4769)
Fax/Télé. : (416) 536-9892
Website : www.compost.org

**Proclamation:
International Compost Awareness Week
May 7-13, 2023**

Whereas, the recycling of organic residuals such as food scraps, yard trimmings and soiled paper and the subsequent returning of compost to our soils are keys to tackling climate change; and

Whereas these are activities that all Canadians can do, whether at home, work or play; and

Whereas, the process of composting eliminates the generation of landfill methane, a greenhouse gas which, according to the United Nations Environment Programme, is 86 times more harmful than carbon dioxide for 20 years after it is released; and

Whereas, the application of compost increases organic matter in soils, which improves agricultural productivity while lowering carbon levels in the atmosphere; and

Whereas, composting and compost use provides a range of additional benefits, including:

- reducing waste disposal by at least one third;
- improving the health of our soils – which in turn reduces the need for pesticides, mitigates flooding, improves the resilience of soil to extreme weather events such as droughts, enhances the nutritional quality of our foods, and generally improves food security;
- supporting the preservation of biodiversity;
- minimizing soil erosion, a process that depletes topsoil and results in nutrient and chemical pollution of our waterways; and

Whereas, International Compost Awareness Week (ICAW) provides an annual opportunity for all of us to promote and celebrate one of the most important and effective tools immediately available to tackle climate change, food security and soil degradation; and

Whereas, by proclaiming International Compost Awareness Week, we recognize the critical role that composting plays in creating a sustainable future for our communities;

Now, therefore, I, [Mayor/Head of Council], do hereby proclaim May 7-13, 2023, as International Compost Awareness Week in_____.

I urge all residents to join us in celebrating the week by learning more about composting, promoting composting to others in the community, and participating in composting events and activities.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of [City/Municipality] to be affixed this [date] day of [month], [year].

[Mayor/Head of Council]