



Householders' Options to Protect the Environment Inc.

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MEDIA RELEASE

International Composting Awareness Week 4th -10th May 2015

With the 10th annual International Composting Awareness Week kicking off on the 4th of May there's never been a better time to kick-start your own household compost adventure.

Roughly half of Australia's domestic general waste consists of kitchen and garden organic materials so why not harness this free resource and put it to work in your own garden?

As well as being an essential ingredient in organic gardening, a good compost is a quick and easy way to improve soil quality, curbing plant disease and pests and boosting the moisture retaining properties of your soil.

While the benefit to your garden will be obvious, reducing organic waste in landfill by composting also contributes to reducing greenhouse gasses.

Organic materials buried in landfill releases methane as it decomposes, a greenhouse gas with more than 20 times the global warming impact of carbon dioxide.

As much as 3% of Australia's greenhouse gas emissions come from anaerobically decaying organic materials in landfill, simply by composting your kitchen and garden organic waste you can help lower this figure.

The Centre for Organic Research & Education coordinates events and promotions for International Composting Awareness Week in Australia as well as National Organic Week in September.

For more information on household composting as well as on-farm composting and commercial composting check out the [Compost Week Website](#).

[Watch this guide](#) to household composting from International Composting Awareness Week ambassador Costa "The Composter" Georgiadis.

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(Written by Dave Graham, HOPE Volunteer (Qld))