



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

Environmental Services Miramar Greenery

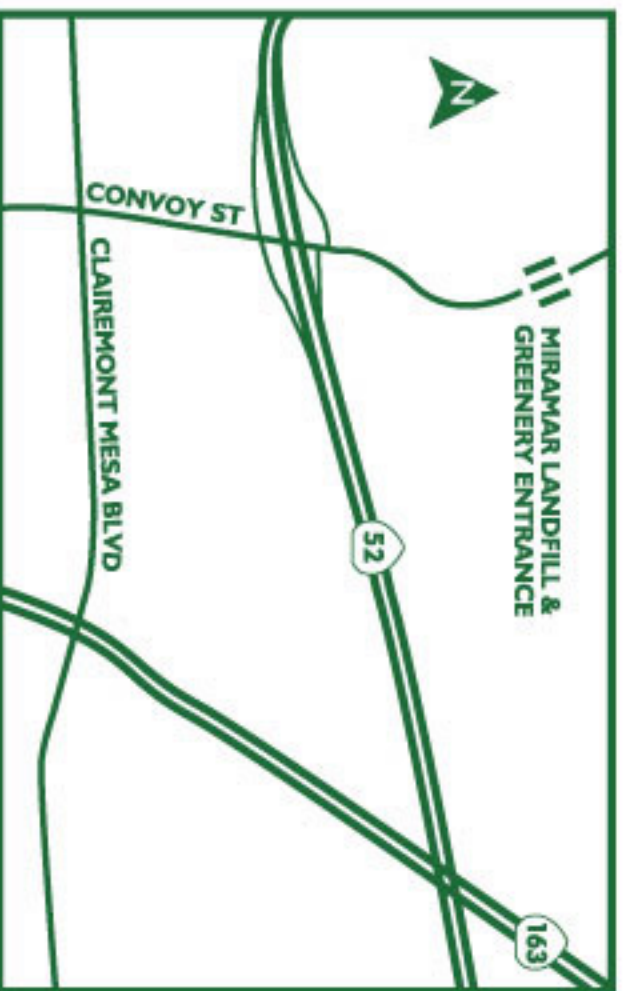


Compost Use Guide



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

Environmental Services
9601 Ridgehaven Court San Diego, California
92123



The Miramar Greenery is open Monday through Friday, 7:30 AM-4:30 PM, and Saturday and Sunday, 7:30 AM-4:00 PM.

Printed on recycled paper.
This information is available in alternative formats upon request.

The City of San Diego's Miramar Greenery is producing compost.



Benefits of Compost

Integration of organic matter improves soil structure and promotes healthier plant root growth.

Provides a friendly environment for beneficial organisms and releases desirable nutrients into the soil to help plants grow.

Increases water and nutrient holding capacity, which means less water and fertilizer.

Improves soil drainage, reducing erosion and wasteful water runoff.

The Miramar Greenery uses residential and commercial landscaping waste to produce one of the finest composts in San Diego, and it is now available to the public for purchase. Compost is an essential ingredient to creating healthier soil and improving your garden.

What is compost?

Compost is made by grinding clean landscaping material into small pieces, placing it in windrows and turning and watering it on a continuous basis for 90 days. Microorganisms in the windrows multiply and break down this material into smaller particles that contain beneficial nutrients and organic matter. As the material begins to break down, it goes through a pasteurization process which kills weed seeds and eliminates pathogens that cause plant disease. The final compost product is then screened and is ready for use in a variety of landscaping and planting applications.



How to use compost...

Compost can be used as an amendment to improve soil texture and increase nutrient and water holding capacity. In San Diego, where soil is of poor quality, mixing compost in with the soil is one of the best things you can do for your yard and garden. Here's how:

- Amend garden soil by incorporating one to two inches of compost four to six inches deep into the soil. Irrigate area twice thoroughly before planting.
- Top dress planters with compost to help reduce water loss and protect root systems. Spread three inches of compost around the base of plants and shrubs, keeping it from touching plant stems or trunks.
- Use compost as a potting mix for growing containerized plants and seedlings. Mix two parts compost, one part coarse sand, one part vermiculite, and one part peat moss.

For more information on purchasing and using Miramar Greenery compost, please call (858) 492-5010.



Compost can be used for a variety of landscaping and planting applications.

Compost Usage Rates

Area Size	1 inch depth	2 inch depth
1,250 square feet	3 cubic yards	6 cubic yards
2,500 square feet	7.5 cubic yards	15 cubic yards
5,000 square feet	15 cubic yards	30 cubic yards
10,000 square feet	30 cubic yards	60 cubic yards
20,000 square feet	60 cubic yards	120 cubic yards
40,000 square feet	120 cubic yards	240 cubic yards
1 acre	125 cubic yards	250 cubic yards