

Before you head out with your wheelbarrow please note:

Many horse farms do not have the time and equipment to fully compost stall waste (horse manure and wood shavings bedding) but after about six months it will naturally heap compost on its' own. You may want to check with multiple horse farms in your area find a farm that has older compost available. You may need to finish the composting process on your property by keeping the material moist and aerating it by turning the compost pile. Completing the composting process is important because as the pile heats up it will destroy any weed seeds. When the compost looks like black soil, it's ready to be spread. For more information on compost/composting contact Virginia Cooperative Extension - Prince William Master Gardener Horticulture Helpline (703) 792-7747.



A little background information.

Composting is a degradation process brought about by bacteria and fungal organisms. Large amounts of organic matter can be reduced in a relatively short time to a pile of black, crumbly humus which makes an ideal soil conditioner. Compost added regularly to soil will inevitably benefit the soil. The soils' structure will improve, since humus contains substances which cause aggregation (sticking together) of soil particles. In a clay soil this means that the microscopic individual particles will be clumped together and more air spaces will be opened up between clumps. Compost contains humic and other organic acids which help to degrade compounds naturally present in the soil into the simpler form that plants use.

For more information on composting, and compost structures, contact the Virginia Cooperative Extension - Prince William Master Gardener Helpline (703) 792-7747 and ask for publication 426-325.

Inspiring personal responsibility for our environment and natural resources

This program has been developed by the Prince William Soil & Water Conservation District in the interest of protecting water quality. For more information about other District services, about this program, or to add your farm to our list, please contact Kate Norris at:

Prince William Soil & Water Conservation District
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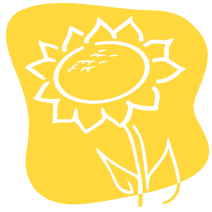
8/09

Gardeners Gold



**Your list of farms
with FREE
composted horse
manure located near
you**

***A win-win program for
horse owners and
gardeners alike!***



Free organic fertilizer

Please call for availability



These local horse farms have free composted manure that they would like to share with their "horseless" neighbors. Contact farms for information about the condition of their compost and pickup details.

Haymarket:

Stacey Daugherty (703) 754-4378

Vicki Rosner (703) 754-1221

Frazer Hendrick (703) 753-0670

Kim Bednash (703) 753-9794

Manassas:

Teresa Harp (703) 330-3893

Nokesville:

Vicki Rizzo (703) 594-3342

Robin Lancaster (703) 754-7776

Nanne Clarke (703) 594-3213
(has tractor, will load)

Scott Legg (703) 594-3822

Bristow:

Margaret Bailey (703) 754-8492

Laura Butler (703) 369-4224

Cathy Cherry (703) 477-9525

Liz Hinton (703) 785-4675

Gainesville:

Kay Shiner (703) 753-9046

Edith Kennedy (703) 754-7645

Farms outside PWC:

Caroline Squair (703) 815-0235

Jill Brown (703) 502-8116

Fairfax Station

Sue Wakefield (703) 250-3242

Lorton

Eve Harris (703) 339-6295

