Composting can trim need for waste disposal

Q. I've heard that composting grass clippings and leaves will soon be mandatory in Michigan. Please explain what composting is and why it's become so important.

A. Composting will be mandatory for all Michigan communities in 1991. Diverting grass clippings, leaves and other yard wastes out of inadfills and/or incinerators will reduce our solid waste stream by about 16 percent annually-Several communities in the tri-county area have already started composting programs with positive results.

The following questions are the ones most often asked about composting:

WHAT IS COMPOSTING? Composting is the breakdown of organic material (plant or animal) until it's ready to be used as nourishorganic material (plant of almost manufall its ready to be used as pourtisement by plants. Leaves, weeds, grass clippings, fruit and vegetables leaves all break down naturally set several brocks in the process is just composting, the process is just yellow the process is just about seven weeks it should be ready to use.

Lime, phosphate or manure will be decomposition process. Keep the compost damp by occasionally spraying it with water, but do not soak it.

WHAT THINGS CAN I PUT IN A

five-inch layers, mix with dirt and water and provide air. Composting can be done in a hole, free standing (as in a pile), or a garbage can punched with holes. Each day dump the compostables. Each day dump the compostables in your pile and cover with a little dirt. Once a week turn the contents with a showle to mix and add air. In about seven weeks it should be ready to use.

Terry

COMPOST PILE?
Grass clippings, leaves, dryer lint, feathers, tea bags, egg shells, tollet paper, shredded newspaper (but not colored comics), rinds, coffee grounds, hair, potato skins, corn cobe saw det grounds, hair, potato skins, corn cobs, saw dust. DO NOT USE IN COMPOST

HOW DOES THE GARBAGE BAG COMPOSTING METHOD WORK?

WORK?
This method is called anaerobic composting because it is done without the addition of orygen. Fill your garbage bag with compost materials. Add a few shovels of dirt, one shovel of lime and two shovels of manure. Water the contents, the hie bag lightly to elimate any air, foil the bag a little to mix the contents and let it set for about one month (longer in cold weather).

CAN I COMPOST IN WINTER? Yes. You can use the just men-tioned garbage bag method or the

traditional method. Combine the plain the fail and cover with black plastic. After three weeks, turn it over with a shovel, water it well, recover with the black plustic and let it work through the winter.

HOW CAN THE COMPOST BE

HOW CAN THE COMPOSE AS USED! Seedling can be started in new compost, called humus. Spreid humus over your cellro garden arrest to add nationals to, garden plattic to add nationals to, garden plattic flumus can be mixed around the base of trees, plants and flowers in stead of expensive fertilizer.

The Consumer Malbag druswers your questions. Address mail to The Consumer Maibag, Concern Detroit, One Kenedy Square, 4th Floor, Detroit, 48225

Nominate a senior citizen of year

The Michigan Office of Services to the Aging is looking for older women and men deserving of statewide recognition for hard work and leadership in their communities.

Presented each year on Senior Citizen of the Year Award recognic Citizen of the Year Award recognition for their community in either the service or leadership category. Persons worthy of the same of the year of the year is no reganization and the nomination in the year is the proposed of the Year Award recognition of

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presentation will be held on August 28th at the State Fair in Detroit. Mominations must be submitted on official Senior Citizen of the Year applications which are available from the Michigan Office of Services to the Aging. The deadline for submission of nominations is July 28, 1989. Applications may be requested by phone by calling 517-373-8230, 327-373-809(TDD). Applications should be mailed by the July 28 deadline to the Michigan Office of Services to the Aging, PO

BOX 30026, Lansing, MI 48909.

BOX 3002s, Lansing, MI 48909. Upon nomination by a local organization and submission to the State Office on Aging, nominoes are evaluated by a selection committee comprised of state level aging officials and State Fair officials, witness will be notified in writing and are not required to attend the award ceremony, to whereaf by the Commission and Office of Services to the Aging and the Michigan State Fair.







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