Get lost in compost and mulch

Make the most of your locally-produced compost & mulch
Available at Merimbula, Eden, Wallagoot & Bermagui tips

Tips for use

General soil improvement: spread a 10-20mm thick layer of compost (10-20 litres per square metre) across soil surface and incorporate to a depth of 50-100mm.

Landscaping and erosion control: apply a layer of mulch 50-100mm deep (50-100 litres per square metre) over whole area.

LAWNS

• Planting new lawn: spread a 20mm thick layer of compost over the soil (20 litres per square metre), rake or cultivate to 50-100mm deep, then irrigate and plant or lay turf immediately.

• Topdressing existing lawn: apply a 2-5mm layer of compost (2-5 litres per square metre) and simply rub or rake into surface, then irrigate thoroughly.

TREES

Compost

• New native plantings: apply 10% of the volume of the planting hole (for a planting hole of 100 litres, apply 10 litres of compost) to the base of the planting hole and blend 50:50 with existing soil. Note that care must be taken with adding nutrients to native plants as some species are sensitive to increased phosphorus.

• New fruit tree plantings: apply 20% of the volume of the planting hole (for a planting hole of 100 litres, apply 20 litres of compost) to the base of the planting hole and blend 50:50 with existing soil.

Mulch

• New or existing trees: apply a layer of mulch 50-100mm deep (50-100 litres per square metre) and 300-600mm wide surrounding the trees.

VEGGIE GARDENS

• Spread a 10-20mm (10-20 litres per square metre) thick layer of compost across soil surface and incorporate to a depth of 50-100mm, then water thoroughly before planting.

• Ensure vegetables are planted according to their seasonality and provided with appropriate nutrition through species-specific fertilisers.

FLOWER BEDS

Compost

• Spread a 10-20mm thick layer of compost (10-20 litres per square metre) across soil surface and incorporate to a depth of 50-100mm, then water thoroughly before planting.

Mulch

• Apply a layer of mulch 50mm deep (50 litres per square metre) over whole area.

Download the FREE Bega Valley Waste APP to find out when and where Council’s compost and mulch is available!
Benefits

Compost
- Fertilising effect
- Introduces quality carbon into the soil.
This in turn:
  > Increases the health and activity of soil microbial populations
  > Helps prevent plant disease
  > Mobilises nutrients for plants
  > Improves soil structure
- Improved moisture absorption
- Improved water holding capacity for plants

Mulch
- Protects soil surface
- Prevents erosion
- Keeps your topsoil where you need it most
- Reduces run-off
- Reduces erosion
- Reduces evaporation
- Provides insulation for soil
  > Keeps soil cooler in summer, reducing the effects of high temperatures which kill roots and soil biology
  > Keeps soil warmer in winter which helps keep soil biology active when it’s cold
- Renewable
- Environmentally friendly

Safe use tips
These products contain micro-organisms.
- Keep product moist when handling to avoid dust, avoid breathing dust or mists.
- Wear particulate mask if dusty.
- These products have a low risk of containing sharp materials, wear appropriate gloves and footwear as a precautionary measure.
- Wash hands immediately after use.

Bega Valley Shire Council uses organics and food waste from green bins to produce high quality compost and mulch. This fully pasteurised compost and mulch is suitable for all residential and commercial applications.

Compost and mulch typical analysis
The typical analysis for our compost and mulch is available on the Bega Valley Waste APP and on Council’s website.