

From
household
wastes...



...to liquid
gold compost

**Your Environmental
Action Group presents:**

COMPOSTING A Quiz

It is illegal to move leaves from private property into the street or onto another property, including city parks.

1) Too many leaves?

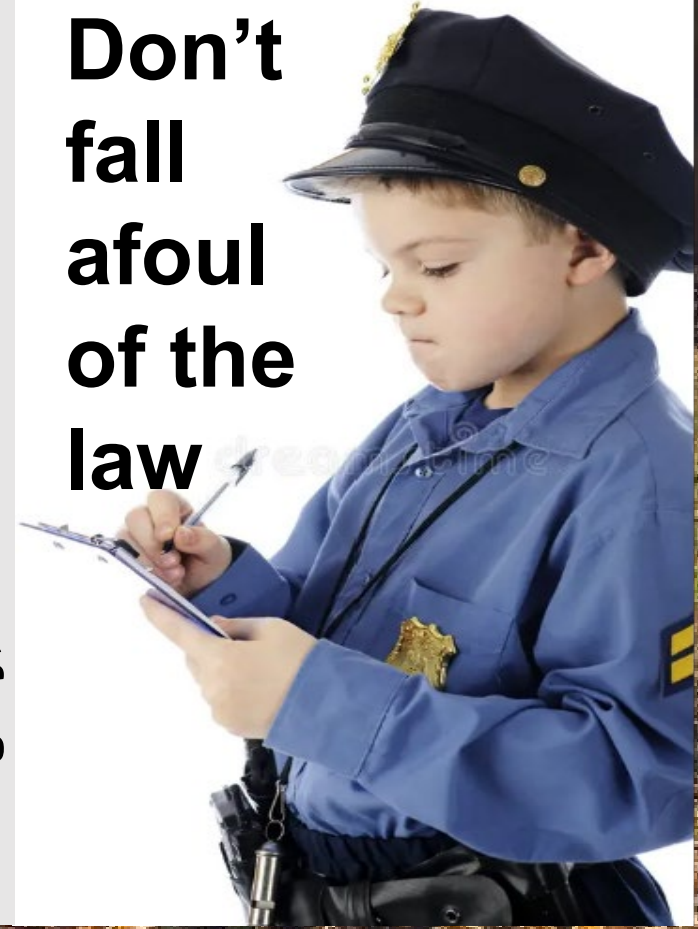
Best practice – leave the leaves on the ground!

Leaves:

- ❖ **return nutrients to trees,**
- ❖ **Reduce possible damage to plants from cold,**
- ❖ **provide cover for overwintering creatures including Lightning Bugs/Fireflies.**

Naughty, NAUGHTY NAUGHTY

**Don't
fall
afoul
of the
law**



Extra yard wastes..



**Pay
attention....**

Residents can drop-off 1 cubic yard per day, and unlimited leaves from the beginning of October to mid-December.

More than 1 yard? \$18/cubic yard, \$3/bag.

Ann Arbor Compost Center, open weekdays: 4170 Platt Rd, Ann Arbor.

You can buy stuff for your yard from the Compost Center; compost, natural wood mulch, pallet mulch, and woodchips.

You can pick-up free wood chips anytime from; Veterans Memorial Park, Southeast Area Park, Allmendinger Park, and 721 N. Main Street.

So load up your Ann Arbor compost cart to the brim with leaves, grass, wood chips, food waste, branches (<6" diameter).

3) How best to use your compost cart in winter....

**TRUE
TRUE**



In winter, wet or damp compost freezes to the inside of the cart.

Put some squares of cardboard in the bottom and put compost in paper bags.

Try to drain water out of coffee grounds and tea leaves, or pack them in compostable paper.

The city picks up once a month in winter, during the first full week of the months of January, February and March. Weekly pickup occurs from April to about 15 December.

[https://www.a2gov.org/departments/trash-recycling/Pages/Winter-](https://www.a2gov.org/departments/trash-recycling/Pages/Winter-Composting.aspx)

[Composting.aspx](https://www.a2gov.org/departments/trash-recycling/Pages/Winter-Composting.aspx)<https://www.a2gov.org/departments/trash-recycling/Pages/Winter-Composting.aspx>

4) Apartment composting.



Composting in an apartment is easy

Items people in apartments compost, same as everyone else:

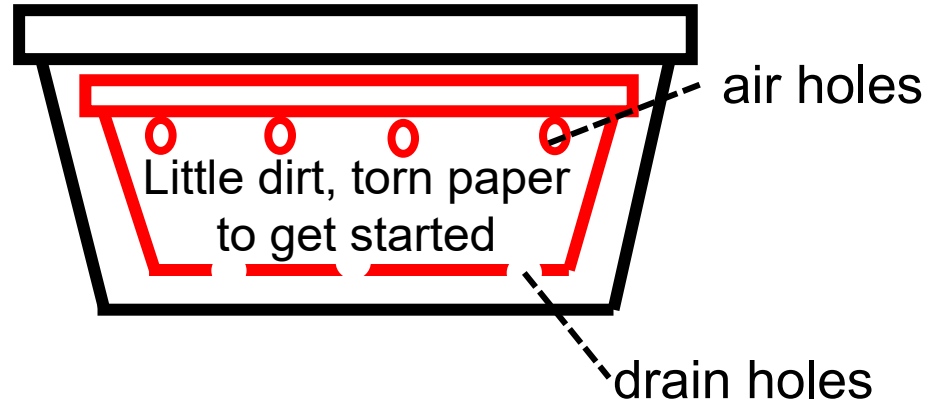
- ❖ **Vegetable scraps, fruit and veg peelings, stale bread, corn husks, eggshells, pasta and rice etc.**
- ❖ **Nail clippings, hair, shredded newspaper, torn up cardboard boxes etc.**
- ❖ **Coffee grounds and tea leaves.**
- ❖ **Skip meats, bones, dairy, fats as they get stinky.**

[https://www.thespruce.com/how-to-compost-in-an-apartment-](https://www.thespruce.com/how-to-compost-in-an-apartment-5216891#:~:text=There%20are%20a%20number%20of,easiest%20way%20to%20get%20started)

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5) Making an at-home composter out of everyday materials.

**TRUE
TRUE**



MAKING YOUR COMPOST BIN:

- Working time: 25 to 45 minutes.
- Cost: \$0 to ~\$30.

Grab two plastic bins with lids, one fitting inside the other.

Any size that fits your space. Ideally keep the bin in the dark at room-temperature - under the sink, laundry area, or in a closet are popular locations.

6) Using compost when you don't have a yard (and if you do have a yard).

- ❖ Black gold is great for potting plants and for boxes or planters on a balcony. Top up your pots too with black gold.
- ❖ If you live in an apartment, give your compost to your ground staff for the lawns and flower beds. Or use compost in your own yard.
- ❖ Compost stores well - you don't have to use it right away.
- ❖ A liquid will collect in the bottom of the outer container – this is nutrient-rich "compost tea". Use it to water your houseplants.
- ❖ If you live in an apartment, the building may have a compost cart - you can send excess black gold to the city.



**Lots of
uses for
compost**

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TRUE and it will make you FEEL so, so GOOD
TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE
TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE

7) You can make composting easier and speed it up using products such as worm bins, Bokashi buckets, and various indoor composters.

There are many products available to make apartment composting easy.



Let's face it, composting is fun.



Worm composting = vermicomposting or vermiculture - is very easy to do at home.

Worms are usually red wigglers, white worms, and other earthworms.



Put the usual compost stuff in the worm farm - vegetable, food waste, and other organic wastes etc.

Worm farm kits can be purchased on-line or make your own just like apartment composters.

Worm composting is a great Science Fare project for kids and grand-kids.

MAKE MONEY - Some people start profitable small businesses selling worms casts and their worm-compost tea - very good fertilizer.

<https://regeneration.org/nexus/vermiculture>, <https://unclejimswormfarm.com/vermiculture-start-a-worm-farm/>