

GLOSSARY

Composting: Composting is nature's process of recycling decomposed organic materials into a rich soil known as compost.

Compost: Decayed organic material used as a fertilizer for growing plants.

ASP: The Aerated Static Pile (ASP) is the simplest and least cost approach to composting large volumes of organic waste materials.

Biosloids: Organic matter recycled from sewage, especially for use in agriculture.

Actinomycete: A bacterium of an order of typically non-motile filamentous forms. They include streptomycetes, and were formerly regarded as fungi.

Bulking agents: Non-nutritive substances (commonly non-starch polysaccharides) added to compost to increase the bulk.

Thermophile: A thermophile is an organism — a type of extremophile — that thrives at relatively high temperatures, between 41 and 122 °C (106 and 252 °F).

Mesophiles: A mesophile is an organism that grows best in moderate temperature, neither too hot nor too cold, typically between 20 and 45 °C (68 and 113 °F).

Pathogen: A bacterium, virus, or other microorganism that can cause disease.

Pile: A quantity of objects stacked or thrown together in a heap.

Feed stock: Raw material to supply or fuel a machine or industrial process.

Putrescible: Solid waste that contains organic matter capable of being decomposed by microorganisms and of such a character and proportion as to cause obnoxious odors and to be capable of attracting or providing food for birds or animals.

Septage: Excrement and other waste material contained in or removed from a septic tank.

Sludge: Thick, soft, wet mud or a similar viscous mixture of liquid and solid components, especially the product of an industrial or refining process.

Bagasse: The dry pulpy residue left after the extraction of juice from sugar cane.

Water hyacinth: A free-floating water plant.

Cellulolytic: Hydrolyzing or having the capacity to hydrolyze [cellulose](#)