

Make a difference in your town or village and community compost



Why Community Compost?

Things to consider when starting up
a scheme in your town or village

Community Composting
Open Day coming soon

What is a community compost scheme?

Community composting is where a central composting point is made available for local residents to use and compost their garden waste.

Schemes like these, being led by communities, not only help the environment by keeping a valuable resource out of landfill but also have great social benefits, creating community cohesion by helping bring local residents together with other groups and community driven organisations.

Income generation for the local community through recycling credits

Providing a community service

Reducing the need to transport waste

Producing a valuable and useful resource for the local community



Things to consider before setting up a community composting scheme

Local community support

You must have a bona fide group as an individual cannot apply for funding etc. If you are not a member of a group, join one! Check out your local allotment, gardening or environmental groups. It's important to get people on your side, you will need a team of ready, willing and able volunteers to get going and to make it a success.

Support from the parish or town council is helpful to assist with insurance and planning issues.

How will it work

Your project should be open to the public. People should either be able to bring materials to you, or you should be collecting materials from them. A regular system is vital. Most groups operate once a week or once a month, some have almost daily opening.

A suitable site

Your site will need to be reasonably level, away from watercourses, readily accessible for users, approximately 25m x 50m for starters (ideally with space to expand), hardened and well drained surface, space for storage of equipment and site fencing and lockable gates.

Planning consent

Waste Planning Authorities encourage the discussion of proposals informally before submitting a formal application.

Exemption

You will need to either pay for a permit or apply for an exemption certificate from the Environment Agency to operate your site. The exemption is currently issued free of charge.

Funding

Initial set up costs will vary. Funding may be available through Local Authority funding streams such as Devon Community Composting Network (see overleaf). Your group could also apply to your Ward Councillor for help through the Councillors' Community Fund.

Still interested in Community Composting?

Community Composting Open Day

If you're a keen composter and interested in setting up a community composting group with like minded people in your area, we'd like to hear from you.

In the spring we will be hosting a Community Compost Open Day, with guest speakers from local community composting groups, helping to guide you through the process of setting up a group in your town or village.

Please register your interest by emailing recycling@teignbridge.gov.uk

Further information

The **Devon Community Composting Network** aims to encourage residents of Devon to start composting and possibly set up their own composting project as well as offering advice and support to individuals and groups already composting.

For information about the Devon Community Compost Network visit www.dccn.org.uk or contact Ben Bryant, Recycling Officer on 01626 215842 or email ben.bryant@teignbridge.gov.uk

Community Composting Network (CCN) is the UK wide organisation that help groups wanting to find out more about starting a scheme in their area. Visit www.communitycompost.org.

Case Study

Take a look at a successful scheme in Gloucester for inspiration. www.bisleycommunitycompostscheme.org.uk