



Marion County
OREGON

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Marion County to Offer One-Day-Only Composter Sale

In an effort to promote waste reduction by backyard composting, Marion County Public Works Environmental Services will once again sponsor a one-day-only sale of backyard compost bins below cost.

On Saturday, May 3 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. the Earth Machine Composter will be sold for \$28.50 at Fred Meyer in East Salem and Roth's Vista Market in South Salem; Copper Creek Mercantile in Keizer; Coastal Farm Store in Woodburn; and the Wilco Farm Stores in Silverton and Stayton. The unit normally retails for \$80.

Composting is the natural process of decomposition and recycling organic material into a humus-rich soil amendment into compost. Compost improves soil structure, texture, and aeration and increases its ability to retain water. It helps prevent erosion; aids soil fertility and stimulates healthy root development in plants, which reduces disease and pest infestations.

Compostable yard debris and fruit/vegetable scraps represent approximately 20 percent of what is currently thrown in the garbage. Residents that have curbside yard debris collection can have their yard debris, fruit, and vegetable peels composted for them by simply placing it in the green roll carts, but gardeners and people with landscaping can benefit from making it themselves.

“Our department promotes backyard composting primarily as a way to reduce waste, but there are a lot of benefits to composting that we hope to make people aware of,” said Bailey Payne of the Marion County Public Works Environmental Services Division.

People can get more information by calling (503) 588-5169 or visiting Marion County's Public Works website at <http://www.co.marion.or.us/pw/es>.

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