**Composting Organic Waste**

“Composting is a sustainable and environmentally friendly method of managing organic waste. It offers numerous benefits for the environment and communities by converting food scraps, yard trimmings, and other organic materials into nutrient-rich soil amendments. Composting not only reduces waste but also mitigates greenhouse gas emissions and promotes sustainable agriculture.

“The process of composting requires a balance of carbon-rich (browns) and nitrogen-rich (greens) materials, along with adequate moisture and oxygen. Sustainability, in the context of composting, entails utilizing organic waste in a way that minimizes environmental impact and supports long-term ecological balance.

One of the challenges associated with composting is the potential for odor and pest issues. Improperly managed compost piles may emit unpleasant odors, especially if a balance of browns and greens is not maintained. Similarly, if compost bins are not adequately sealed or protected, pests like rodents or flies may be attracted to the decomposing organic matter. Addressing these challenges requires proper composting techniques, such as turning the pile regularly and using sealed bins.

“Many businesses and organizations have embraced composting as part of their sustainability strategies. Restaurants, grocery stores, and food manufacturers can divert their food waste to composting facilities, reducing their environmental footprint and supporting a circular economy. Additionally, municipalities and waste management companies collaborate with composting facilities to process organic waste, closing the loop on waste management and promoting a more sustainable future.

“Innovation in composting technologies is driving advancements in the field. From in-vessel composting systems that accelerate the decomposition process to anaerobic digestion facilities that produce biogas, technological innovations are making composting more efficient and scalable. Additionally, emerging techniques like black soldier fly larvae composting show promise in converting organic waste into valuable proteins and fats, further expanding the possibilities of sustainable waste management.”

Jenks2026, “Composting: a Sustainable Way to Manage Organic Waste,” Green.org, <https://green.org/2024/01/30/composting-a-sustainable-way-to-manage-organic-waste/>.