

Benefits of Compost Use

- Economical source of nitrogen and other important nutrients.
- Creates a better plant root environment by improving the soil structure, porosity and bulk density.
- Increases moisture infiltration and permeability of heavy soils – improving drainage and reducing erosion and runoff.
- Enhances moisture holding capacity of light soils – reducing water loss and nutrient leaching.
- Stabilizes and increases soil pH.
- Improves cation exchange capacity (CEC) of soils – improving their ability to hold nutrients for plant use.
- Provides a variety of macro and micro nutrients for soil and plants.
- Delivers significant quantities of organic matter.
- Supplies beneficial micro-organisms to the soil – improving nutrient uptake and suppressing certain soil-borne diseases.
- Binds and degrades specific pollutants.

Sources: The Field Guide to compost use, US Composting Council, 1996
Magic Valley Compost, www.magicvalleycompost.com