



COMPOST PILES

YES & NO



Banana Peels	YES	Decompose rapidly; can help activate a slow compost pile; loaded with plant nutrients
Citrus Fruits	YES	Shred rinds; bury in compost to discourage fruit flies
Corn Cobs	YES	Shred; adds both fiber and nutrients to compost; good mulch; slow to break down
Coffee Grounds	YES	Can be used on many plants; compost shredded filters
Dairy Products	NO	Fats seal off air from compost; odors attract pests
Diseased Plants	NO	Compost heat may not destroy disease
Dust / Lint	YES	Use vacuum cleaner debris and lint from clothes dryer
Eggshells	YES	Dry and crush; slow breakdown
Evergreen Needles	YES	Highly acidic; better to use as mulch
Fabrics	YES	Small scraps of wool, cotton, silk; no synthetic fibers
Feathers	YES	Extremely high in nitrogen
Grass Clippings	YES	Valuable; mix well
Hair	YES	Human and pet hair
Hay / Straw	YES	Good carbon source; nutrients usually low
Leaves	YES	Shredded decompose faster; excellent carbon source
Manure	YES	Cow, horse, pig, rabbit - the fresher the better; no manure from "meat" eating animals or humans
Meat / Bones	NO	Odors and pests are problems; dried bone-meal is fine; good source of nitrogen
Paper	YES	Shred; no glossy / colored which contain chemical; eg. Paper napkins towels with no fat or grease residue
Pet Wastes	NO	Risk of pathogens and parasites
Sawdust	YES	Hardwood; small quantities; no plywood that contains chemicals
Teabags	YES	High in nitrogen
Weeds	YES	Most; discard mature seeds, persistent roots, weeds treated with *Herbicides / Pesticides *If treated wait 2-3 rainfalls before adding to compost pile

