

Department of Recreation and Parks

Griffith Park Compost Facility

Compost is created from a combination of tree trimmings, Los Angeles "Zoo Doo," and other bio-solids. This material is mixed in an aerated pile for 15 days at a temperature of 135°- 145°F.



When ready for use, compost helps soil and plants in numerous ways, including:

- Increasing organic matter and microbial activity in the soil. Compost "feeds the soil," making it easier for plants to get the nutrients they need by releasing them slowly and in small doses, the way nature does.
- Improving the soil's water holding capacity, which helps soil retain moisture longer. This stimulates healthy root development.
- Loosening and aerating clay soils to make it easier for roots to establish themselves.

More than 3,500 tons of living material becomes compost at a facility located next to the Griffith Park recycling plant that has been operated since 1996 by the City's Department of Public Works, Bureau of Sanitation. This facility and the recycling plant are the first of their kind in the United States.



Compost is donated to non-profit organizations and schools in the Los Angeles Unified School District; it is also used in the garden areas at the Los Angeles Zoo and in park landscaping projects throughout the City.