



PRODUCT INFO

COMPOST:

High quality compost is produced slowly with long composting periods. This allows the beneficial microbes to grow to very high levels converting the feedstock into a nutrient and humus rich material that gardeners call "Black Gold". Similar to making wine - quality compost takes time. We do not use high salt feedstocks like poultry or cow manure. Our compost is made mainly from leaves (just like nature of the forest floor), grass cuttings, fruits, and vegetables with small amounts of horse manure and bedding from local stables to increase the microbial content.

Note: Customers occasionally ask, "Why is the price of compost so high?"

The real question is why are other products so cheap?

Many factors determine the price of the compost and mulches:

- 1) In areas of the country where landfill dump rates are very high, composters receive a large dump fee for their feedstocks. Hence, they do not have to charge as much for the compost or mulch to make a profit.
- 2) In many areas of the country, local governments use tax dollars to pay for the cost of the composting and sell compost or mulch below cost or even give it away.
- 3) We have seen some companies grind up old railroad ties and sell it as compost or mulch. Others use dyes to make sawdust look dark and call it compost. Many companies use toxic waste like ash from coal fired generating plants, which chemically burns the organic material black and then sell it as compost or mulch.



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- 4) A few companies use the worn out waste product from growing mushrooms called SMS (Spent Mushroom Substrate) that is full of chemicals and salts and sell it as compost.
- 5) Many companies use sewage sludge as a compost ingredient. The sludge is full of toxic chemicals, heavy metals and it is very expensive to dispose of. Hence, it is very profitable for companies to use sewage sludge to make compost.
- 6) Other companies use animal manures from poultry and cows as a feedstock to make compost. These often contain pharmaceuticals from antibiotics to growth hormones that are bad for humans. These manures are also very high in salts. In many areas along the gulf coast, the soils are often high in sodium and using these compost products can result in toxicity to our plants.
- 7) Others let the organic materials putrefy (an anaerobic process) which allows pathogens to grow and turn the material black. It is very inexpensive and is a quick process.
- 8) There are several methods to make compost. The quick low cost methods produce compost that is bacterial dominated which weedy species of plants love.

MULCHES:

At NWR we sell high quality native mulches.

"**Native**" mulch is made from recycled fresh green tree and brush material that was recently alive. Recent research has found that mulches made from recycled native trees are the *highest quality available*. Our native mulches have a high percentage of buds, shoots, leaves, and cambium layers in them. These materials are rich in protein, vitamins, minerals and other nutrients, which is the reason deer and other animals eat them as a food source. Native mulches encourage the biodiversity of beneficial microbes and earthworms in the soil. They feed the plants naturally, as they decompose, and they help prevent plant and soil diseases. Additionally, these



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mulches resist washing out and blowing much better than other types of mulches. *This type mulch is highly fire resistant especially if it has been composted (aged) first.*

The cheap mulches (low quality) often use the methods described in the compost section above. Many are bad for plants, which in turn increase the disease, pest and weed problems a customer faces. Other companies grind up old pallets or construction wood waste and dye it black or use toxic coal ash, which chemically burns it black.

SANDS:

Most companies use "bank sand" which is cheap and full of weed seeds. At NWR we only use what is called "washed sand". This sand has been washed to remove clay and silt particles and removes any organic materials like weed seeds. It cost more but does not come with years of weed problems.

TOPSOIL:

Many companies use old topsoil from worn out rice fields that are nutrient deficient and full of toxic agricultural chemicals. At NWR we use virgin topsoil, mixed with recycled soil from landscaping and other sources which is then composted to kill any weed seeds and increase the humus content. It is then screened to remove roots, rocks, and any other contaminants.

SOIL MIXES:

Different species of plants require different types of soil. We offer a full line of soils blended from the above components to ensure a customer receives the correct soils for their landscapes and design goals. Our product description flyer provides detailed information on each type of soil blend.



ROCKS, GRAVEL and AMENDMENTS:

We have a full line of these products from mineral rich basalts and granite to green sand and expanded shale. Additionally, we carry both rainbow rocks/gravel in addition to the standard brown and in multiple sizes.

PLANTS:

We only sell plants that will grow in our area. We purchase organically grown whenever possible and ALL plants are maintained organically once they are received. If you need a hard to find plant or special cultivar or many plants for a project, we do special orders to help our customers. We carry plants from fruit trees to annuals and perennials with a large selection of Native plants.

*At NWR we only use the highest quality ingredients. At Nature's Way Resources, our focus is on **quality products** for use by the gardening community that offer **real value** over many years. This saves the gardener both time and money in the long run as they have healthier plants with far fewer problems. These products require less of the expensive fertilizers and other chemicals each year. Our products are made from recycled materials saving the community valuable landfill space and they are **100% organic** creating a healthier, safer environment for our children, families and pets.*