

A VERY SPECIAL VISIT FROM GREENS SOLUTIONS

This week as part of National Recycling Week we invited a representative from Greens Solutions. Damien Botha the CEO came out to visit us and informed us the role of Greens Solutions in the community and the amazing world of Compost.

With a newly installed compost bin we were most excited to find out what sort of things could go into our compost bin and also how to care for our compost to ensure it would develop into the perfect compost recipe for our garden and help our plants thrive.

Damien first showed up the following powerpoint where we learnt about what is suitable to turn into compost - e.g. lawn clipping, leaves, branches, green waste, how it is mulched up when it first arrives at green solution, how long it sits for and how it is turned over to turn it into the finest and best compost ever.

We loved looking at the equipment that the workers use a Green Solutions. In particular the giant transformer or turner which turns the rows of compost over.

See the Turner in Action <https://youtu.be/9drks5HyC7I>

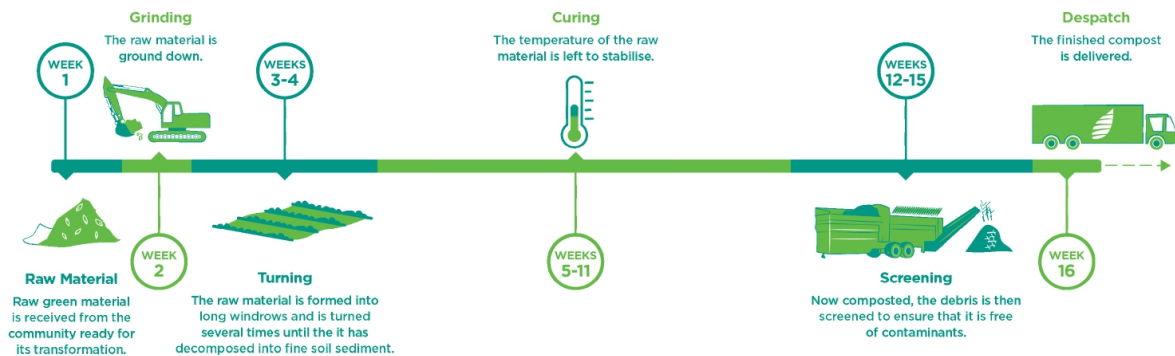


About Green Solutions

OUR GOALS:

- Help change green waste habits
- Raise awareness about environmental footprints (CO₂)
- Encouraging the Reduce, Reuse, Recycle message
- Replace organic matter in the earth/soil
- Helping create a happier and healthier planet for the future

**REDUCE
REUSE
RECYCLE**



GIVING **GREEN** WASTE A NEW LIFE

www.greensolutionswidebay.com.au

Stage 1 - Raw Material

We accept GREEN WASTE only.
This includes:

- Grass clippings
- Weeds
- Plants
- Shrubs
- Tree pruning
- Palm tree and fronds

**OPEN 7 DAYS
FOR GREEN WASTE
DROP OFF**



Stage 2 – Grinding

We use a **Komptech Cranbo 5200** shredder machine to reduce the raw material into a compostable form.

Stage 3 –Pasteurisation

- Eliminates weeds, seeds, and harmful pathogens.
- Australian Standard 4454.
- Takes 15 days
- Raw material kept at 55 degrees and above



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Stage 5 - Screening





Stage 6 – Despatch

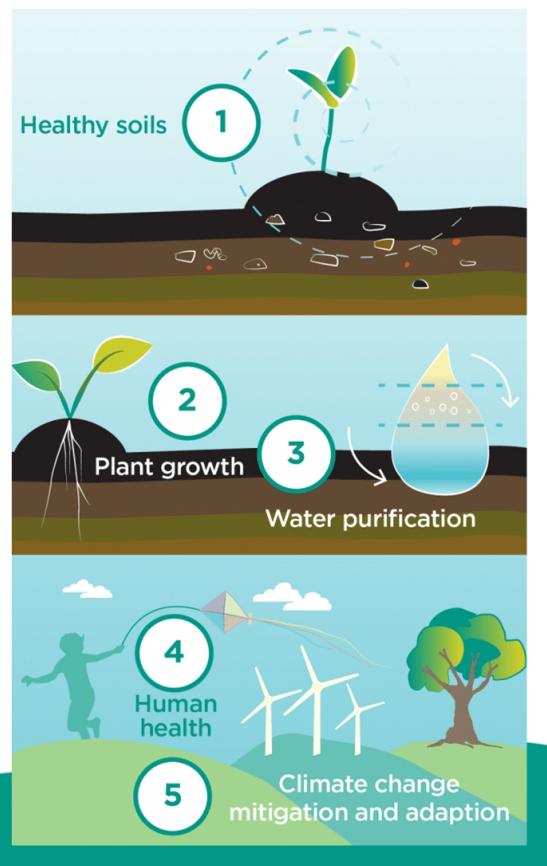
Ready to return the compost to the soil.

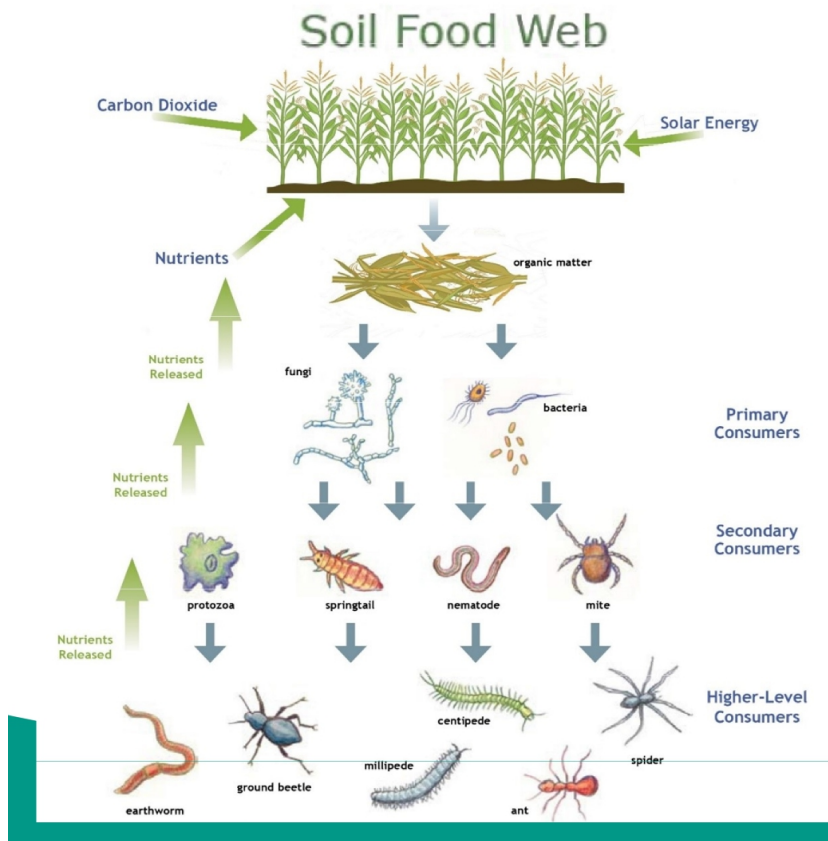
Compost & Mulch sold:

- bulk (to farms)
- by the scoop (trailer load),
- 15L bags (shown here)

Why composting is important:

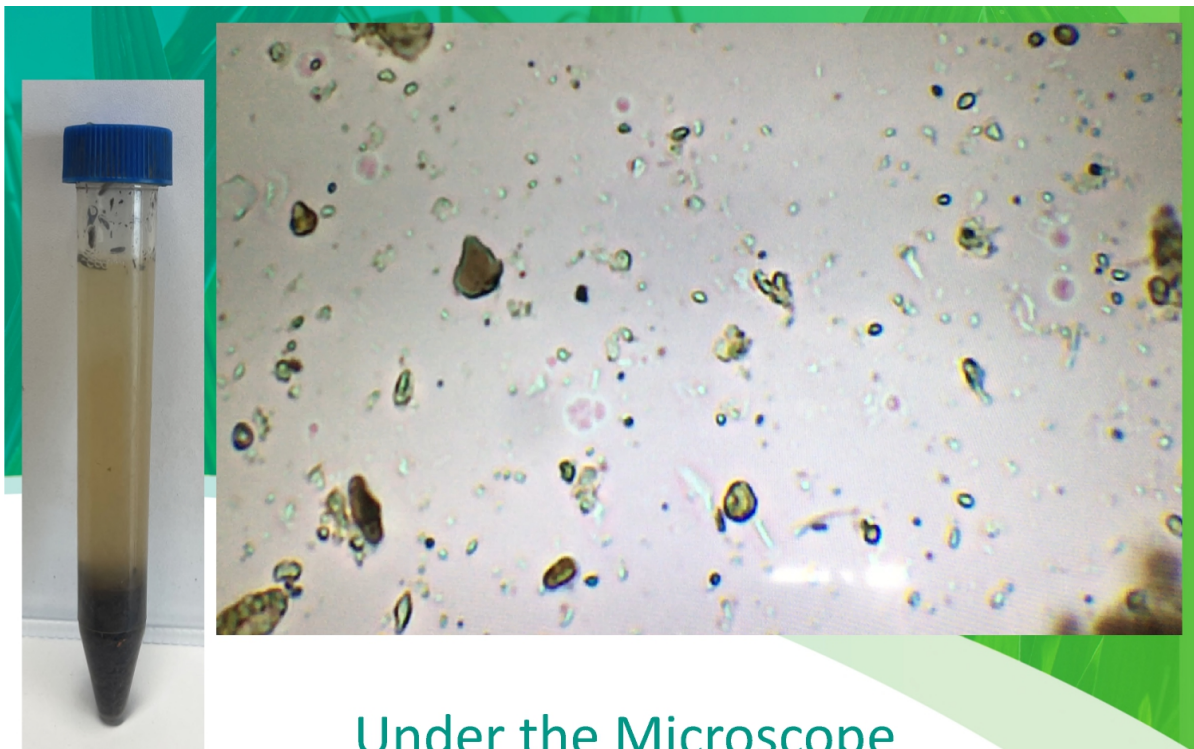
- Enriches the soil
- Less fertiliser
- Healthier plants
- Healthier air
- Healthier humans





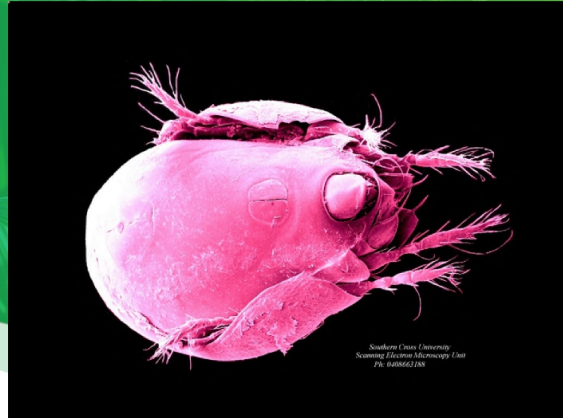
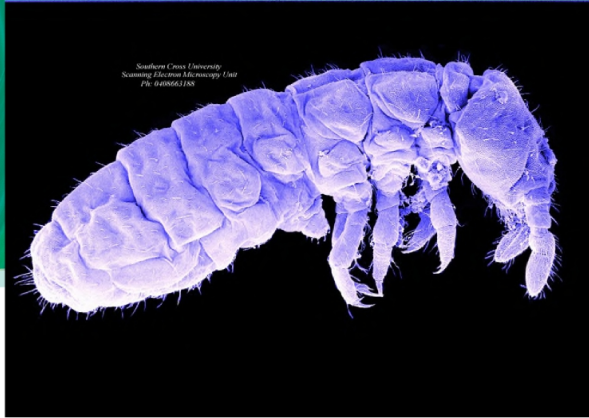
Diversity of organisms include:

- bacteria
- algae
- fungi
- protozoa
- nematodes
- microarthropods



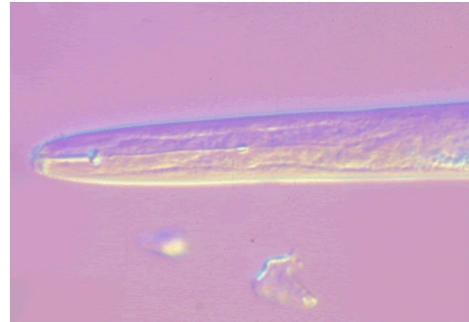
Under the Microscope

FUN FACT - In this one drop of compost solution, there is more biodiversity than in the whole Amazon jungle.



Micro Arthropods

Nematodes





We loved learning about the tiny animals that live in our soil that can make our soil health or not healthy and that compost is about getting the right amount of healthy arthropods so that when you add it to your garden or farm it helps the plants grow not hinders them. Compost is also amazing for retaining water so when it does rain it holds this moisture in the soil rather than it wash away into our drains, gutters, rivers and oceans.

These three boxes (from left to right) show different stages of mulch....

1st one is when the green waste gets mulched up.

2nd one is when it has been sitting for 16 weeks slowly being turned over and breaking down into amazing compost

3rd is the items that are too big to be sold as compost but can be used as garden mulch instead.



We then took Damien down to new compost bin and asked him which items were suitable to add.

We added straw, leaves, and shredded paper. Damien encouraged us not to add food scraps as this can make your compost very smelly and attract the wrong organisms. We are going to add half of the bag of compost that Greens Solutions donated to us next week so we can make sure the right little organisms move in and get our compost bin working.





Thanks Damien and Green solutions for visiting us and also for our little sweet potato cook books and sweet potatoes to take home.

Story date: 13 Nov 22. Added by: Louise Stallard.