THE COMPOST ALTERNATIVE

KURTZ BROS. INC.

Earth'n Wood™ PRODUCTS, INC.
Powered by **Kurtz Bros., Inc.**

1. Lawn Installation with Compost Instead of Straw

Application: Planting

Why: Traditionally straw has been used as a grass seed cover to retain moisture and to protect newly planted seeds. However, many people fail to realize that utilizing straw also introduces weed seeds into the growing environment, and it is mildly effective at controlling moisture levels. Weed seeds often compete with grass seeds for rapid establishment and result in less than ideal soil growth. Utilizing compost not only helps reduce the threat of weeds, but it also increases moisture retention while acting as a natural fertilizer that boosts overall soil health and helps speed up seed growth. A simple 1" application of compost will help in the germination of grass seeds and improve overall soil health in the process.

For more information visit: https://blog.soil3.com/soil3-vs-wheat-straw-when-seeding-new-lawns

2. End of Season Fertilizer Application Alternative

Application: Lawn Fertilization and Soil Amendment

Why: Compost is made up of decomposed organic matter that promotes better soil health with the replenishment of texture and microbes. Unlike most chemical fertilizers, compost works to modify or improve the condition of the soil, creating an overall healthier growing medium. Compost, when topically applied as a lawn fertilizer or as a soil amendment, helps improve both soil moisture retention and aeration, which are critical for plant health and longevity. Compost also helps to prevent plant disease, erosion, and compaction of the soil. Additionally, utilizing compost instead of synthetic fertilizers will reduce the amount of nutrients that run off into waterways and further protect Ohio from the promotion of algal blooms. Compost, for use as a Step 4 (Winterizing) Fertilizer, can be easily applied to existing lawns or greenspaces with simple manure spreaders or blower truck anytime from early September through mid-November.

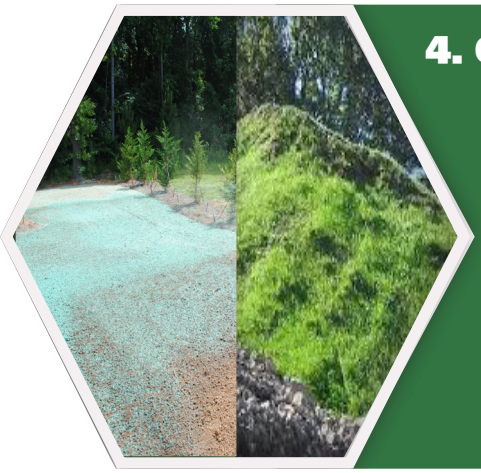
For more information visit: https://homeguides.sfgate.com/compost-vs-fertilizer-39096.html

3. Construction Site Erosion & Sediment Perimeter Control

Application: Compost Filter Sock for Stormwater Run-off Control

Why: Silt fence, though still widely used, is an archaic and often ineffective Best Management Practice (BMP) for the management of run-off from project sites. Not only is silt fence difficult and timely to install, but its actual integrity and effectiveness are often less than desirable. Compost Filter Sock is a new and better alternative to silt fence. Compost filter socks are tubular netted socks filled with a compost material to hug the ground and serve as a sediment control measure for applications such as; perimeter control, slope interruption, ditch checks, inlet protection, and more. Compost filter socks are easier to both install and remove (they do not require trenching), provide intimate contact with the ground, have a higher permeability than silt fence, and are the most cost-effective and efficient form of stormwater control measure in the market.

For more information visit: https://www.mkbcompany.com/diamond-sock-cfs



4. Construction Site Temporary Seeding

Application: Utilizing Compost to Temporary Seed

Why: Today, most construction sites are required to cover and stabilize any exposed soil to reduce the potential for erosion and stormwater run-off. Temporary seeding, covering the bare soil with a thin layer of vegetation, is the method most often used to meet these requirements. Construction companies often resort to seeding with hydroseeding or seed and straw applications. While these methods are mildly effective Pneumatic Seeding, a seeding method that utilizes a compost seed mix, provides far better germination, acts as a better protective layer to exposed earth, and creates a better overall soil material for reuse back on the project site. Using this method instead of the traditional seed and straw allows for easier installation and provides substantial value added that cannot be obtained with traditional hydroseeding or straw applications.

For more information visit: https://intrans.iastate.edu/app/uploads/sites/15/2018/12/7E-22.pdf

5. Slope Stabilization

Application: Using A Compost Blanket for Slope Stabilization

Why: Similar to the practice of temporary seeding, slope stabilization can be done with compost for both temporary and permanent slope establishment to reduce the threat of erosion. According to the Center for Environmental Excellence compost stimulates the chemical, physical, and biological characteristics of soil, adding texture and structure in a manner that resists erosion. Using compost for slope stabilization for any slope less than 3-1 is an extremely effective and simple way to stabilize slope integrity. For slopes with grades steeper than a 3-1, compost can be used with a straw blanket to provide desired erosion control. Since compost helps plants and seeds take form the fastest, compost can quickly and effectively create a tightly locked thick vegetation blanket cover to provide and ensure slope integrity.

For more information visit: https://environment.transportation.org/environmental_issues/construct_maint_prac/compendium/manual/10_13.aspx

WANT TO LEARN MORE?

Schedule a Lunch and Learn with Kurtz Bros., Inc. and get personalized training on the uses, benefits, and advances in compost and compost applications!

Contact Jason Ziss to Schedule:

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