

## Compositing & Neale

Neale is a long standing volunteer of backhouse park, dedicating almost 2 years to the continued development of our beloved park. Over the years Neale has undertaken several courses to improve his capabilities, one of which is a comprehensive course on compositing. Composting is a practice that has become increasingly valuable for many individuals, including Neale who recently took a workshop with a local expert. By separating food scraps and organic waste from regular trash, he significantly reduced the amount of waste sent to landfills. This has helped reduce some of the waste the park produces.

One of the most tangible benefits he experienced was the creation of nutrient-rich compost for the park. The finished compost improved soil quality, helping plants grow healthier and retain moisture more effectively. As a result, the park relied less on store-bought fertilizers, saving money while supporting more sustainable growing practices. Beyond these practical advantages, composting also increased his awareness of consumption and environmental impact. It encouraged more thoughtful food habits and reinforced the idea that everyday actions can contribute to long-term environmental health. Overall, composting proved to be a simple yet impactful practice with personal, financial, and ecological benefits.



What can you expect at a composting workshop? Firstly you will be taken through the process, why it is important, and the relevant ingredients. Composting is a fairly complex process involving specific temperatures, exact ratios and good understanding of the materials you use. Neale found this to be challenging but once undertaking the activity it became more understandable. Following on from the theoretical part of the workshop comes

making the compost. Neale is quite good at practical tasks and enjoys working outside, so this suited his skills very well.

Neale would recommend this to anyone interested in composting as it has provided many benefits and knowledge. Neale believes in a green planet and thinks that undertaking this workshop has greatly widened his understanding and knowledge in this area. Now that Neale has this knowledge, he can help the park ranger undertake his tasks and function more independently. Overall, it was a pleasant experience and worthwhile.