### How Much Compost Do I Need?

**One Cubic Yard of Compost Covers:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Covers</th>
<th>Depth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>648 sq. ft</td>
<td>→</td>
<td>1/2”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>324 sq. ft</td>
<td>→</td>
<td>1”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>162 sq. ft</td>
<td>→</td>
<td>2”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>108 sq. ft</td>
<td>→</td>
<td>3”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Cubic Yards Required To Cover 1,000 square feet**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Layer</th>
<th>Yards</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/2” layer</td>
<td>1.5 yd³</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1” layer</td>
<td>3.0 yd³</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2” layer</td>
<td>6.0 yd³</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3” layer</td>
<td>9.0 yd³</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Directions for Use

**Flower and Ornamental Garden Beds:**
Apply a 1 to 2 inch layer of Appleton compost to the soil and incorporate it to a depth of 6 to 8 inches. Plant flowers and water. Condition the soil this way every other year.

**Trees & Shrubs:**
Dig a hole to the approximate depth of the root ball and two to three times as wide. Mix 1 part Appleton compost with 2 parts soil obtained from the planting hole. Place the tree or shrub in the planting hole and apply amended soil around the root ball. Firm the soil occasionally and water.

**New Turf Areas:**
Apply a 1 to 2 inches of Appleton compost to the soil and incorporate it to depth of 6 to 8 inches, apply seed, then rake and water.

**Topsoil Manufacturing / Upgrading:**
Mix 1 part Appleton compost with 2 to 3 parts existing or purchased soil and blend uniformly.

**Mulching:**
Spread a 2 to 3 inch layer of Appleton compost around trees, shrubs, and flowers.

**Potting Media:**
Thoroughly blend 1 part Appleton compost to 3 parts of purchased growing media.

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**Disclaimer**
The City of Appleton and its partners are not liable in anyway for damage to crops, gardens, or other vegetative growth due to improper usage. Compost is environmentally safe when used appropriately.
The City of Appleton, with land use permission from Outagamie County, has conducted an ongoing demonstration project to produce biosolids compost (includes leaves, brush, and biosolids).

At this windrow composting facility, modern engineering principles are used to accelerate the natural degradation process enabling a finished product to be produced in just 3 to 4 months. Ongoing monitoring of the system allows for a consistently high quality soil amendment to be produced.

WHAT ARE BIOSOLIDS?

Biosolids are a rich organic material that result from treating wastewater. The Appleton compost facility ensures that all compost has been treated to the standards of the Environmental Protection Agency and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Treatment is by approved methods to reduce pathogens. Pathogen and metal concentrations are below regulatory limits established by the EPA and WDNR for exceptional quality, including meeting standards established by the U.S. Compost Council.

Appleton’s biosolids compost is rich in organic matter and microbial population, both of which are essential components to productive landscape soils. It is also excellent for amending depleted soils, enriching planting mixes, and enhancing the growth of turf and ornamental plant species.

The composting process, essentially “pasteurizes” the product, allowing Appleton’s biosolids compost to boast that it is free of viable weed seeds and pathogens.

Contains
- Adds valuable organic matter - improving soil structure
- Improving the moisture holding capacity of light, sandy soils
- Reducing the bulk density of heavy, clay soils – increasing moisture infiltration and aeration, slowing soil compaction
- Reduces soil erosion and nutrient leaching
- Improves the microbial activity of the soil

August 2012 community garden study photos that demonstrated positive vegetative response to compost (left).