



**News Release**  
**May 4, 2023**

## **Multi-Materials Stewardship Board Launches New E-Learning Resource for Backyard Composting in Recognition of International Compost Awareness Week**

St. John's, NL – In recognition of International Compost Awareness Week (May 7-13), The Multi-Materials Stewardship board (MMSB) has launched a new e-learning resource to help Newfoundlanders and Labradorians to get started with backyard composting.

Backyard composting is one-way to embrace nature's version of recycling and compost organic waste instead of sending it to the landfill. Organic waste, including food, yard and paper will decompose naturally over time and can create healthy soil to be used for gardening.

The new e-learning resource is an interactive course that will teach residents how to effectively make compost using a tumbler or bin in their backyard. Residents will receive a certificate upon successfully completing the course.

In an effort to help communities divert organic waste, MMSB annually partners with communities to offer backyard composting bins to residents at a reduced rate. During Spring 2023, MMSB distributed 1,600 bins to 23 communities. A list of participating communities is available on MMSB's website. In addition to the bins, MMSB works with participating communities to ensure residents have access to backyard composting education sessions. This course will improve access to education for residents.

MMSB also has a number of other activities planned in celebration of International Compost Awareness Week. MMSB will share composting tips and information through its social media channels and will also launch a contest for municipalities, local service districts and community organizations to enter to win community composting bins. Community composting is where a central composting site is created and maintained by a municipal government or local group and is made available to members of the community.

To learn more about composting, including backyard, community and vermicomposting, visit [rethinkwaste.nl.ca](http://rethinkwaste.nl.ca).

### **Quotes**

“Protecting our environment and making greener choices is very important. I applaud the MMSB for developing this new backyard composting educational resource for residential use. Reducing waste in our communities and backyards by composting organic material helps support more sustainable environments for future generations.”

Honourable Bernard Davis  
Environment and Climate Change

“Organics make up approximately a third of the waste we throw away in Newfoundland and Labrador. Backyard composting is an easy a rewarding way to divert organic waste from the landfill. MMSB is thrilled to launch this new e-learning opportunity to further support residents in learning to compost. Through backyard composting, we can recycle this material in the way nature intended, while also helping create healthy, green gardens.”

Dermot Flynn

Chair, Multi-Materials Stewardship Board of Directors

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**Learn more:**

- [International Compost Awareness Week](#)
- [Rethink Waste NL – Backyard Composting](#)
- [MMSB e-learning course](#)
- [Backyard Compost Bin Distribution Program](#)

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