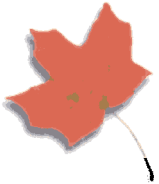




## COMPOST: FROM GOLDEN LEAVES TO GARDENER'S GOLD

Compost is often referred to as "Gardener's Gold" because of its ability to help plants grow. If you've ever been in a forest and peeled away the top layers of leaf litter on the ground, you will have seen a rich layer of this black, earthy, sweet smelling, moist material called compost. Compost, when mixed in with soil, improves soil structure, adds a wide variety of minerals and nutrients, and improves the soil's ability to retain moisture.



Composting is the earth's way of naturally recycling old plant material and you too can use this process in your own back yard to manage your yard waste. So, this fall, why not try composting all those fallen leaves and by next spring you too could be mining "Gardener's Gold" in your very own backyard. For information on how to compost in Gwinnett Contact "Gwinnett Clean & Beautiful" at 770-822-5187 or visit their website at [www.gwinnettcb.org](http://www.gwinnettcb.org).

To find out more solutions to water pollution visit [www.cleanwatercampaign.com](http://www.cleanwatercampaign.com).

## HOW CAN LEAVES HURT STREAMS?



Autumn is approaching and that means leaves will be falling. Leaves can be washed into local streams where bacteria can cause the leaves to decay and release phosphorus. This bacterial action and release of phosphorus can lead to a decrease in the water oxygen levels necessary to support the survival of fish & aquatic life.

### What can I do to help?

Don't blow or sweep leaves into the street, storm drains or drainage ditches. Instead, consider composting the old leaves. You'll save our streams and your garden will benefit from all the rich compost you are able to produce! See the reverse side of this flyer for more information on composting.

### Be a Solution To Water Pollution

This insert was developed by the Clean Water Campaign in association with Gwinnett County's Storm Water Management Division. Questions or Comments? Please call: 678-376-6929.



[www.cleanwatercampaign.com](http://www.cleanwatercampaign.com)