

# Compost Tea



## What's compost tea?

Compost tea is compost that has “steeped” in room temperature water. This process grows beneficial microorganisms and suspends nutrients in water so that they are immediately available for the grass. Compost tea immediately greens up the grass and is the best way to transition a lawn from conventional methods to a natural yard. Compost tea is very concentrated and must be diluted when applied to prevent burns.



## Build Your Own Compost Tea Kit

- Mesh bag or stocking
- High quality compost
- 5 gallon bucket
- 1 quart garden siphon sprayer & hose

## How to Make Compost Tea

1. **Using a compost tea kit, fill the bucket** with water (allow water to sit for 24 hours if it is chlorinated).
2. **Fill the mesh bag** with compost and submerge it in the water.
3. Brew for 24-36 hours.
4. **Store any unused tea in fridge** for up to one week.

## How to Apply Compost Tea

1. **Soil test before applying.**
2. **Wear PPE (glasses and dust mask).**
3. **Apply in the morning** any time of year your grass is growing.
4. **Fill siphon sprayer** with compost tea.
5. **Attach sprayer to hose.**
6. **Spray 1,000 square feet of lawn.**
7. **A little goes a long way, most lawns are fine with one application each year.**

You can buy a complete kit from the  
**Cumberland County Soil & Water Conservation District.**  
Call (207) 892-4700.



## How Much Compost Tea Do You Need?

One quart of compost tea will cover a 1,000 square foot lawn. Extra compost tea can be applied to the soil in other gardens.

