

LATEST NEWS

Volume 29 - October 2015

Coming up on Halloween day is the Viva La Local Food Festival which is being held at Rillito Park Race Track. Taking place from 9am - 5pm on Saturday, October 31st, the event is suitable for all ages with admission priced at \$6 and kids under 12 gaining free entry. Food & Drink Tastings are \$5 for portions suitable for two, so make sure to bring a friend along. Come early and shop at the Heirloom Farmers Market (featured last month) as the event even offers a free "Veggie Valet" which will store your market purchases while you enjoy the Food Festival. Performances from local musicians will enhance the fun.

Even though much of the food will be for a more mature palette, the kids will enjoy a play area hosted by the Tucson Children's Museum. They'll also be handing out prizes for best costumes since the day falls on Halloween! If you're at the event between 10 - 11am the kids can also enjoy a music hour put on by Mr. Nature's Music Garden with an "Instrument Petting Zoo". Visit www.vivalalocalfoodfest.com

CYCLOVIA TUCSON - SEMI-ANNUAL SOCIAL BIKE EVENT

We've previously featured the Cyclovia bike event that happens twice a year in Tucson and it's coming up again soon! Save the date of Sunday, November 1st and come on down between 10am - 3pm to join in the fun. This event's route is 2.6 miles long and stretches from 6th Avenue/7th Street up to Fontana Ave./Blackridge. Enjoy a day of biking, walking, and all-out fun!



The Housing Report

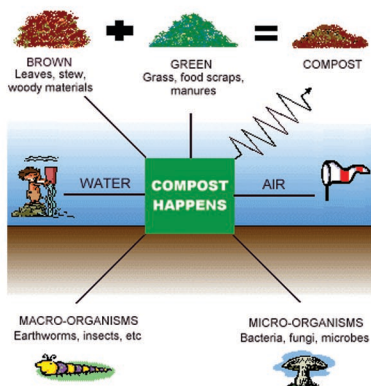
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HOUSEHOLD TIPS - CREATING A COMPOST PILE

Composting is the process of taking organic material that is generated around households and turning it into usable, nutrient rich soil that can boost the performance of soil in your garden. Another benefit of composting is keeping these organic materials, which comprise approximately 20 to 30 percent of what is typically thrown away in households, out of landfills where they take up space and release methane, a potent greenhouse gas.



There are countless resources available to help you start a compost pile at home but here are some basics. Select a dry, shady spot near a water source for your compost pile or bin (which are available at home improvement stores). Composts consist of brown materials (branches, shredded newspaper) which are the lower layer of materials, and green material such as fruit scraps, vegetable waste, and grass clippings. Tending to the compost is as simple as managing the moisture level and turning it with a pitchfork or similar every week or two to create air movement. A general rule of thumb for the moisture level is for your compost pile to resemble a sponge that has been wrung out. Keep up with your compost pile and in time you'll have nutrient rich soil!

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