

# Rural Training Center – Thailand (RTC-TH)

REEEPP

F  C U S

An innovative, non-traditional community-based environmental education program integrating math, science, geography, English language, and technology lessons for environmental stewardship using interactive experiential learning in outdoor settings at Ban Na Fa Elementary School, Nan Province, Thailand.



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# Why Make Compost?



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This lesson was originally created when the RTC-TH was a program of ESSI (Earth Systems Science, Inc.), a California educational non-profit organization co-founded by Gregory Lee. In 2006, the RTC-TH was co-founded by Gregory and Saifon Lee as a separate organization.



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# This is an English Language Training module of **REEEPP**

Rural Environmental Education Enhancement Pilot Program  
presented by  
The Rural Training Center-Thailand

E-mail: [rtc2k5@gmail.com](mailto:rtc2k5@gmail.com)

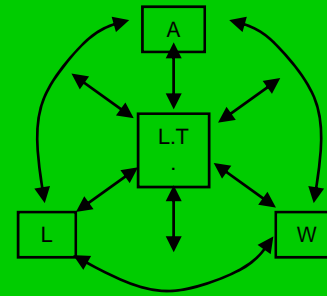
[www.neighborhoodlink.com/org/rtcth](http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/org/rtcth)



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The RTC-TH developed  
this lesson as part of the  
Green School Project and  
Habitat Project  
components of REEEPP



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# Composting is a natural way to

- Improve soil texture
- Improve soil structure
- Improve soil chemistry
- Increase soil moisture retention
- Increase soil resistance to erosion
- Reduce the amount of farm chemicals in the soil
- Increase the number of earthworms in the soil



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# Composting is a good way to improve community health by

- Reducing the amount of garbage
- Reducing the amount of trash burning
- Reducing the amount of chemicals used in farming
- Improving the quality of the food you grow
- Protecting the environment





# For Green School composting, we use **ONLY** plant material and animal manure.



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# Fresh green leaves or dead, dry leaves can be composted.



Dry leaves



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# Composting reduces air pollution.



Don't burn  
dry leaves  
and grass.



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# Vegetable trimmings from the kitchen can be composted...



...to reduce flies and garbage odors.



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# Paper and cardboard are made from plants and can be composted.



Newspaper

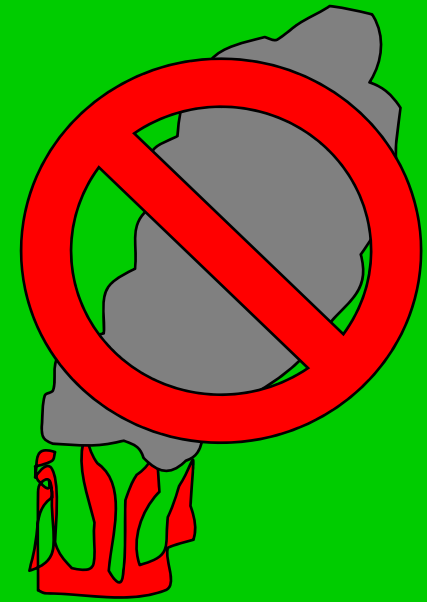


Cardboard





# Don't throw away or burn old papers and cardboard.



## Composting reduces air pollution.



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You can  
make them  
into compost  
to improve  
the soil.



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# Compost improves soil texture

If the soil  
has too  
much sand,  
add  
compost to  
make it...



If the soil  
has too  
much clay,  
add  
compost to  
make it...

...just right  
for growing  
plants.



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# Compost improves soil structure

If the soil is too dry, add compost to make it...



...better able to hold water for plants to use



# Compost improves soil structure

If the soil has  
no  
earthworms  
in it, add  
compost to...



If the soil few  
earthworms  
in it, add  
compost to...

...increase the  
number of  
earthworms



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# Compost improves soil chemistry

If the soil is  
too acid,  
add  
compost to  
make it...



If the soil is  
too alkali,  
add  
compost to  
make it...

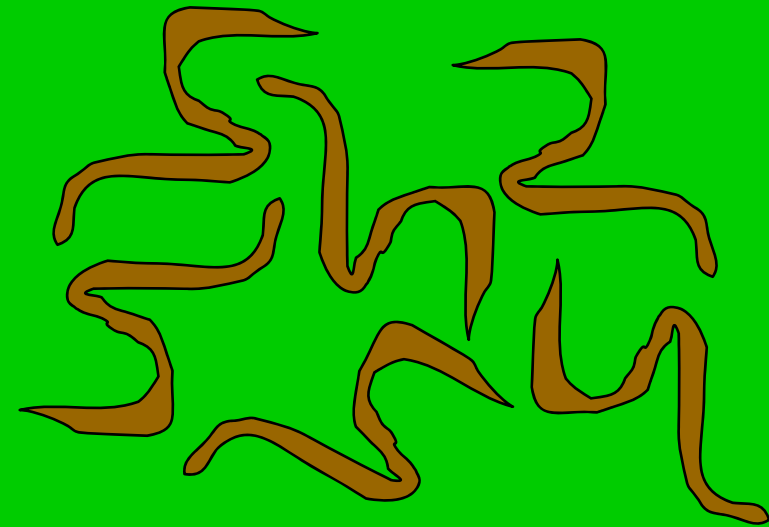
...just right  
for growing  
plants.



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# Use compost to improve soil chemistry and attracts beneficial soil organisms...



...so you don't have to buy expensive synthetic chemical fertilizers.

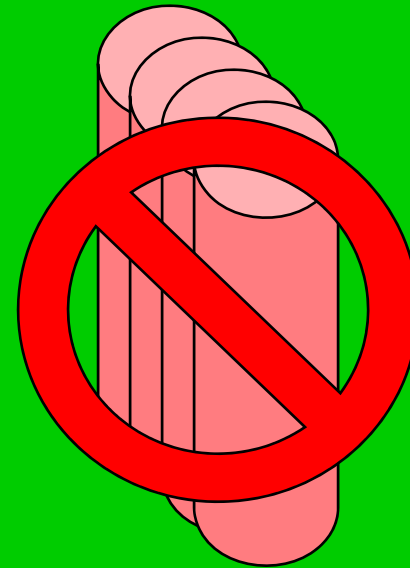


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# Use compost to grow healthier plants...



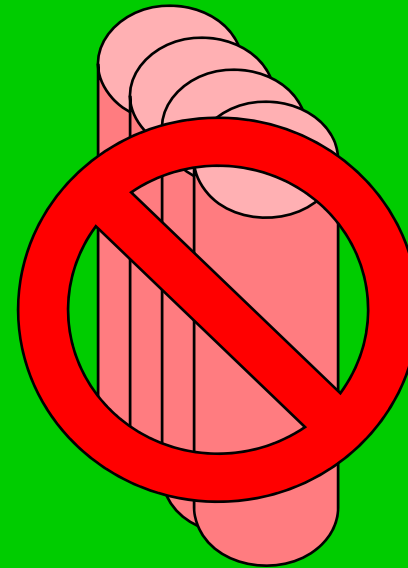
...so you don't have to buy expensive chemical pesticides (bug killers).



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# Use compost to grow healthier plants...



...so you don't have to buy expensive synthetic chemical pesticides (bug killers).

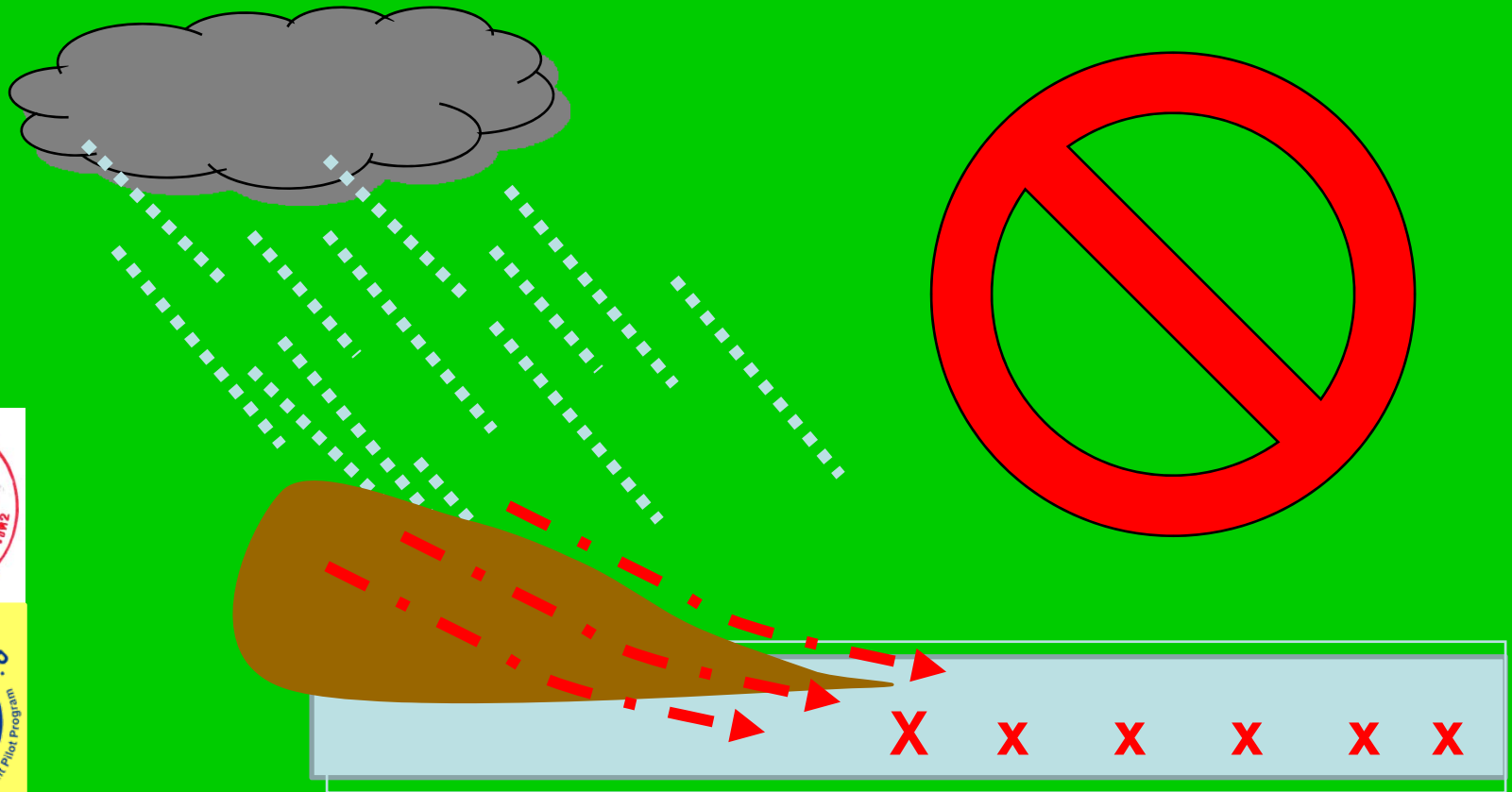


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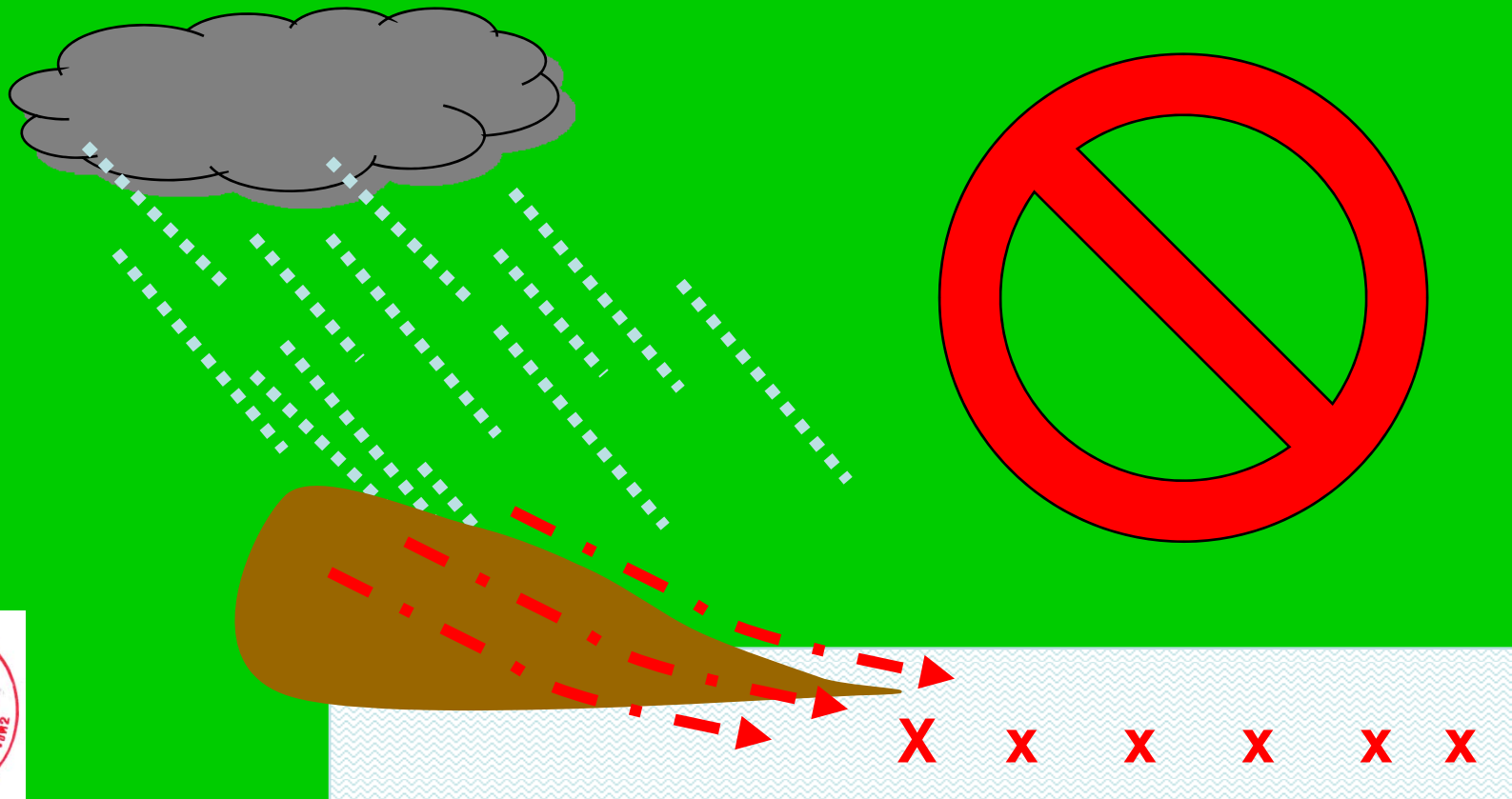
# When it rains, many farm chemicals wash into rivers...



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...and pollute the water...



...making the water unsafe for living things, including people.



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# You can make compost for free and save money rather than buying expensive farm chemicals.



\$\$\$\$\$

## The money you save can be used for other things for your farm and family.



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# So you save money...

\$\$\$\$\$



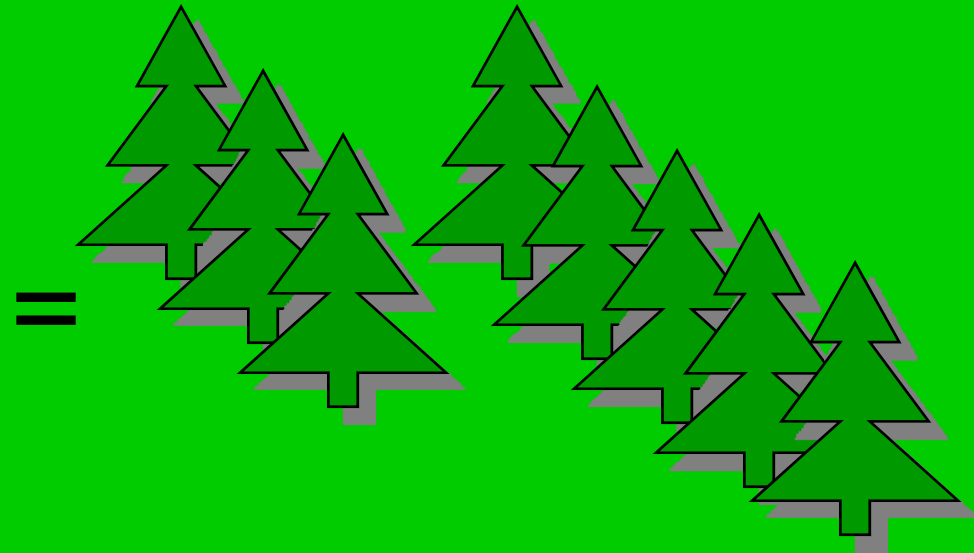
# ...and you won't pollute the water.



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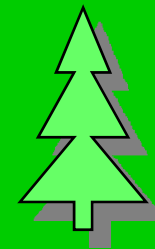
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# Studies show that plants grow 3 to 5 times better with compost.



No  
Compost

=

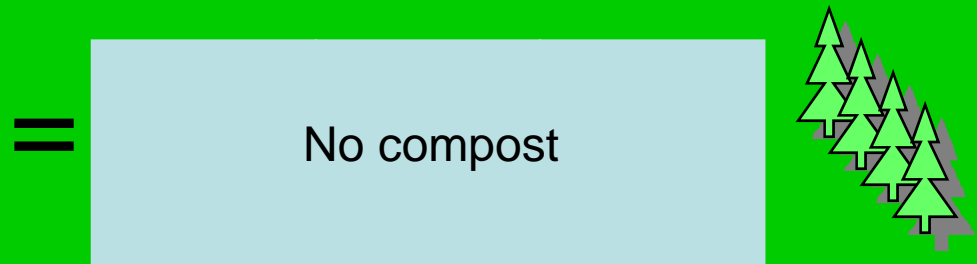
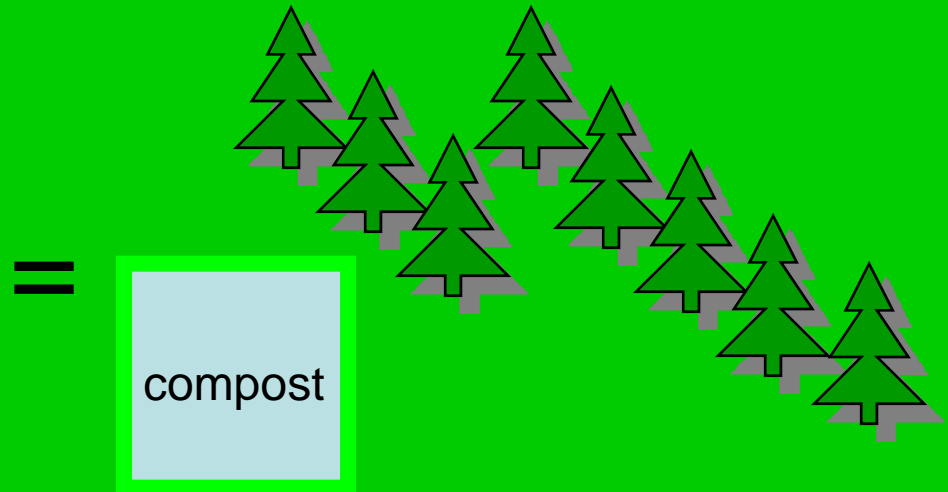


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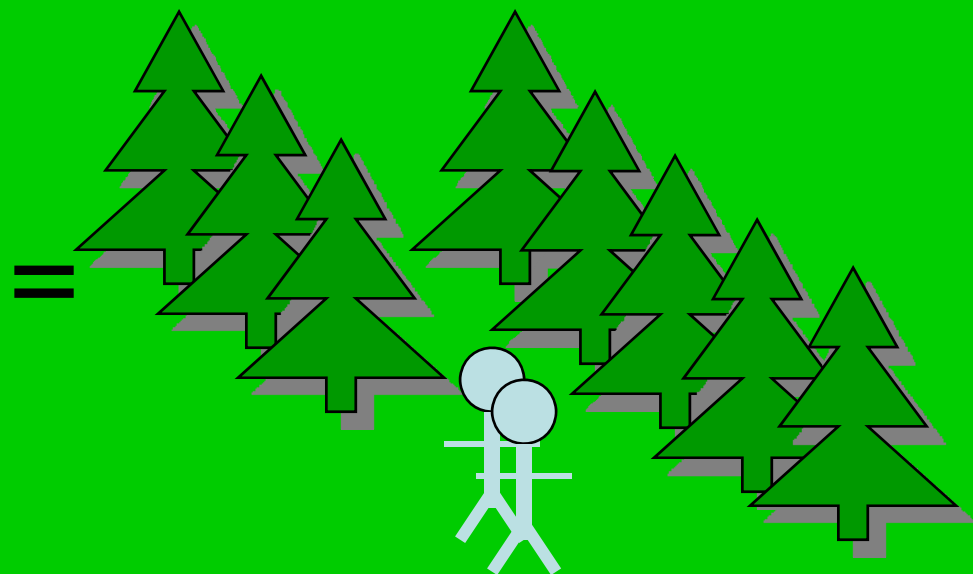
# Compost lets you grow more food using less land.



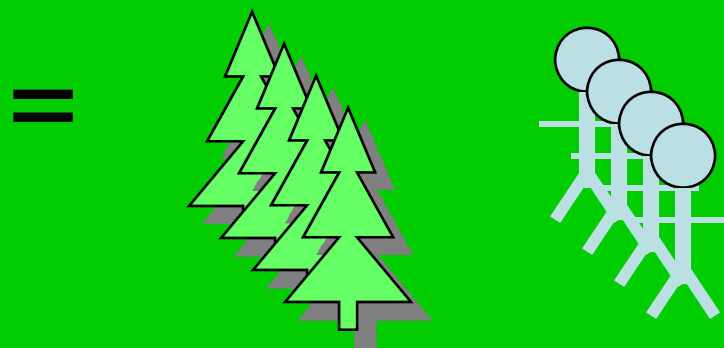
No  
Compost



# Compost lets you grow more food using less labor.



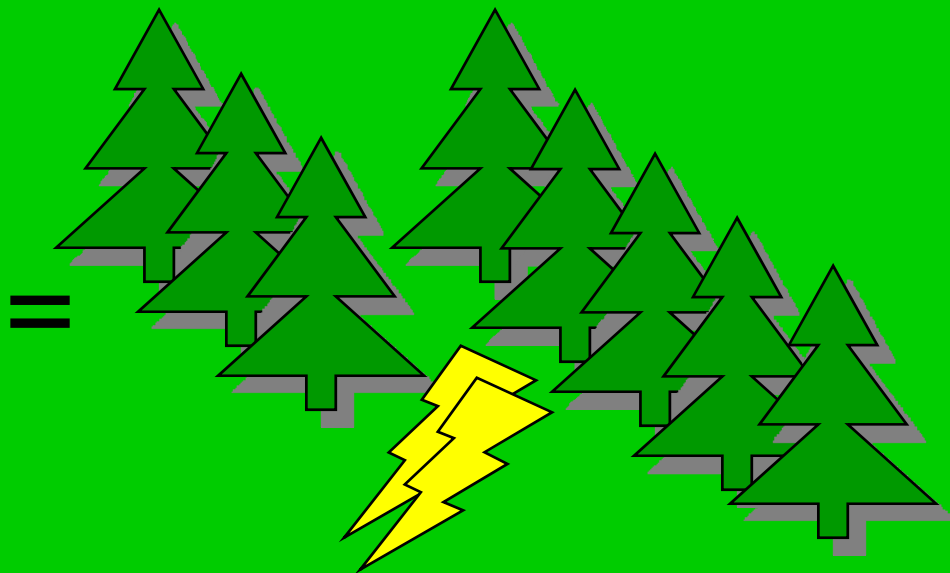
No  
Compost



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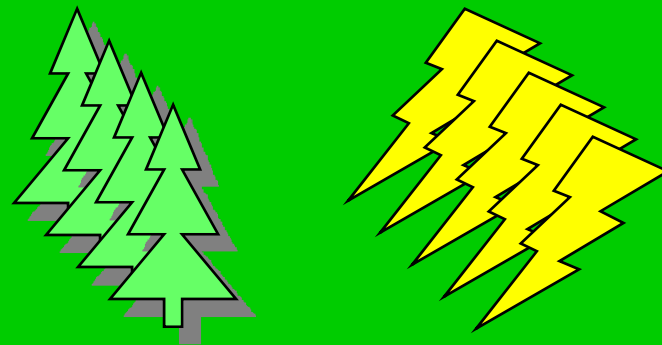
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# Compost lets you grow more food using less energy.



No  
Compost

=

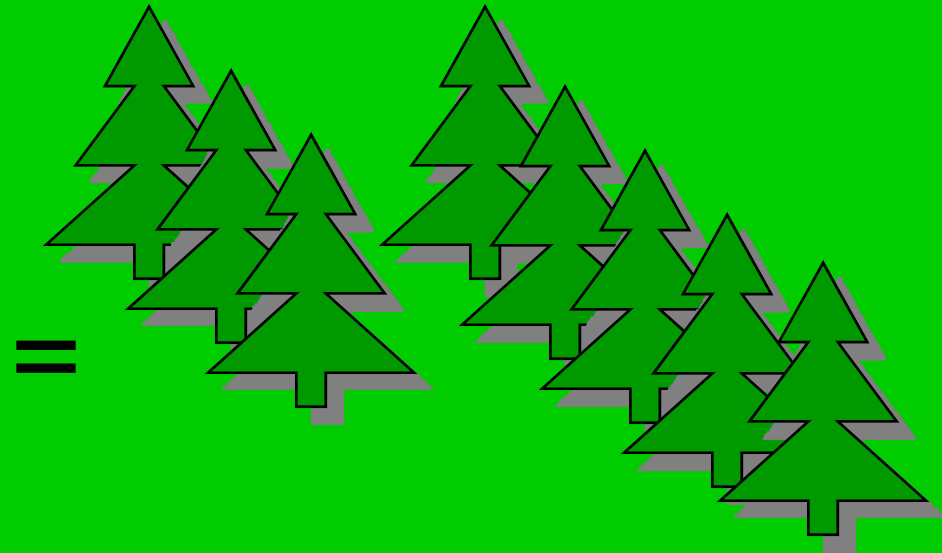


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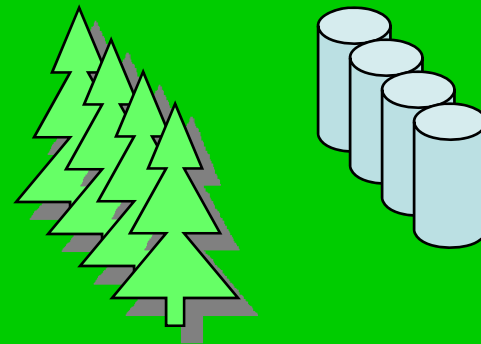


# Compost lets you grow more food using less farm chemicals.



No  
Compost

=



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# Compost lets you grow more food using less money.



No  
Compost

=



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# Using compost, a farm this size can grow as much as farms this size that don't use compost.



compost

The diagram illustrates the concept that a small amount of compost is equivalent to a much larger area of land that does not use compost. On the left, a small light blue square labeled 'compost' is enclosed in a thick green border. To its right is an equals sign. On the right side of the equals sign, there are two stacked light blue rectangles, both labeled 'No compost'. The top rectangle is smaller, while the bottom one is significantly larger, representing a much greater area of land.

No compost

No compost



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A smaller farm costs less, uses less labor, less energy, less chemicals and can earn more money.

compost

=

No compost

No compost



# Using compost on a family farm can make the difference between success and failure.

compost

=

No compost

No compost



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Using compost is good because it saves you land, money, labor, energy, and protects the environment.



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# Rural Training Center-Thailand RTC-TH

is dedicated to  
providing  
community-based  
environmental  
education for the self-sufficiency  
and sustainability of small rural  
family farms



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The RTC-TH was created to honor the memory of Mr. Tang Suttisan, a father, a farmer, and a man who valued education and used it in starting his family farm applying the King's Theory.



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# REEEPP

## Rural Environmental Education Enhancement Pilot Program

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# The End



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