

UNDERSTANDING HEALTHY SOILS



WHAT IS REGENERATIVE LAND MANAGEMENT?

Regenerative land management is a holistic approach to taking care of land. Examples include:

- Letting leaf litter accumulate
- Planting native plants
- Letting plant material decompose
- Using integrated pest management
- Using organic soil amendments

WHAT IS HEALTHY SOIL?

- Rich in organic materials
- Supports high fertility
- Structured to retain more nutrients and water

WHY DOES IT MATTER?

Healthy soils have greater:

- Soil carbon
- Drought tolerance
- Plant productivity



WHAT IS COMMUNITY COMPOSTING?

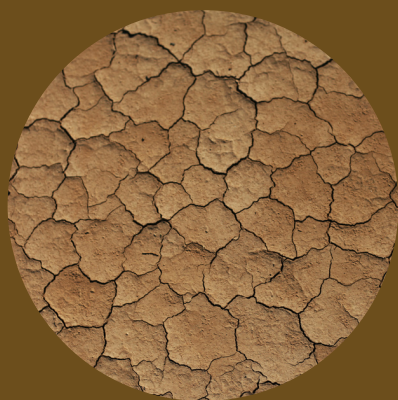
Community composting involves public food scrap dropoff and the repurposing of that organic waste to enrich soils in the communities where the waste was collected.

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HEALTHY SOILS AND ANGELENOS



Above: an example of poor soil health

THREATS TO SOIL HEALTH

- Human exploitation
- Land-use changes
- Improper maintenance

POOR SOIL HEALTH CAN:

- Decrease the amount of carbon captured by the soil
- Reduce nutrient availability
- Reduce water infiltration
- Limit soil biodiversity

HOW IS LASAN PROMOTING HEALTHY SOILS?

LA Sanitation & Environment's [healthy soils program](#) is taking action to promote healthy soil ecosystems. In 2020, LASAN published the City's First Healthy Soils Strategy document. LASAN is working with the non-profit LA Compost to develop a network of community composting hubs at LA City Recreation and Parks facilities.

LASAN's curbside organics program, [OrganicsLA](#), keeps organic waste out of landfills and reduces greenhouse gas emissions. Residents serviced by LASAN should place food scraps, food-soiled paper, and yard waste in their green bin.



HOW YOU CAN TAKE ACTION?

- Attend a free [LASAN Composting Workshop](#)
- Compost your food scraps in your [backyard](#), via [community composting](#), or using your [residential green bin](#)
- Apply organic soil amendments like compost or mulch to your garden
- Avoid pesticides and herbicides
- Plant cover crops and native species
- Avoid unnecessary soil disturbances

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