

Module 06.02: Composting Parameters – Particle Size



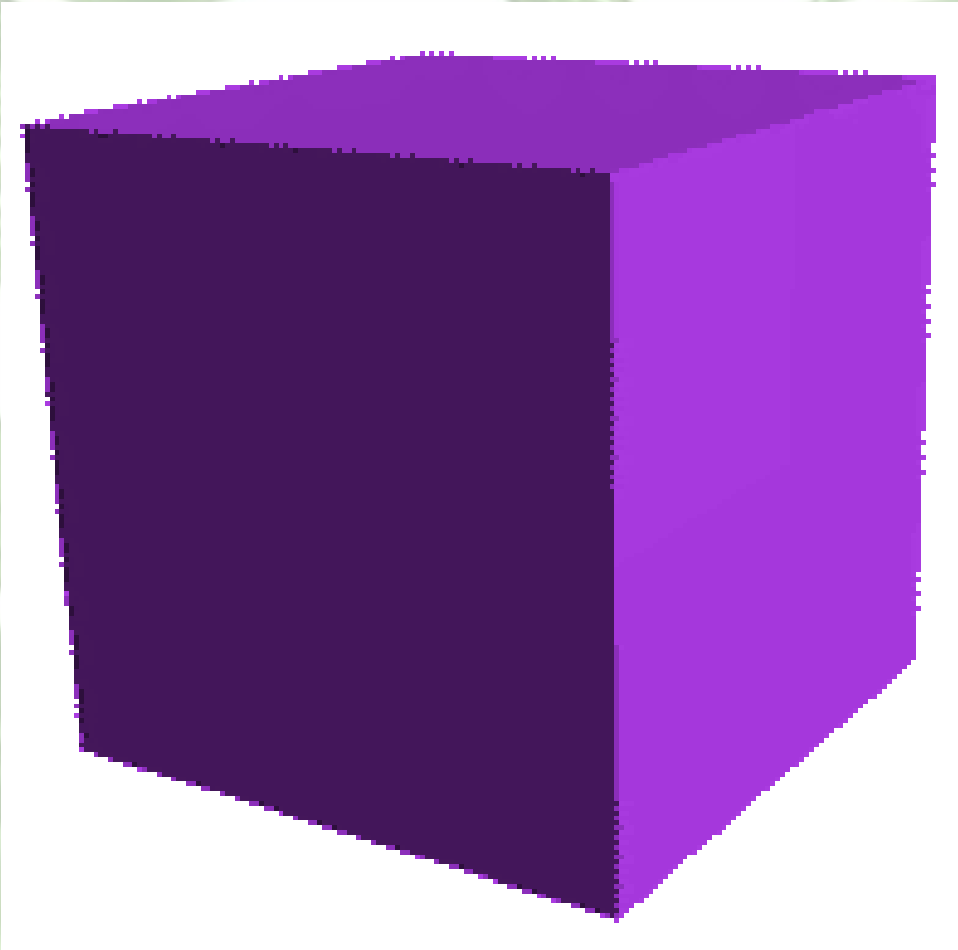
LSU AgCenter Home Composting Certificate Course

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- Decomposition happens on the surface
- Smaller particles equals more surface area
- However...If particles are too small, they easily compact and limit air and water movement

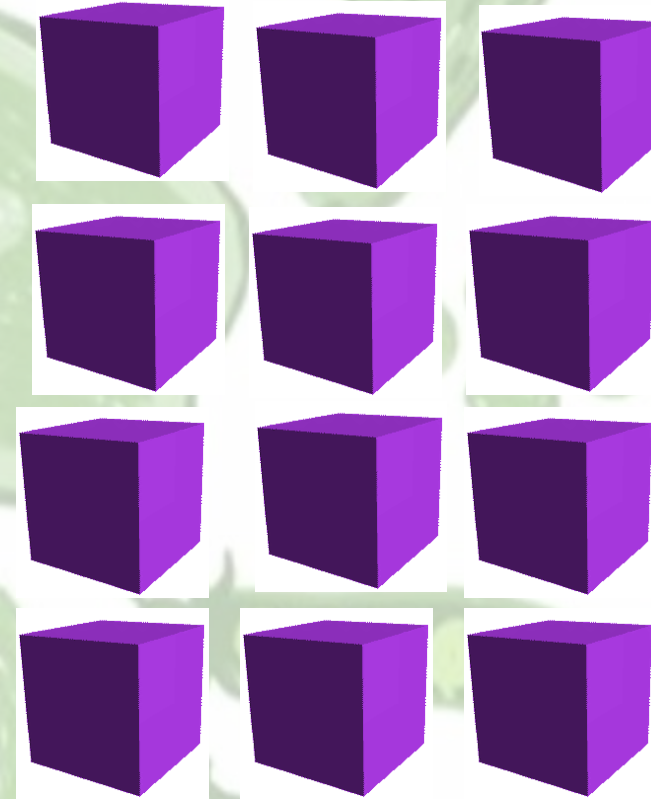


One 1 foot square cube



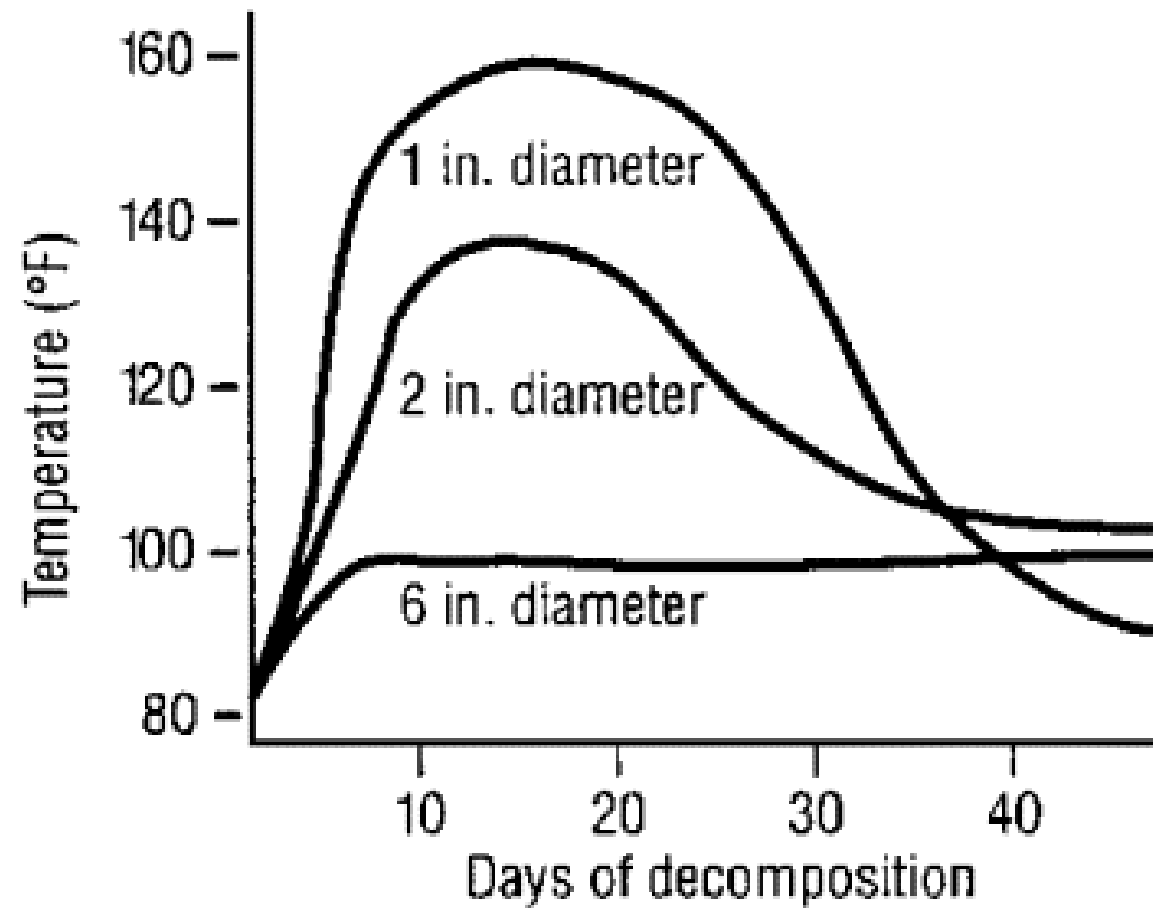
1 foot cube surface
area equals 6 ft^2

Cut into 1 inch cubes
= 1728 cubes



1728 one-inch cubes
surface area equals 72 ft^2 .

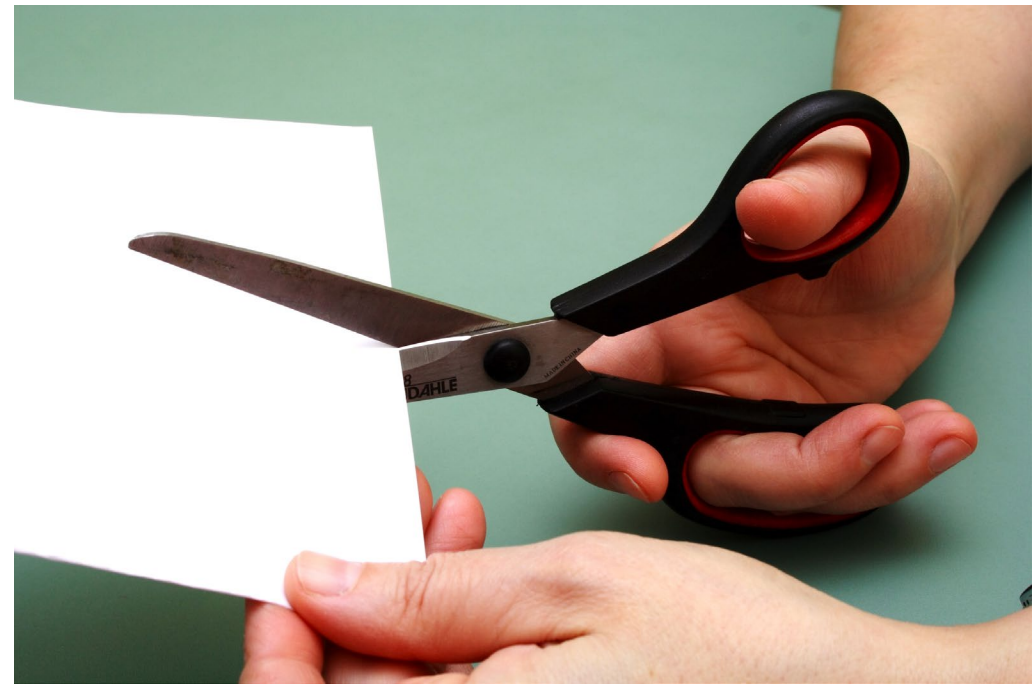
Particle Size Effects on Composting





How to Create Smaller Particles In the lawn and Garden

- Lawn Mower
- Shovel
- Pruners
- Chipper
- Leaf Vacuum Mulcher



How to Create Smaller Particles

In the home and office.

- Kitchen Knife
- Scissors
- Paper Shredder



Please post all your questions and results to the message board .