



**For Immediate Release:**

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**Contact:**

Karen Dawson  
Director of Community Relations  
253.278.4128  
[karend@cgcompost.com](mailto:karend@cgcompost.com)

**Compost Days™ Celebrates Region's Recycling Efforts and Kicks off Spring Gardening Season!**

***Deep Discounts on Cedar Grove® Soils and a Huge Garden Give***

*March 17, 2016* – Today marks the start of the seventh annual Compost Days™, a campaign to thank residents for composting at the curb and diverting more than 350,000 tons of food, food-soiled paper and yard debris from landfills in 2015. To celebrate, from March 17 – April 17, Cedar Grove will offer deep discounts on compost and other soil products at its locations and through participating retail partners including Fred Meyer.

“With more than 33 percent of food purchased in King County households going to waste, about 390 pounds per year per household, diverting that material from the landfill has become a primary environmental responsibility of our communities,” said Karen Dawson, director of community relations, Cedar Grove. “Cedar Grove has invested in industry-best technology and practices to process that material and transform it into nutrient-rich compost that goes back into our community gardens, school gardens, road projects and more.”

Cedar Grove is a family-owned business with community roots dating back to 1938. This year, in honor of Compost Days, Cedar Grove will contribute truckloads of compost to Seattle Tilth's Youth Garden Works Farm. Youth Garden Works teaches homeless and underserved youth job skills through urban farm-based education and employment. The program works with youth who are experiencing food scarcity, housing instability, involvement with the juvenile justice system and other barriers to employment.

“At Seattle Tilth, we call compost ‘black gold’ because it’s so valuable for organic farming and gardening,” explained Andrea Dwyer, Seattle Tilth’s executive director. “It’s an essential ingredient in building healthy soil and a key to growing healthy crops organically without synthetic pesticides and herbicides. We use Cedar Grove compost at all of our gardens and farms and have for many years. We are thankful for Cedar Grove’s donation and delighted that they have led the way in recycling residential organic waste from everyone’s yards and kitchens and returning it back to the soil where it’s needed.”

“The impetus and history of this annual campaign is thanking the residents of this region who participate in curbside organics recycling and providing them with the opportunity to bring that soil back into their home and community gardens at a deep discount,” said Dawson. “Because Cedar Grove has



an extensive community giving program, Compost Days would not be complete without a big garden give and we're honored to partner with Seattle Tilth's Youth Garden Works this year for that gift."

Residents can learn more about Compost Days and download coupons by visiting [www.compostdays.com](http://www.compostdays.com).

**About Cedar Grove**

Cedar Grove Composting is a local, family-owned business with deep roots in the Seattle area dating back to 1938. Cedar Grove plays a critical role in the Puget Sound's recycling infrastructure and sustainability efforts, diverting more than 350,000 tons of yard waste and food scraps from landfills annually. With two processing facilities in Maple Valley and Everett, Cedar Grove is a local manufacturer providing green jobs in King and Snohomish Counties. Cedar Grove produces wholesome, nutrient-rich compost that is sold to businesses, governments and residents, ensuring consumers have access to locally produced, recycled products. For more information, please visit [www.cedar-grove.com](http://www.cedar-grove.com).

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