

Garden mulch FAQ's

Handy hints for residents

Recycling
Hotline
9384 6711



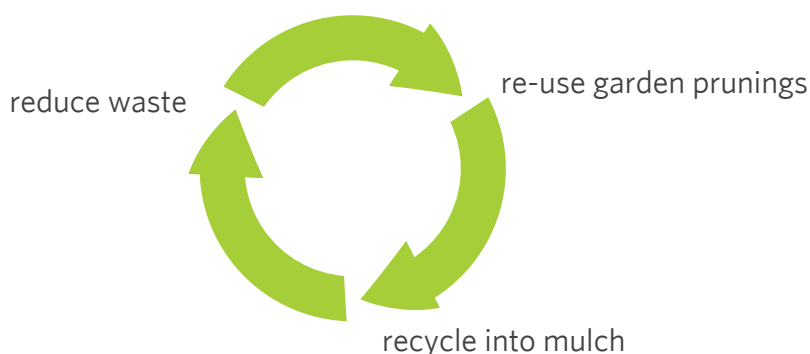
Why mulch?

- ✓ Insulates the garden.
- ✓ Suppresses weeds.
- ✓ Reduces water use.
- ✓ Reduces need for fertilisers.
- ✓ Reduces soil erosion.
- ✓ Looks good!



What is WMRC mulch made from?

It is organic mulch made from the prunings, lawn clippings, bark and leaf litter collected from WMRC's member council residents and delivered to the West Metro Recycling Centre. It is then commercially processed to make it suitable to reapply as mulch to your garden. A great example of closed loop recycling!



How do I apply mulch?

- 1 Remove weeds.
- 2 Water the garden, if dry.
- 3 Spread an even layer of mulch over soil's surface.
- 4 Leave a gap around tree trunks and plant stems to avoid stem rot.
- 5 Apply a wetting agent to mulch to prevent it from becoming water repellent as the mulch breaks down.

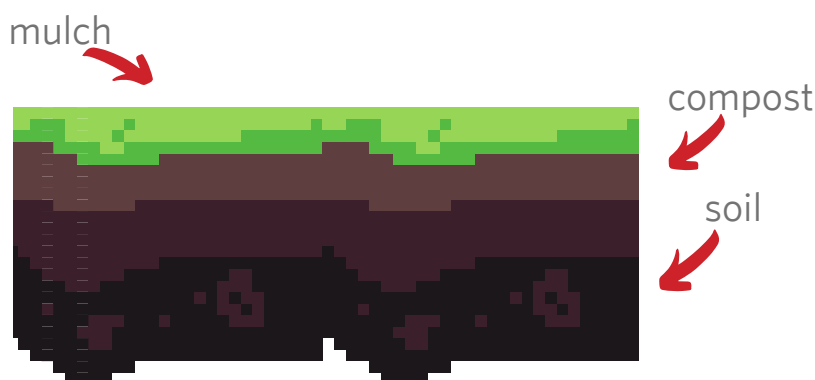
How deep should I mulch?

Up to 750mm is ample to conserve water and suppress weeds. Too much mulch will suffocate plant roots and kill a plant.

Is mulch the same as compost?

No. **Mulch** gets applied to the surface of the soil, like a protective cover. Organic mulch breaks down gradually over time to provide nutrients to the soil.

Compost is organic matter that has been fully decomposed and needs to be mixed into the soil to release valuable nutrients. For more information on compost, see our '[How to Compost](#)' factsheet at www.wmrc.wa.gov.au/education/fact-sheets



What can I use WMRC mulch on?

WMRC mulch is great for garden beds and pots with shrubs, trees, and native plants.

When can I mulch my garden?

Mid - late Spring is the ideal time to mulch, however you can mulch any time of the year!



How long will the mulch last?

1-2 years.

