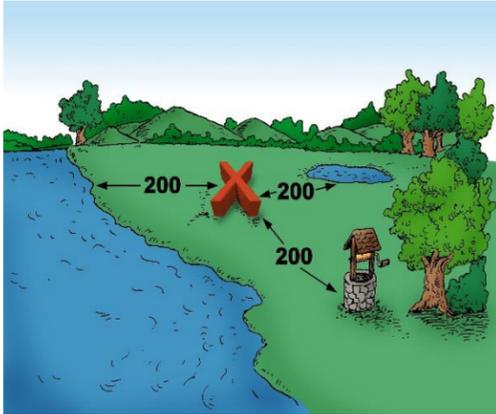


# Natural Rendering: Composting Butcher Waste

## Key Points of Static Pile Butcher Residual Composting

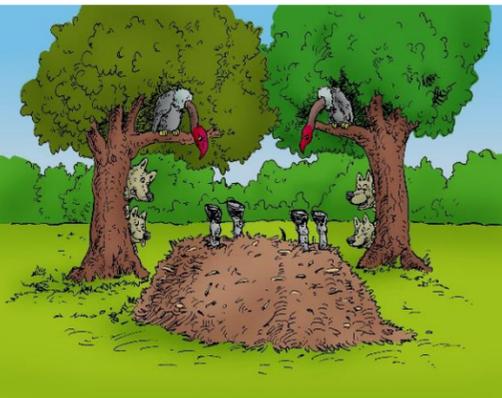


### Select Site

1. Select site that is well drained, at least 200 feet from water courses, sinkholes, seasonal seeps or other landscape features that indicate the area is hydrologically sensitive.

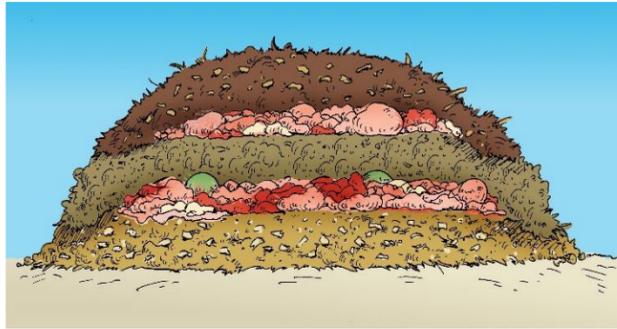
### Prepare Base

2. Lay a 24-inch deep bed of coarse wood chips 10-12-feet wide and as long as space permits to allow for 1-2 months of butcher residual.



### Cover Well

5. Make sure all residuals are well covered to keep odors down, generate heat and keep vermin or other unwanted animals out of the windrow.



### Build Pile

3. Spread a 12-15-inch layer of residuals then cover with a 12-18 inch layer of wood chips and add another layer of butcher residuals and cover with 2 feet of wood chips. The finished section should be 5-6 feet high.



### Incorporating Liquid

4. When incorporating large amounts of blood, make sure there is plenty of material to absorb the liquid. Make a depression so blood can be absorbed and then cover, if a blood spill occurs, scrape it up and put back in pile.



### Let Sit 4 to 6 Months

6. Let sit for 4-6 months, then check to see if the offal is degraded.

### Remove Large Bones

7. Remove large bones before land applying compost or use as part of the base for the next compost pile.

### Site Cleanliness

8. Site cleanliness is the most important aspect of composting, it deters scavengers, helps control odors, and keeps good neighbor relations.



Wilson Beef Butcher Waste composting

### Why Butchers Should Compost Mortality and Residuals

- ◆ Pathogen kill occurs in thermophilic composts
- ◆ Can be done any time of the year, even when the ground is frozen
- ◆ Relatively odor free
- ◆ Paunch manure and other parts not accepted in rendering will compost
- ◆ Relatively low labor and management needed
- ◆ Low cost

### Turning Note

Carcass and butcher residual piles should not be turned early in the process unless there are no neighbors that would be affected. Odor is a big issue most of the time. After 3 to 4 months, turning is an option and will speed the curing process.



Source: "Natural Rendering: Composting Livestock Mortality and Butcher Waste" fact sheet