

# Compost Use for Improved Soil Reclamation and Remediation

Soil amended with compost in August



Blended soil placed and mulched with straw in September



Compost used to revitalize and reconstruct wetlands boosts the organic content of wetland soils, establishing a fertile environment for vegetation which is critical to a healthy ecosystem

## Wetland Reclamation

Vegetation cleans the air and water, provides cover to soil and contributes to biological diversity.

Re-vegetation started 2 weeks later



Fully established October 2016



## Remediation

Compost reduces the bulk density of construction-damaged soil.



## What makes compost so valuable?

- Its organic matter enhances the proliferation of microorganisms that promote root development and assist with extraction of nutrients from the soil.
- It can hold up to 20 times its weight in water, reducing water loss and storm water generation and inhibiting leaching in soil.
- It is a good source of N, P, K and micronutrients for plant growth and reduces nutrient loss in runoff.
- Its microorganisms can suppress specific plant diseases.
- It has the ability to bind heavy metals, pesticides, herbicides and other contaminants, reducing their leachability, transport in runoff and absorption by plants and thus can be used as a filter for storm water runoff.

Construction-damaged soil removed and blended with compost to allow for healthy plant growth



Find your compost here: <http://compost.css.cornell.edu/maps.html>