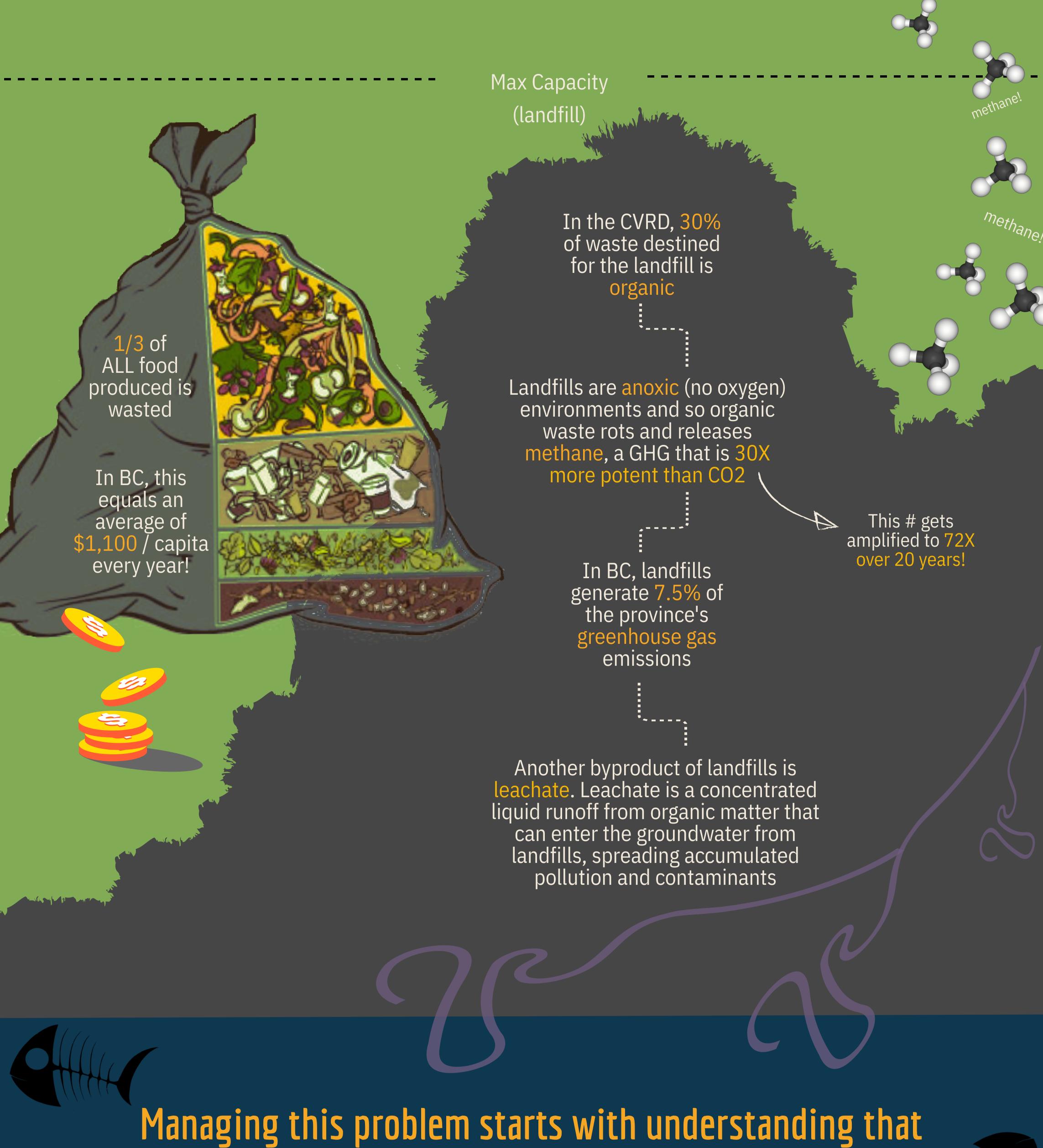
Cultivating Compost ...: on Thetis Island:



organic "waste" is **NOT** garbage.

Composting is the facilitated process of recycling organic matter through aerobic and thermophilic biological decomposition by bacteria, fungi, and other decomposing organisms.

with air

heat lovin' organisms



of microscopic organisms, fungi, and invertebrates work together to breakdown organic waste.

A diverse colony of billions

For all the work they do, they only ask for There are 100 air, water, and food. million - 1 billion bacteria in 1 gram of compost!

OXYGEN

In 2021, Thetis

Islanders collectively

purchased over

\$10,000 worth of

compost

Institute for Local Self-Reliance .(2021). www.ilsr.org

"Green" materials

food scraps, grass

clippings, manure

CARBON "Brown" materials wood chips, sawdust, cardboard, dry leaves

Talk about a fair trade!

environmemt and humans alike. Nothing is wasted!

Composting cycles nutrients, benefiting the

TOP 10 Reasons to Compost

2. Improves soil structure and enhances water retention

1. Composting returns nutrients like carbon, phosphorus, and nitrogen (all

essential nutrients for healthy plant growth) to the soil

- 3. Promotes a prolific soil ecosystem which makes for more robust and resilient soils
- 4. The aerobic nature of composting reduces the emissions of the Greenhouse Gas, methane
- 5. The composting process produces "black gold" that farmers and gardeners need for healthy and fertile soils 6. Reduces or eliminates the use of chemical fertilizers,
 - reducing cost for farmers and on the environment 7. Removes organic materials from the waste stream
 - thus reducing hauling costs 8. Reduces compost importation costs
 - is cheap and minimizes your carbon footprint

9. It is inherently renewable, and making your own 10. It's fun having billions of pets!!

For more info about composting, check out: thetisislandnatureconservancy.org

ThINCpod 2021

Did you know that on

Thetis, almost 90% of

survey respondents

stated that they garden

or farm!?

Sources

Carry on Composting. Compost Microbes. Retrieved August 2, 2021 from http://www.carryoncomposting.com/416920205

EPA. (2021, April 1). Composting at Home. https://www.epa.gov/recycle/composting-home Government of BC. (2020, Jan 30). New program helps keep organic waste out of landfills. https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020ENV0002-000170 Government of BC. (2021). Residential Food Waste Prevention.

https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/waste-management/food-and-organic-waste/prevent-food-waste/prevent-residence-food-waste Hulse, M., & Curran, D. (2015, April). Compost Regulation in British Columbia: Regulatory Overview, Best Practices and Recommendations for Law Reform. Environmental Law Centre, University of Victoria. www.elc.uvic.ca/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/2013-03-05_Compost_Regulation_in_BC_FINAL.pdf

National Zero Waste Council. (2021). Love food hate waste Canada. https://lovefoodhatewaste.ca Princeton University. (2014, March 27). A more potent greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide, methane emissions will leap as Earth warms. *Science Daily*. https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2014/03/140327111724.htm

Recyclemore. How does composting help the environment? https://files.nc.gov/ncdeq/Environmental%20Assistance%20and%20Customer%20Service/Climate%20Change/49983.pdf Rominger, A. (2020, June 29). The 15 benefits of composting for the environment, the economy, and our communities. Grow Ensemble. https://growensemble.com/benefits-of-composting/

Tetra Tech. (2017, October). 2017 waste composition study. www.cvrd.ca/DocumentCenter/View/92731/2017-CVRD-Waste-Composition-Study_IFU Youcai, Zhao. (2018). Pollution control technology for leachate from municipal solid waste. Science Direct. https://www.sciencedirect.com/topics/earth-and-planetary-sciences/leachate