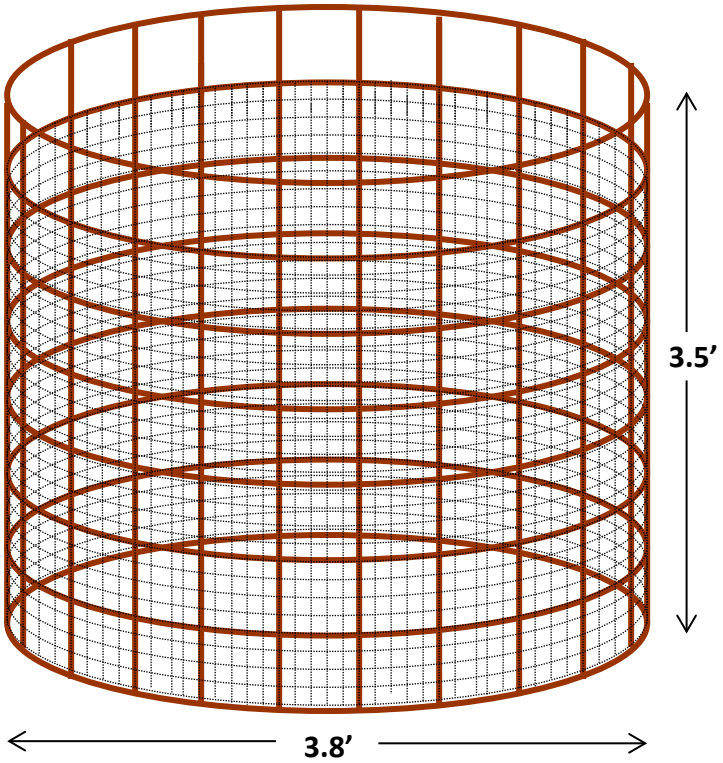
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EXTENSION
Solutions in your community

Wire Composting Bin

Materials

(2)	Steel remesh sheets (3.5 x 7’ sheet)	$15
(1)	Plastic hardware cloth (½” x ½” mesh, 3 x 15’ roll)	$17
(12)	Plastic cable ties	$5
(9)	Lengths of wire (coat hanger or sturdy wire)	free
	Total:	**$37**



Tools

Pliers, wire cutter and scissors

Construction

1. Lay remesh sheets flat on ground, overlapping the sheets by 2 grids.

2. Fasten the two sheets together by twisting lengths of wire at six points at top, middle and bottom of each of two overlapping rows of grids to form a single 3.5 x 13’ sheet.

3. Bend ends of sheet together to form a cylinder. Place cylinder upright and overlap sheets by 2 grids. Fasten with 2 to 3 lengths of wire.

4. Place roll of hardware cloth inside cylinder and, using cable ties, attach to wire bin at top and bottom of roll. Unroll hardware cloth and continue securing to wire bin every 2 feet. Excess cloth can be removed with scissors or left attached.

Use

1. Fill bin with appropriate mix of compostable materials. Refer to HG 35 Backyard Composting. For hot composting, the bin should be filled to the top.

2. To periodically turn materials, remove one set of wire lengths and open bin. Lift and set adjacent to pile.

3. Reattach lengths of wire to reform bin. Scoop materials back into bin.

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