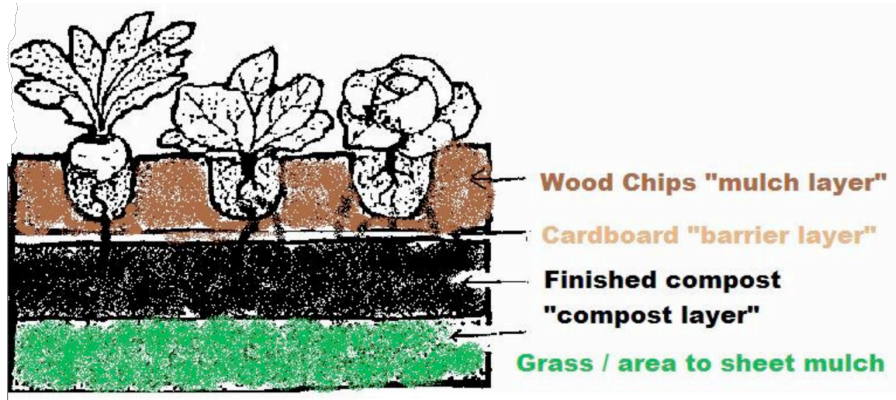




## Lawn Conversion



### Lawn Preparation

Mow the lawn short. Locate all the sprinkler heads and convert for drip irrigation. Mark location with flags. In the following steps, make sure the flags remain visible. Water\* well.

### Layering the Covers

Place a 1-2 inch layer of moist compost (see compost grid) directly on the lawn, water as needed. Use a 1 inch layer of low nitrogen compost for native landscaping. Apply a 2 inch layer of high nitrogen compost for vegetable production. Work around existing plants making sure to leave a 2-3 inch space from the stem. Remove lawn as needed (lawn removed can be piled in a designated location to add interest to the relief of the yard).

Lay cardboard or newspaper (black and white, no glossy) over the compost. Make sure that the pieces overlap by several inches to assure that the lawn cannot push through this layer, this is your barrier against growth. Water until this layer is wet.

Compost Grid

	LOW NITROGEN REQUIRING PLANTS	HIGH NITROGEN REQUIRING PLANTS
WELL DRAINED SANDY SOILS	SONOMA COMPOST	ORGANIC HI-TEST COMPOST
POORLY DRAINED CLAY SOILS	TERRA LITE	MALLARD PLUS

Apply a 2-3 inch layer of mulch to cover the cardboard. Water until moist throughout. A mulch from wood scraps (Path Mulch) can be used for native landscape conversion. Since it contains plywood and pressboard, this mulch is not recommended for food production. Use Vineyard Mulch for vegetable gardens.

### Planting

Native plants can be planted immediately in to this layer. Cut a hole through the layers and the lawn underneath, making sure lawn is well covered by mulch.

For vegetable production wait 4-6 months until the lawn is fully decomposed. Remove the mulch layer (reuse elsewhere in the garden) when seeding.

\* Water throughout this process is important to stimulate the breakdown of the lawn. Keep moist throughout the decomposition period.