

# Composting Protects the Climate

Food scraps in landfills generate methane, a greenhouse gas with a global warming potential 84x more potent than CO<sub>2</sub> in the short term.



Incinerators also emit climate pollutants

...but when converted into compost and applied to the land, compost sequesters carbon.



One research project found that ½ inch of compost applied to rangeland sequestered the equivalent of **1 metric ton of CO<sub>2</sub>e/hectare over three years.**

This level of sequestration on half of California's rangeland would offset **42 million metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e**, which is equal to the annual greenhouse emissions from California's commercial and residential energy sectors.

#### SOURCES:

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