Why does Soil Love Compost?

1. Plants are unable to access nutrients without soil microbes.
2. Microbes get their nutrition from organic matter with carbon like compost.
3. As the soil microbes “eat,” they create foods like nitrogen, carbon, oxygen, phosphorus, hydrogen, potassium, and trace minerals.
4. Microbes then covert all of the above into a form that our plants can access and use to grow healthy.
5. Microbes protect the plants from pests and disease.
6. Microbes need nourishment and soil structure that compost creates.

So why does Soil Love Compost:

- Compost Feeds the soil
  - adds nutrients and organic matter to soil feeding the microbes
  - increases the moisture holding capacity of soil, reducing drought damage to plants
  - Increase the soil structure so microbes can breath and drink water.
  - reduces rainwater runoff and prevents soil erosion
  - improves drainage and aeration of clay and compacted soils, preventing water logged plants
  - increases capacity of soil to hold nutrients near plant roots, increasing plant health
  - reduces need for fertilizers and pesticides that pollute natural waterways
  - reduces waste in the landfill and the transportation needed for hauling waste
  - helps seeds to sprout and water to soak in more easily by preventing the top of the soil to crust
  - immobilizes and degrades pollutants

The factors that negatively impact soil microbes are excessive tilling and the use of synthetic pesticides, fungicides, herbicides, and bactericides. Using synthetic chemicals may feed your plant, but they do nothing to enrich the soil, and over time, can kill microbial life. By creating a regular schedule of adding compost to your soil you’ll get healthy soil and healthy plants.