



www.summercreekfarm.com

Hugelkultur What it is and Why it Works!

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Summer Creek is a Certified Organic Farm established in 1992. We are also the manufacture of organic soil less mixes for commercial and home growers. The creators of Multi-Mix 2+, an innovative raised bed soil mix.



What Hugelkulture looks like:



Hugelkulture

(Raised Beds (mounds) with significant BioMass)

- Significantly higher than a normal raised bed.
- Significant Biomass in the base – made of woody materials such as chips, twigs, sticks, sawdust etc. High carbon materials that provide excellent drainage and feed for bioactivity. Worms, beneficial bacteria and fungus for healthy plant live thrive in this environment.
- Higher beds make for easier access, less bending, easier to service.
- These beds store and release moisture over time.
- Hugelkulture uses waste materials that are lower cost and provide better results.
- These beds warm faster and provide earlier crops for a longer season.

Where to start!

- Secure your materials for your base – Cardboard, limbs, wood chips, leaves, an ample amount of organic matter of various sizes.
- Lay a layer of cardboard on the ground. Helps suppress weeds and attracts earthworms.
- Install your high carbon material base materials.
- Next layer – compost, can be finished compost or partially finished. Helps provide nutrients and provides the glue to hold your mass together. Also provides starter biology.
- Top layer – Can be soil, inverted sod or a soil less mix. You need a material that drains, allows water to penetrate and small enough particle size to provide good seed to soil contact. Soil less mixes are typically weed free.

Build your base, Finish off your bed top, allow to digest.



Things to remember.

- You need to build your bed ahead of time to let it digest and settle.
- Your bed will become an active living organism, it will provide nutrients as it lives but it will settle and need to be added to each year.
- Your costs should be lower due to using a lot of waste material.
- Your bed should last longer since it is so thick in biomass.
- Harvesting root crops like potatoes will cause disruption of the bed. This can be repaired.

Questions?

- Let's clarify any details so you can start your bed tomorrow!

