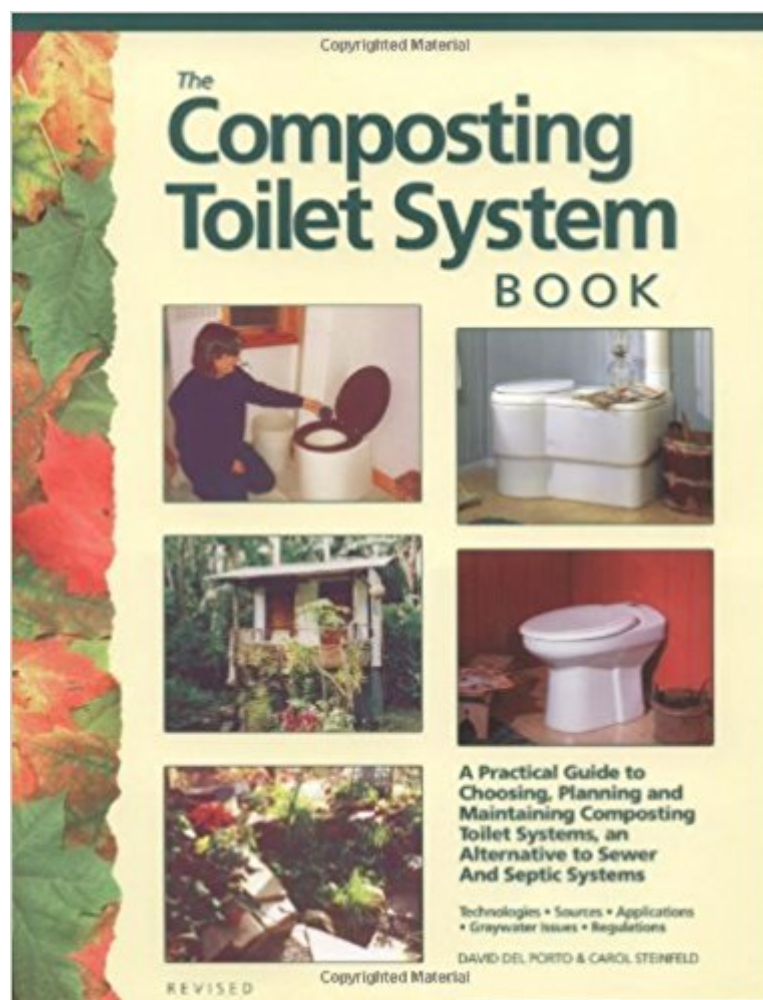




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# The Composting Toilet System Book: A Practical Guide To Choosing, Planning And Maintaining Composting Toilet Systems, A Water-Saving, Pollution-Preven





## Synopsis

From systems for cottages to year-round systems with micro-flush toilets and graywater gardens, the wide range of ecological recycling toilet options are featured in The Composting Toilet System Book. More than 40 systems—including those you can buy and those you can build—are featured. Composting toilet systems and other ecological wastewater management methods are increasingly installed in both seasonal and year-round homes, as municipalities require systems that won't pollute the environment and drinking water. This book details why—and how to choose, install and maintain them. You'll also find profiles of owner-operators worldwide, regulatory information for every state, compatible toilet stools (waterless, micro-flush, foam- and vacuum-flush and urine-diverting), a chapter on graywater systems, information about health risks and handling, and sources for many off-the-shelf and DIY designs. [IMPORTANT NOTE: This book is written to be regulator friendly to make getting local permits for a system easier.] If you are seeking to install a system that meets state codes or if you are simply seeking to make your own system, this book is for you. Stop polluting and start recycling and saving water today!

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Deals with this topic technically and responsibly. -- Daniel Linter from Portland, Oregon, January 3, 2003 Explains the technologies, sources, applications, graywater issues, and regulations relevant to a composting toilet system. -- Midwest Book Review from Oregon, WI USA This book can save

(readers) all of the mistakes people usually make. -- wili from Washington State, , 1999

David Del Porto has sold and serviced thousands of several models of composting toilets since 1972. He has also designed several systems, starting with systems for parks and for Greenpeace in the Pacific islands. Today, these same designs have been modified for a wide variety of settings, including upscale resorts that demand systems that are non-polluting, are easy to maintain and feature attractive one-pint-flush toilets. His composting toilet and graywater system designs are in homes and public sites worldwide. He has also helped write regulations and performance standards for these systems. Carol Steinfeld is a freelance writer and projects director for Ecowaters, a nonprofit that informs the public about ecological wastewater recycling options and conducts workshops on this topic worldwide. She is the author of *Liquid Gold: The Lore and Logic of Using Urine to Grow Plants* and *Reusing the Resource: Adventures in Ecological Wastewater Recycling* (2nd edition due November 2004).

Del Porto's book is the definitive composting toilet book at this time. There is nothing even close. His book covers all aspects of composting toilet systems and touches on graywater issues as well. He treats the composting toilet as part of the home system. If a person is seriously interested in installing/having a composting toilet, this book can save him/her all of the mistakes people usually make. He even (carefully) explodes some of the advertising myths that the purveyors of composting toilets would have us believe. The book covers ready-made systems as well as home built sytems. As trite as this sounds, the book truly is a must for someone considering intstalling composting toilet.

The authors are brainiacs and scientists, so the book will even provide you with the chemical composition of poop and pee. It's an amazing compendium of info on the subject, probably the last word. However, I felt that in describing every type of system, they seemed not to provide me with what I wanted most, which was to learn which would be the best, easiest, cheapest system. Of course I realize different people have different spaces, needs, and climate so there is not one size fits all. There is also something that I don't hear many people talking about, which is the proper excreting position of squatting. An advance toilet for modern folks would be worked out for squatting. Yet not only are all the toilets shown in this book traditional with regular Western toilet seats, but most of them are toilet seats placed over bulky boxes (the Sun Mar design is the worst) that causes ones legs to have to splay forward like a toddler sitting on an overstuffed chair.

Excellent book! I just wanted some more definitive final solutions.

What an excellent book. If you are contemplating getting a composting toilet for cabin or RV this book will help you understand how they work. Put a composting toilet into your RV and doing away with the black water system and can create room for you to increase your water carrying capacity by adding an additional tank. Also great to put a composting toilet in the shop without having to add plumbing, septic and drainage fields. Provides good compost for plants and urine, diluted 30 parts water to 1 part urine makes a good and effective fertilizer and is used in many third world countries. This is a well written book and believe it or not it is a good read especially if you are a prepper or interested in the back to the land movement. A regular older toilet can waste up to 5 gallons of water in one flush. These composting toilets use no water. (Might be advantageous for those who have a troublesome well system and that need to conserve water). I recommend this book.

I would venture that the authors have forgotten more about toilets than most of the rest of us will ever know. There is no possible toilet configuration that does not receive at least cursory discussion. I only have 2 complaints about the book, both of them minor. First there were a couple of systems that I felt were described incompletely and critiqued a bit unfairly. Second, much of the book seemed to be a compilation of other writings without a lot of editing. Consequently there is significant repetition, and a presentation of information that is sometimes slightly disorganized and confusing. I definitely think that the book is worth reading.

It is a little dated but we were shopping for a composting toilet and found this book to be very helpful in doing our research. The section reviewing the commercially produced toilets was very helpful.

A must read for anyone looking to dump the flush! Lots of handy insites plus many "overseas" illustrations that "kind of" apply. Not for the faint of character (or stomach). We are looking towards a composting toilet system SOON.

Highly informational and totally honest, points out all the disadvantages of all the systems with no bias. Composting toilets are definitely not for everyone.

It covers just about every type of composting toilet out there. If you are thinking about getting one for your home, I suggest this book as a good resource. It also covers types of low flow toilets that look

just like regular toilets but are much more water use friendly.

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