

## **ADDENDUM TO COUNTY OF KAUA'I COMPOSTING VIDEO**

### **Setup:**

Counter to the presentation in the video and the composting handbook that comes with your composting bin setup should occur upside down.

The user should remove the cover from the top section of the unit and flip it over. You should now be able to view the slots in the bottom section and the tabs on the top section of the unit. With this view you should be able to quickly align the pieces. Once the top and the bottom half of the unit are aligned you can press down each section firmly moving in a circular motion. The pieces may not “snap” together initially, but working around between each tab and slot the units should eventually pop together.

### **Secret to quick compost:**

Pieces must be as small as possible. Some users use a lawn mower to quickly shred material into minute pieces. These pieces quickly breakdown in your compost.

By following all the proper procedures including proper ratio, turning, watering, and shredding you may be able to make compost in as little as 6 weeks. If you throw material straight in to the bin and do no work at all material breakdown may take 1 or 2 years to breakdown (if not longer).

### **Large Pest control:**

The addition of fresh fruits or vegetables to your unit must be accompanied by the turning of the material so the fresh greens are mixed thoroughly in your bin followed by covering with a layer of brown matter to mask the smell of the fresh stuff.

If you leave fresh material on the top of the bin, the smell will attract rats and pigs that can gnaw through or knockdown your bin to get to the material.

### **Quick compost access:**

If wind or pigs are not an issue where you live, you may not want to screw your bin to the ground. If you do not screw your bin down you can lift the entire unit up and off so you can access your completed compost.

You can also use this method to quickly turn your material by moving the bin over then scooping unfinished material back in to the bin. This may be easier for some versus reaching in from the top of the bin to turn the material with a garden tool.

### **Questions?**

Check our website at [www.kauai.gov/Composting](http://www.kauai.gov/Composting) or call 241-4841.