

8. Forest Decay

Dr. Philip C. Walker
Memorial
Botanical Trail



Decaying matter serves as a step in the cycle of death and renewal in a forest. Through the process of decomposition, fungi, bacteria and wood-eating insects all decompose dead plants and animals, helping to make the soil rich and fertile. Nutrients released into the soil are then taken up by the roots of living plants. The cycle of forest life continues.



Rotting Stump



Fallen Tree

