

## Mourning Cloak in Redmondville

We had put a composting bin on our woodlot in Redmondville. We haven't put anything in it after our first attempt because a bear got at it. Today I happened to pass by and I decided to look into it. I took the top off and this is what I saw. The Mourning Cloak's wings were together and its body was oriented so that it was able, as I found out later, to intercept radiation coming through an opening at the top. I wasn't aware of this behaviour until I read "***To protect themselves from the cold weather of their habitats, mourning cloaks will find areas under direct sunlight. This behavior, in conjunction with their darkly-colored wings, allow for maximum heat absorption.***<sup>[18]</sup>" in Wikipedia this evening . When I replaced the top, I thought about turning the cover so that the opening was reversed. After reading about the Mourning Cloak, it was best that I replaced it as I had found it. Its easy to access and I can check on it periodically.



Mourning Cloak oriented horizontal in the compost bin