



Texas AgriLife Extension Service
Master Gardener Specialist – Composter Training
Class III

Hosted by Bexar County – San Antonio
(210) 467-6575

Training Location at San Antonio Botanical Garden
555 Funston Place, San Antonio, TX 78209-6635
June 13, 2012 (Wed) - June 15, 2012 (Fri)

Specialist Program Purpose

To provide training whereby Master Gardeners can obtain specialization in areas that support or expand designed programs of Texas AgriLife Extension Service in their counties.

Goal of Master Gardener Specialist – Composter

In an effort to provide training, the Master Gardener Specialist-Composter Training was created as an intensive multi-day training that will empower Master Gardeners with knowledge and skills required to effectively support and multiply Texas AgriLife Extension Service efforts in Earth-Kind® educational programs. The class focuses on composting for the home gardener with insight to commercial compost production and recycling.

Composting has many positive benefits when used in our gardens and landscapes. Most people try what they think is composting but often end up with trash piles. This training is meant to help explain the correct way to home compost as well as the added benefits of its usages in the garden. It will include practical applications of composting for the home gardener and will benefit us and the environment, we all live in.

Master Gardeners who fulfill specified training and volunteer requirements will be recognized as Master Gardener Specialist in the specified field of Composting. This certification does not empower the individual with supervisory or administrative authority within their local county programs, but provides them the knowledge to support their Master Gardener Educational Outreach Program.

Participation Requirements

To be eligible for the Master Gardener Specialist – Composter Training, an applicant must possess an up-to-date Master Gardener certification or be an employee of Texas AgriLife Extension Service. Master Gardener application must be approved by their local Master Gardener Program Coordinator or County Extension Agent.

Master Gardener Specialist – Composter

Master Gardener Specialist- Composter Training program is designed to train and certify Master Gardeners to become part of a state corps of compost experts and educators. To become a certified Master Gardener Specialist- Composter, the Master Gardener is required to attend and complete the Master Gardener Specialist- Composter Training to fulfill training requirements and subsequently meet service requirements described below. Training activities during the course will encourage Master Gardeners to complete these service requirements.

Position Description

The Master Gardener Specialist–Composter is responsible for increasing awareness and for providing training in composting for home gardeners, youths, and adults.

Time Commitment

Master Gardener Composter Specialists will volunteer 15 hours above and beyond their county's current volunteer obligation. A minimum of 10 hours must be in: (a) Youth and Adult presentations, (b) present information to at least three other groups, and (c) do a composting demonstration for Master Gardeners; a garden club; a neighborhood association or civic organization. **You will have one (1) full year for completion of this requirement.** Submit your hours in a timely manner to: David Rodriguez, County Extension Agent-Horticulture, 3355 Cherry Ridge, Suite 212, San Antonio, TX 78230-4818, (210) 467-6575.

Specialist Recognition and Certification

If completion of the Master Gardener Specialist-Composter Training service requirements is by **March 23, 2013**, the Master Gardener will be formally recognized at the annual Texas Master Gardener Conference, at which time, they will be awarded a Master Gardener Specialist Certificate and a compost pin.

Resources Available to Master Gardener Specialist–Composter

- Composting Training
- Educational Materials on Composting
- Direct Access to Texas AgriLife Extension Service

Registration

Only 30 applicants will be accepted for this training. Registration is first come/first served basis. Only two (2) Master Gardeners per county, unless space is available by May 18, 2012, we may be able to accept applicants from the Waiting List.

Submit Your Application Form with Payment

Application form and payment (**payable to Bexar County Master Gardeners**) must be in our office by May 18, 2012 (Friday). Cancellation must be made by May 25, 2012 (Friday), as there will be a \$100 surcharge.

Cost

Application fee of \$225 per person includes:

- Composting resources including: power point presentations and literature
- Two lunches and one dinner
- Snacks, drinks, and other goodies will be provided each day

Travel

Applicants will need to provide their own travel and hotel arrangements. Dress appropriately for outdoor activities (i.e. hat, **close-toed shoes**, and sunglasses).

If you need any special accommodations, contact **David Rodriguez**, County Extension Agent-Horticulture, at (210) 467-6575 or dhrodriguez@ag.tamu.edu by May 18, 2012, so we can consider your request.

For more information, contact **David Rodriguez**, County Extension Agent-Horticulture at (210) 467-6575 or dhrodriguez@ag.tamu.edu.

Educational programs of Texas AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, gender, disability, religion, age or national origin. Classes are subject to change or be canceled.