



Master Composter NEWSLETTER

September 12, 2022

Pam experiments with new types of composting systems! Here's a picture of her subpod. Check out some images on her kitchen countertop composter experiment on Pages 4 & 5.

Introduction

Here's what this newsletter covers:

- Page 1: Weekly recap
- Page 2: Upcoming opportunities
- Page 3: Martial Cottle Park updates
- Pages 4 & 5: Pam's experiment
- Page 6: Food for thought - Compost (and other related topics) in the news

Weekly Recap

The biggest thank you to Jack Carter for being the first volunteer to shovel horse manure with Jenel and myself on our Wednesday MCP workdays! Last week, Marilyn and I also had the chance to present on organic waste sorting at Hillview Court supportive housing. Our program is doing a lot of good!

Upcoming



Open Workshops

These are workshops that have not been filled yet. Please check your calendars to see if you are able to lead or assist with any of these.

- Saturday, October 22 - Worm Composting Workshop (San Jose) - *NEEDS BOTH LEAD & SECOND MC*
- Saturday, November 5 - Compost Basics Workshop (Morgan Hill) - *NEEDS SECOND MC*
- Saturday, November 5 - Compost Basics Workshop (Los Altos Hills) - *NEEDS SECOND MC*

Community Events

- September 17 (7pm to 9pm) - Movie Night at MCP
- October 1 (9am to 2pm) - MCP Fall Festival

Sign up for a workshop [here](#)!!

MCP Updates



- Upcoming workdays
 - September 17 - Marisa Gonzalez
 - October 15 - Linda Bookman
 - November 19 - Rajat Srivastava
- This Saturday's MCP Community Composting Workday
 - 10am - 12pm
 - Tour of the compost parcel with explanations of different composting systems
 - Turning and watering compost, feeding CFT
- Wednesday workdays with Maya & Jenel:
 - Last week: Turned and added more horse manure to the compost piles *with the help of our lovely Jack Carter*
 - This week: More composting, getting ready for Saturday's workday

Pam's Experiment

Pam White is experimenting with how compost produced from the Lomi kitchen counter composter compares to vermicompost and unamended soil. Check out these images of the progress of her experiment! Planting from left to right: *Lomi express mode*, *vermicompost*, *Lomi regular mode*, *just soil*.

counter top composter



seeds planted in mixture
of



one part compost:
ten parts organic soil

cucumber seeds planted



4 days



8 days



12 days



16 days

LomiPod express surges ahead



20 days



24 days

transplanted to a raised bed



COMPOST

in the

NEWS

*Articles are hyperlinked at the bottom of each box

A precision compost strategy aligning composts and application methods with target crops and growth environments can increase global food production

[Nature Food](#)

Nanoplastics can move up the food chain from plants to insects and from insects to fish.

[EurekaAlert](#)
Nano Today

From the Soil to the Sky

UC Santa Barbara researchers are the first to put a number on the amount of energy that plants use to lift water

[EurekaAlert](#)
Journal of Geophysical Research: Biogeosciences



Maya Shydrowski
mshydrowski@ucanr.edu
(408) 918-4641

September 12,
2022