



# *Master Composter*

January 17th, 2024

## NEWSLETTER

### Introduction

In this week's newsletter:

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### Week Recap

- First CE talk of 2024 with Dr. Josh Garcia
- The CEP Coordinator, Victoria gave the program's annual report to TAC
- Michael Cohen, PhD from UCCE Santa Clara and Victoria submitted a grant proposal to conduct a municipal compost experiment at MCP

# Upcoming



Third Saturday Workday will be  
**THIS SATURDAY**  
January 20th

- Workday at Martial Cottle Park from 10-12
- Monthly meeting from 12-12:30
- Dress for muddy conditions, bring water, and wear layers!

**See You Soon**



## Mentorship Program for 2024 Initial Training

- Let me know if you want to participate in being a mentor for new volunteers!
- Required March 16th Training attendance at the park and 6 month check in

**[Here is the Signup Sheet](#)**



# Upcoming

# Teaching Opportunities



We still need one more volunteer to join Victoria M at the Pomeroy Elementary Community Garden Day tabling event in Santa Clara, on February 3rd from 11 am to 2:00 pm.

[Sign up on our Community Event Google Sheet](#)



Ellis Elementary, 550 E. Olive Ave. Sunnyvale, CA 94086 \*had to reschedule to end of Jan  
Presentation: vermicomposting

Class: TK (4-5 years old), 3 classes of 20 students per class, 60 in total

Possible dates/times: Suggested 1/23/24 or 1/24/24 The teachers are only available during the 10-11:30am time frame.



Louise Van Meter Elementary, 16445 Los Gatos Boulevard Los Gatos 95032

The 5th grade classes at Van Meter Elementary School are starting a PBL unit about waste, and compost will be a huge component of it! We are hoping to tap into your expertise during this project. One of our 5th grade teachers has just started a compost bin and a worm bin at our school.

Presentation: vermicomposting

Class: 5th grade, ~100 students

Possible dates/times: 1/22/24 or 1/26/24



Please sign up for a kids classroom activity by filling out your name on the [Kids Composting Google Sheet](#) under the Master Composters column and I will confirm with the schools that we have at the minimum two volunteers confirmed to teach

# Important Resources



- **Log your hours** continuously throughout the year so you don't get stuck in the June **reappointment** slump!

[Log your volunteer hours here!](#)

- You can find previous **recorded CE speakers** on the private Master Composter website.

[Watch the meeting recordings here](#)

- Looking for example presentations and other helpful resources? Check out our shared **Google Drive**.

[Explore the Google Drive here](#)

- Bookmark & save the **Continuing Education Zoom** link

[Find the Zoom link here](#)

- **CE ideas?** Email them or fill out this survey:

[Continuing Education suggestions](#)

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# ***VOLUNTEER SIGNUP***

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***CLICK LINKS BELOW***

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***2024 WORKSHOP, KIDS ACTIVITIES  
AND COMMUNITY EVENT SIGNUPS ARE LIVE!***

## **2024 WORKSHOPS**

***WORKSHOP SIGNUP***

## **SCHOOL REQUESTS**

***CLASSROOM SIGNUP***

## **2024 COMMUNITY EVENTS & SPECIAL LECTURES**

***EVENT SIGNUP***





# MCP Updates



## Wednesday Workdays are back!

- Join us at Martial Cottle Park from 10-12
- Weather permitting
- check the rot crew google calendar for more information
- **The code to the front gate at Martial Cottle Park has been changed.** You will need to contact Jenel to get the new code at [jpvincze@ucanr.edu](mailto:jpvincze@ucanr.edu).
- Remember to post **scan the QR code by the worm CFT** any time you come to Martial Cottle Park to let us know what you've done there!
  - (food scrap drop off, workday tasks, if you've taken compost, etc.)
  - You can also do this [via the volunteer hours log](#) linked above
- **Bring newspapers to Martial Cottle Park!** The worms like to be updated on current events! (juuust kidding)



# COMPOST

*in the*

# NEWS

\*Articles are hyperlinked at the bottom of each box

## Plastics Companies, Brands Keep Eyes on CA SB 54 Deadline

The formal rule-making process for a California law targeting waste from single-use packaging and plastic food ware is set to begin. By [Plastics Today](#)

By [Kate Bertrand Connolly](#)

## Biochar-composting substantially reduces methane and air pollutant emissions from dairy manure

Brendan P Harrison<sup>4,1</sup>, Zeyi Moo<sup>1</sup>, Evelyn Perez-Agredano<sup>2</sup>, Si Gao<sup>3</sup>, Xuan Zhang<sup>2</sup> and Rebecca Ryals<sup>2</sup>

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