



Master Composter

February 12th, 2024

NEWSLETTER

Lucy, the ever faithful worm herding shepherd, provides moral support as we compost in the rain

Introduction

In this week's newsletter:

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- Page 8: Food for thought:
Compost (& related topics) in
the news

Week Recap

- Sunnyvale Compost Ed. Crew kicked off the year with their first workshop! Woohoo!
- Rainy Wednesday Workday with leftover pumpkin goop
- CEP Staff finalized Mentor Position Description
- Victoria Attended the Technical Advisory Committee with Program Updates for the County

Upcoming



Mentorship Program for 2024 Initial Training

Let me know if you want to participate in being a mentor for new volunteers!

[Here is the Signup Sheet](#)

[Find new Mentor Position Description on the signup sheet](#)



Office Closure Monday 2/19/2014 in Observance of Presidents' Day

- **We will Return 2/20 to respond to emails**
- **Victoria will be out of the office Friday 2/16 and back 2/20**



No Third Saturday Workday 2/17/24

Upcoming

Teaching Opportunities



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

The 5th grade classes at Van Meter Elementary School are hoping to learn more about composting after they started a compost bin and a worm bin at our school.

Presentation: vermicomposting

Class: 5th grade, ~100 students

Possible dates/times: **CONFIRMED 8:30-9:30 February 26th**

Join Bridget at this by signing up!



Discovery Charter School, Falcon Campus, 762 Sunset Glen Drive, San Jose, CA 95123

- Presentation: vermicomposting
- Class: k-1 (20 students), third grade (17 students).
- Possible dates/times: **First Week of March, flexible**

Join Bridget at this by signing up!



Composting Advice for Homesteaders 4-H Ranch

We are a 4H ranch that would like to have a compost project to help educate our youth and parents on how to properly compost. We have garden waste and animal manure (chickens, turkeys, goats, sheep and rabbits). We would love to teach everyone how to properly compost to have less waste and more usable compost. We are hoping to work with a master composter to develop a plan, project and workshop for our youth.



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

Remember our Jan. CE Speaker Dr. Josh Garcia?

Go support his urban agriculture and composting research
in person at this event in San Francisco!



SOIL HEALTH, COMPOSTING, & URBAN AGRICULTURE BILINGUAL WORKSHOP

Saturday, February 17th | 9am - 12:30pm

Garden for the Environment | 1590 7th Avenue, San Francisco

Sliding scale \$25 - 50

Join Dr. Joshua Garcia from UC Davis with expertise in urban soil health and sustainable agriculture, where he will share findings from his latest research, including from our garden! Participants will also explore **how to measure** physical, chemical, and biological soil health indicators, **how to manage contaminants** such as heavy metals in urban soils, and **the benefits of, and tips for composting**.

Following the workshop, **participants will also have an opportunity to network and meet fellow urban farmers over refreshments in the garden.**

Workshop will be provided in English and Spanish.

this
weekend

More info & tickets!



GARDEN FOR THE
ENVIRONMENT

www.gardenfortheenvironment.org

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](#)

- Rot Crew Calendar:

[Rot Crew Calendar Link](#)

VOLUNTEER SIGNUP

CLICK LINKS BELOW

***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



No Third Saturday Work Day!

- 2/17/24 Community Workday is cancelled

Wednesday Workdays

- Join us at Martial Cottle Park from 10-12
- Weather permitting
- check the [rot crew google calendar](#) for more information

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 and unused bamboo chopsticks to Martial Cottle Park!** (chopsticks are for worm demos)



COMPOST

in the

NEWS

*Articles are hyperlinked at the bottom of each box

What a waste: New York City budget cuts eviscerate community composting groups

City's waffling on food scrap programs not only harms environment but also hinders participation in waste management schemes

By: Whitney Bauck

The Guardian

Cultivating Togetherness: Slow Food partners with local artist, Love Andreyev

Slow Food Lake Tahoe is dedicated to fostering a self-sufficient food culture in the community. Their goal is to educate people about cultivating, preparing, and obtaining local and sustainable food, emphasizing the importance of good, clean, and fair food accessibility to everyone.

By: Zoe Meyer

Sierra Sun



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