



Master Composter

February 26th, 2024

NEWSLETTER

Gorgeous day at Martial Cottle Park

Introduction

In this week's newsletter:

- Page 1: Week recap
- Page 2-3: Upcoming
- Page 4: Important resources
- Page 5: Signup Sheet Links
- Page 6 MCP Updates
- Page 7-8: Food for thought: Compost (& related topics) in the news

Week Recap

- Finally some sunny weather to make compost piles at MCP!
- Vivian Wong Tabled at the Senior Winter Walk and Resource Fair in San Jose on Friday
- Dan Hafeman and Chris Wolken taught a workshop at the Mountainview Community Center

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](#)



March 2nd Worm Workshop needs a Volunteer

3/2/24

- Michele Young has signed up to teach this workshop at Los Gatos Library but she needs help!
- Fun interactive workshop with worm bin materials provided by library



Join Vivian Wong at our next Community Event!

- Saturday, March 9, 2024- Silicon Valley Reads Green Career Fair, San Jose

Upcoming: Kids Group Activities



KIPP Heartwood Academy

- **Presentation: vermicomposting**
- **Class: 5thGrade, 110students (3 classes)**
- **Possible dates/times: morning, 02/28/24 (or anytime that week) date flexible**
- **School Address: 1250 S King Rd, San Jose Ca 95122**

Stipe Elementary School

- **Presentation: vermicomposting**
- **Class: Kindergarten, 50 students**
- **Possible dates/times: March 27th at 10:15**
- **School Address: 5000 Lyng Drive, San Jose, 95111**

Stratford School

- **Presentation: vermicomposting**
- **Class: Kindergarten, 120 students**
- **Dates/times: March 13th 12:30-2:15 *Scheduled***
- **School Address: 890 Pomeroy Ave., Santa Clara, 95051**

Campbell School of Innovation

- **Presentation: vermicomposting**
- **Class: 2nd Grade 100 students**
- **Possible dates/times: March 20th 8:30-9:00, 9:00-9:30 or 10:30-11:00,11:00-11:30**
- **School Address: 295 Cherry Lane Campbell, CA, 95008**

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

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!

- Work Days will Continue in April
- March 16th will be day 1 of Initial Training

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)

Garden for the Environment, in partnership with the Department of Land, Air, and Water Resources at UC Davis, presents the



SOIL HEALTH, COMPOSTING, & URBAN AGRICULTURE BILINGUAL WORKSHOP

RESCHEDULE

Saturday, March 16th | 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.

More info & tickets!



**GARDEN FOR THE
ENVIRONMENT**

www.gardenfortheenvironment.org



COMPOST

in the

NEWS

*Articles are hyperlinked at the bottom of each box

Google announces groundbreaking AI-equipped methane leak detection satellite

In an ambitious move to confront the escalating climate crisis, Google has announced a groundbreaking partnership with the Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) to launch MethaneSAT, a pioneering satellite mission aimed at mapping and mitigating methane emissions globally.

[Envirotech](#)

Can Plastic Recycling Ever Really Work?

Many plastics that carry the “chasing arrows” symbol, like soda cups and yogurt tubs, are rarely recycled. A new California law is raising the bar.

By Susan Shain

[NY Times](#)