

March 4th, 2024 NEWSLETTER

Michael Cohen and Jenel Vincze take apart the aerated static piles at MCP

Introduction

In this week's newsletter:

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Week Recap

- Lovely DIY worm compost workshop at the Los Gatos Library featuring MC Michele Young
- The UCCE Team started the process of harvesting the ASP from last year
- Initial Training Schedule finalized and distributed to new trainees with security clearances





Mentorship Program for 2024 Initial Training **DEADLINE FRIDAY, MARCH 8th**

Jet the



volunteers!

<u>Here is the Signup Sheet</u>

Find new Mentor Position Description on the



signup sheet



March 9th

<u>Silicon Valley Reads Green Career Fair</u> <u>Needs 2 Volunteers</u>

Please Sign Up and let me know if you can table at this

indoor event

10:00 am to 12:00 pm

1290 Ridder Park Drive San Jose 95131 W[[K



Volunteers needed to teach March 23rd Workshop at Los Altos Library

Los Altos Library 13 S San Antonio Rd, Los Altos, CA 94022

Upcoming: Kids Group Activities

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).

Are any MC's interested in providing technical assistance to the 4H ranch on setting up an ASP system?

Composting Advice for Hester School

We are a special ed school for adults ages 18-22 years old. Most students are have severe disabilities. They attend weekly gardening classes with myself.

- -Hosting Spring Seed Planting Event
- -Want Volunteers to attend March 20th
- -Also seeking advice about their own backyard school composting system

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





Important Resour<mark>ces</mark>

- Log your hours continuously throughout the year so you don't get stuck in the June reappointment slump!
- You can find previous
 recorded CE speakers on the private Master
 Composter website.
- Looking for example presentations and other helpful resources? Check out our shared Google
 Drive
- Bookmark & save the
 Continuing Education
 Zoom link
- Rot Crew Calendar:



Signup Sheet Links

WORKSHOP SIGNUP

CLASSROOM SIGNUP

EVENT SIGNUP

ALL IN

<u>Watch the meeting</u> <u>recordings here</u>

Log your volunteer

hours here!

<u>Explore the Google Drive</u> <u>here</u>

Rot Crew Calendar Link

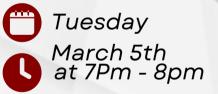
Find the Zoom link here

BIOCHAR AS A COMPOST AMENDMENT & CARBON SEQUESTRATION

Austin Liu is an inventor, sustainability consultant, and has worked as a biochar researcher with All Power Labs since 2011, focusing on the intersection between carbon drawdown, soil fertility, and biomass energy.

*Worth CE and Monthly Meeting Credit, so show up!

TOMORROW



<u>Join via Zoom</u> <u>Link</u>

<u>Cool biochar</u> article by Austin

AUSTIN LIU CE Speaker





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 <u>rot crew google calendar</u> 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 <u>via the volunteer hours log</u> 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

The Farming Conundrum

Agriculture is a big contributor to climate change — is there a path to reinvention?

A new report found that the United States is spending billions of dollars to try to slash greenhouse gas emissions from farms, but many of the new practices are unproven.Credit...Tim Gruber for The New York Times

<u>NY Times</u>

<u>Tackling Historical Inequities in Urban Organic</u> <u>Waste and Composting</u>

A recent commentary in Environmental Health Perspectives evaluates the equity and safety of US organic waste cycles in urban agriculture, and provides recommendations to promote safer compost production from urban organic waste practices. <u>Boston University</u>

UC CE



Victoria Roberts vrroberts@@ucanr.edu (408) 918-4641

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