



2018 Master Gardener Specialist Training Composter

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension – Fort Bend County
1402 Band Road, Suite 100
Rosenberg, TX 77471

Wednesday, December 5, 2018 – Friday, December 7, 2018

Specialist Program Purpose:

To provide training whereby Master Gardeners can obtain specialization in areas that support or expand designed programs of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service.

Goal of Master Gardener Specialist – Composter:

In an effort to provide training, the Master Gardener Specialist-Composter Training was created as an intensive multi-day training that will empower Master Gardeners with knowledge and skills required to effectively support and multiply Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service efforts in Earth-Kind® environmental educational programs. The class focuses on composting for the home gardener with insight to commercial compost production.

Compost has many positive benefits when used in our gardens and landscapes. Most people try what they think is composting but often end up with trash piles. This training is meant to help explain the correct way to home compost as well as the added benefits of its usages in the garden. It will include practical applications of composting for the home gardener with the science behind it all, which in turn, benefits us all and the environment we all live in.

Master Gardeners who fulfill specified training and volunteer requirements will be recognized as Master Gardener Specialist in the specified field of composting. This certification does not empower the individual with supervisory or administrative authority within his/her local county programs but provides them the knowledge to support their Master Gardener Educational Outreach Program.

Participation Requirements:

To be eligible for the Master Gardener Specialist Training–Composter, an applicant must possess an up-to-date Master Gardener certification or be an employee of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service. **The Master Gardener application must be approved by their local Master Gardener Coordinator or County Extension Agent.**

Purpose of Master Gardener Specialist–Composter:

Master Gardener Specialist-Composter Training program is designed to train and certify Master Gardeners to become part of a state corps of Composter experts and educators. To become a certified Master Gardener Specialist-Composter, the Master Gardener is required to attend and complete the Master Gardener Specialist Training-Composter to fulfill training requirements and subsequently meet service requirements described below. Training activities during the course will empower Master Gardeners to complete these service requirements.

Position Description:

The Master Gardener Specialist–Composter is responsible for increasing awareness and for providing training in composting for home gardeners.

Time Commitment:

Master Gardener Specialists - Composter will:

- (a) Volunteer 20 hours above and beyond their county's current volunteer obligation
- (b) Train Master Gardeners in their county
- (c) Present the information to at least three other groups, and
- (d) Do a composting demonstration for Master Gardeners, for a garden club, for a neighborhood association or civic organization.

Upon completion of volunteer requirements, the hours will be reported in a timely manner to the Fort Bend County Horticulture Extension Office, 1402 Band Road, Suite 100 Rosenberg, TX 77471, to the attention of Margo "Mac" McDowell, Program Coordinator.

Specialist Recognition and Certification:

Upon completion of the Master Gardener Specialist Training-Composter service requirements, the Master Gardener will be formally recognized at the annual Texas Master Gardener Conference, at which time they will be awarded a certificate and official title of 'Master Gardener Specialist - Composter.'

Resources Available to Master Gardener Specialist – Composter:

- Composting Training
- Educational Materials on Composting
- Direct Access to Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

Registration:

Only 24 applicants will be accepted for this training. Registration is first come/first served basis.

- Transportation to Rosenberg and lodging is on your own.
- Course is limited to the first 24 applicants to send check and registration form
- A maximum of 2 Master Gardeners from each county.

Submit your registration form with payment as soon as possible.

Payment and form must be in our office by Wednesday, November 14, 2018. Cancellation must be made by Wednesday, November 21, 2018, and there will be a \$100.00 surcharge.

Cost:

Registration fee of \$225.00 per person includes:

- Composting resources, power point presentations, and literature
- Two lunches and one dinner
- Snacks and drinks will be provided each day
- A limit of 1 guest to dinner for \$12.00 can be added to your registration cost.

Travel:

Participants will need to provide their own travel and hotel arrangements. If you are looking to car pool or looking for a roommate, let us know. Dress appropriately for outdoor activities. A listing of surrounding hotels will be provided upon acceptance to the training.

If you need any special accommodations, please contact Brandy Rader at (281) 342-3034 by November 14, 2018, so we can consider your request.



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Agenda

Wednesday, December 5th

10:00 am – 5:00 pm

Extension Office Conference Room 120

10:00 – 11:00 - Registration/Sign-in Welcome and Introductions

11:00 – 5:30 - Classes, with Lunch at 12:30 – 1:15 on us!

5:30 - Evening Social and Dinner on us

Thursday, December 6th

7:30 am – 5:30 pm

7:30 – Meet at Extension and board bus for tour at 8:00 am

11:30 – Lunch at tour facility

1:15 – 5:00 – Return to Extension office and classes continue

Dinner on your own

Friday, December 7th

8:00 am – Noon

8:00 am – Class begins at Extension Office Conference Room 120

11:30 – Noon – Evaluations and Wrap up

Light Refreshments will be provided each day.



Registration Form
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Please complete the registration form and mail check payment. **Please type or print legibly.**

Full Name: _____

Name to appear on badge: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

County: _____

E-mail: _____

Telephone w/Area Code: _____ Fax: _____

Special Dietary or Other Needs: _____

If you have a guest at Thursday evening's social and dinner, check here _____ and add \$12 to your registration fee. Limit of one guest per registrant.

Master Gardener Coordinator or County Extension Agent Signature and Telephone number (required):

(Sign)

(Print)

(Phone/email)

Full Registration Fee: \$225.00

Transportation and lodging is at your own expense and not included in the registration fee.

Registration and payment is due by November 14, 2018

- Please note that refunds will not be given after November 21, 2018.
- Cancellation must be made by Wednesday, November 21, 2018, and there will be a \$100.00 surcharge from the registration fees.

Mail Registration Form and Check Payment to: (make check payable to: **Fort Bend County Master Gardeners**)

Master Gardener Specialist Training – Composter
Attn: Brandy Rader
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension – Fort Bend County
1402 Band Road, Suite 100
Rosenberg, TX 77471

For more information, contact Brandy Rader, Admin. Assistant, at 281-342-3034 or email her at Brandy.Rader@ag.tamu.edu



Lodging Information
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Please be aware that there is ongoing major road construction in the Rosenberg area. This may affect drive times between accommodation and the County offices.

Within 1 mile of the Fort Bend County offices:

Comfort Inn and Suites

3555 SR 36 South, Rosenberg, TX, 77471

Phone: 281-232-7300

<https://www.choicehotels.com/texas/rosenberg/comfort-inn-hotels/tx120>

Motel 6

27927 Southwest Freeway

Rosenberg, TX 77471

Phone: [281-342-7888](tel:281-342-7888)

<https://www.motel6.com/en/motels.tx.rosenberg.4617.html>

La Quinta Inn & Suites

28332 Southwest Freeway

Rosenberg, TX 77471

Phone: 832-595-6111

<https://www.lq.com/en/hotels/texas/rosenberg/houston-rosenberg>

Within 5 miles of Fort Bend County offices:

Hampton Inn & Suites

3312 Vista Drive, Rosenberg TX 77471

Phone: 281-341-9393

<http://www.houstonrosenbergsuites.hamptoninn.com>

Springhill Suites by Marriott

6815 Reading Road, Rosenberg, TX 77471

Phone: 832-595-2220

<https://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/hourb-springhill-suites-houston-rosenberg/>