Why Become a Master Composter?

By encouraging residents to recycle organic waste materials that would otherwise end up in landfills or incinerators, Master Composters promote sustainable living and resource conservation at individual and community levels. Through this program, you too can make a difference by educating the public about making and using compost.

Return carbon to the land! Compost!

Master Composter Program 2019
Instructors & Partners:
Dawn Pettinelli, UConn Soil Nutrient Analysis Lab
Gregory Moonie, Master Composter/AMG
Judy Preston, UConn, CT Sea Grant
Dr. Joseph Gorres, Professor, Univ. of VT
Dr. Geoffrey Kuter, President, Agresource
Dr. Robert Rafka, URI/Pfizer, Teacher
Carol Quish, UConn Home & Garden
Tracy Burrell, MC/AMG/CMGA
Matt Freund, Freund's Farm
Eric Whiting, Laurelbrook Farm
Chris Field, John de Rham Harvest New England LLC
Connecticut Recyclers Coalition

The UConn Home & Garden Education Center is an informational resource for the residents of Connecticut and beyond who are urged to contact us for accurate, thorough and timely information on home and garden topics.
Almost 25% of a typical household’s waste can be recycled right in our own backyards. This significantly reduces the amount of waste that is incinerated or placed in landfills. The UConn Home & Garden Education Center, in partnership with the Connecticut Recyclers Coalition, is offering the Master Composter Program to educate and train state residents about the general elements of the composting process and to assist participants in passing this knowledge on to others. Those enrolled in the Master Composter program will:

- Learn why it is important to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfills
- Understand how individuals and communities benefit from making compost
- Discover the art and science of composting
- Become familiar with the techniques for creating and maintaining backyard composting systems
- Visit and learn about municipal, on-farm and worm composting methods
- Improve teaching and leadership skills through community outreach projects

Who Can Become a Master Composter?

Anyone, whether they compost now or not, who wants to learn more about composting and is willing to share their composting skills and knowledge with the public through volunteer activities such as presentations, workshops, exhibits and demonstrations. UConn Master Composter Certificate & Name Badge will be presented upon completion of course and 2 approved outreach activities (usually around 20 hours).

Class Dates & Times, Fall 2019
Tuesday, Oct. 15, 6 - 9 pm
Thursday, Oct 17, 6 - 9 pm
Tuesday, Oct 22, 6 - 9 pm
Thursday, Oct 24, 6 - 9 pm

CLASS LOCATION: New London County Extension Center, 562 New London Tnpk, Norwich CT 06360

Worm Day, Sat. Oct 19, 10 am - 2 pm
Middlesex County Extension Ctr, Haddam, CT

FIELD TRIPS: Freund’s & Laurelbrook Farms, E. Canaan, CT, Sat.11/2, 10-2 pm
Leaf Composting, Harvest New England, Ellington, CT Sat.11/16, 9-11am (tentative)

PROGRAM FEE: $100.00 payable to UConn

PLEASE NOTE: PARTICIPANTS ARE EXPECTED TO ENGAGE IN 2 OUTREACH ACTIVITIES TO RECEIVE CERTIFICATE. CLASS SIZE LIMITED TO 24 STUDENTS.