

“Advanced Master Gardener – Compost” Training Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Services

Advanced Training Program Purpose and information:

The “Advanced Master Gardener – Compost” program is designed to provide advanced training and resources whereby Master Gardeners can obtain specialization in areas that support or expand designated educational programs of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Services.

To become a certified “Advanced Master Gardener - Compost”, Master Gardeners are required to attend the “Advanced Master Gardener – Compost” training and subsequently meet service requirements described below. This certification does not empower the individual with supervisory or administrative authority within her/his local county programs.

Composting 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 usage in the garden. It will include practical applications of composting for the home gardener and will benefit us, and the environment, we all live in.

“Advanced Master Gardener – Compost” training will be comprised of high-quality training including the biology of soil; the benefits and uses of compost; composting techniques including organic materials, vermiculture, bio-solids, compost bins, teas and bob cat compost.

Participation requirements:

To be eligible for the “Advanced Master Gardener – Compost” training, an individual must possess an up-to-date Master Gardener certification, or be an employee of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service. Master Gardener applicants must be approved by their local County Extension Agent.

Position Description and Service Requirements:

The “Advanced Master Gardener – Compost” is charged to increase awareness, provide training in composting and facilitate implementation of composting practices on a home/neighborhood/community level. Training activities during the course will empower the Master Gardener to complete these service requirements.

Service requirements include, but are not limited to:

- Attending the “Advanced Master Gardener – Compost” training
- Volunteering 20 hours above and beyond their county’s current volunteer obligation within one year of the advanced training.
- Serving as a local “Advanced Master Gardener – Compost” resource in the Extension program for a minimum of one year.
- Assisting in educating Master Gardeners, interns, and the public in composting
- Increasing client awareness of composting through presentations, training, and mass media efforts (i.e. radio, newspaper, social media, television, and newsletters)
- Submitting a completed “Advanced Master Gardener – Compost” Volunteer Training Report Form as directed
- Optional: Submitting TMGA reimbursement paperwork

Advanced Training recognition and certification:

Upon completion of the “Advanced Master Gardener – Compost” training and service requirements, the Master Gardener will be awarded an “Advanced Master Gardener – Compost” certificate and lapel pin.

Resources Available to the “Advanced Master Gardener – Compost”

- Advanced training on composting and networking with presenters
- Educational materials on Composting
- Direct access to Texas A&M AgriLife County Extension Agent – Horticulture