

# Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

# Texas Master Gardener Volunteer

# 2023 Advanced Training: Compost

#### Training Location:

####  Texas A&M AgriLife Extension – Fort Bend County

#### 1402 Band Road, Suite 100

Rosenberg, TX 77471

**Wednesday, December 6, 2023 – Friday, December 8, 2023**

##### Purpose of Advanced Training: Compost

To provide advanced training whereby Extension Master Gardener Volunteers can obtain knowledge in areas that support or expand designed programs of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, specifically in the Earth-Kind® Environmental Stewardship Program.

##### Goal of the Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Advanced Training – Compost:

In an effort to provide training, the Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Advanced Training - Compost was created as an intensive multi-day training that will empower Extension Master Gardener Volunteers with the knowledge and skills required to effectively support and multiply Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service educational outreach program efforts.The training focuses on composting for the home gardener with insight into 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 usage 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 in which we all live.

Master Gardeners who fulfill specified training and volunteer requirements will be recognized by Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service. This certification does not empower the individual with supervisory or administrative authority within his/her local county programs.

##### Advanced Training: Compost Training Requirements:

To be eligible for this training an individual must possess an up-to-date Master Gardener certification or be an employee of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service. The application must be approved by their local County Extension Agent/Program Coordinator. This Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Advanced Training is designed to train and certify Master Gardeners to become part of a state corps of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Compost educators. To become a Master Gardener with Advanced Training in Compost, you are required to attend the training, fulfill the training requirements, and subsequently meet the service requirements described below. Training activities during the course will empower Master Gardeners to complete these service requirements.

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##### Time Commitment:

In order to be recognized by Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service in Advanced Compost, the Master Gardener is required to complete a minimum of 20 designated service hours within one year of completing this training, beyond their county’s current volunteer obligation. Thereafter, they should be a “go-to” person in their county’s program in support of this subject matter.

Examples of designated service hours:

1. Conduct compost training for other Master Gardeners.
2. Conduct educational outreach programs on compost.
3. Create compost demonstration area(s) to serve as a teaching tool.

Upon completion of the designated service requirements, the hours will be reported in a timely manner to the Fort Bend County AgriLife Extension Service office, 1402 Band Road, Suite 100, Rosenberg, TX 77471, to the attention of Boone Holladay, County Extension Agent - Horticulture.

##### Resources Available in the Master Gardener Advanced Training: Compost:

* + Composting Training and Networking with Presenters
	+ Educational Materials on Composting
	+ Direct Access to Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, and more

##### Registration:

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

* A maximum of 2 Master Gardeners from each county.
* Course is limited to the first 24 applicants to send payment and signed registration form.
* Transportation to Rosenberg and lodging are your responsibility.

##### Submit your registration form with payment as soon as possible.

Completed application and payment must be in our office by Monday, November 6, 2023. Cancellations must be requested by Monday, October 23, 2023, to Brandy Rader, Program Coordinator at brandy.rader@ag.tamu.edu . A $100.00 partial refund surcharge will be assessed. No partial refunds will be approved after November 6, 2023.

##### Cost:

Registration fee of $250.00 per person includes:

* Compost books, PowerPoint presentations, compost thermometer, notebook, tote bag, and t-shirt
* Two lunches and one dinner, snacks, and drinks
* Bus transportation for field trips on December 7th

Add $12.00 to your registration fee if you will be accompanied by 1 guest for dinner on Wednesday, December 6th. (limit 1)

##### Travel:

Participants will need to provide their own travel and hotel arrangements. If you are looking to carpool or looking for a roommate, let us know. Dress appropriately for outdoor activities. A listing of surrounding hotels is attached.

If you need any special accommodations, please contact Brandy Rader at (281) 633-7029 by November 17, 2023, so we can consider your request.





# AGENDA

# Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

# Texas Master Gardener Volunteer

# 2023 Advanced Training: Compost

# Wednesday, December 6, 2023 – Friday, December 8, 2023

### Wednesday, December 6th

#### 9:00 am – 7:00 pm

#### The day begins at the Fort Bend County Extension Education Center in Rosenberg and ends at a family-owned garden center in Richmond nestled among Texas native trees and many picturesque garden vignettes. The day’s learning objectives: why compost, the biology of soils and organic matter, most common home composting methods, alternative composting methods, and compost tea.

9:00 – 9:15 Sign-in

9:15 – 10:00 Welcome, introductions, announcements, course expectations

10:00 – 12:00 Introduction to compost

12:00 – 12:30 Lunch

12:30 – 2:45 Alternative composting methods: Hügelkultur, Vermiculture

3:00 – 3:30 Travel to garden center by car

3:30 – 4:30 Compost Tea

4:30 – 7:00 Enjoy the garden center, socialize, dine outdoors, weather permitting.

**Thursday, December 7th**

8:45 am – 4:15 pm

Travel by bus to two locations involved in the production and sale of compost and curbside compost services. There will be a lunch stop near a master-planned “agri-hood” community. The day’s learning objectives: To gain insight into commercial compost production and efforts to reduce commercial food waste.

8:45 Meet at the Extension office and board the bus by 9:00

10:00 – 11:15 1st tour stop

11:45 Lunch with guest speaker

1:00 Board bus

2:00 – 3:30 2nd tour stop

4:15 Arrive at Extension office

 Day concludes; Dinner on your own

**Friday, December 8th**

8:00 am – Noon

Spend the morning at the Fort Bend County Extension office. The morning’s objectives: To demonstrate composting methods and tools, utilizing the Fort Bend County Master Gardeners’ Demonstration/Teaching Garden, to demonstrate a successful method of engaging youth about composting, and to hear class members’ ideas for compost education projects for their home counties.

8:00 - 10:00 Outdoor demonstrations

10:15 – 11:00 Working with Youth – Decomposers

11:00 – 11:30 Discussion time

11:30 – 12:00 Evaluations & Wrap up

 Training concludes; Lunch on your own

Light Refreshments will be provided each day. **Plan for outdoor activities by bringing layers for warmth and staying dry, in the event of rain, and waterproof shoes.**

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension provides equal opportunities in its programs and employment to all persons, regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity, Persons with disabilities who require auxiliary aids or services are required to contact Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service at 281.342.3034 five working days prior to the event. Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas cooperating.

# Logos and Brand Guide - Texas Master Gardeners

#  Registration Form

#  Texas Master Gardener Volunteer

# 2023 Advanced Training - Compost

# December 6-8, 2023

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

Full Name:

*(Please wear Master Gardener name tag)*

Mailing Address:

City, State, Zip:

County:

1. mail:

Telephone w/Area Code:

Special Dietary or Other Needs:

Shirt Size will be Adult Unisex: Small\_\_\_\_\_ Medium\_\_\_\_\_ Large\_\_\_\_\_ XLarge\_\_\_\_ XXLarge\_\_\_\_\_XXXLarge\_\_\_\_\_

If you have a guest at Wednesday 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: $250.00**

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

**Registration and payment are due by November 6, 2023**

* + Please note that refunds will not be given after October 23, 2023.
	+ Cancellation must be made by Monday, October 23, 2023, 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 Advanced Training – Compost

Attn: Brandy Rader

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

Rosenberg, TX 77471

If you would like to pay with a credit card, check here \_\_\_, scan your **signed form** and email it to Brandy Rader at Brandy.Rader@ag.tamu.edu. Brandy will email a payment link to you to complete the payment.

For more information, contact Brandy Rader, Program Coordinator, at 281-633-7029 or email her at Brandy.Rader@ag.tamu.edu

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# Logos and Brand Guide - Texas Master Gardeners

# Lodging Information

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**Within 1 mile of the Fort Bend County offices:**

**Days Inn and Suites by Wyndham**

3555 Highway 36 South, Rosenberg, TX, 77471

**Phone:** 281-232-7300

<https://www.wyndhamhotels.com/days-inn/rosenberg-texas/days-inn-rosenberg/overview>?

**Motel 6**

27927 Southwest Freeway

Rosenberg, TX 77471

Phone: 281-342-7888

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

**La Quinta Inn & Suites by Wyndham**

28332 Southwest Freeway

Rosenberg, TX 77471

Phone: 832-595-6111

<https://www.wyndhamhotels.com/laquinta/rosenberg-texas/la-quinta-houston-rosenberg/overview>

**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](http://www.houstonrosenbergsuites.hamptoninn.com/)

**Holiday Inn Express & Suites Houston SW - Rosenberg**

1720 Spacek Road, Rosenberg TX 77471

Phone: 1-888-465-4329

<https://www.ihg.com/holidayinnexpress/hotels/us/en/rosenberg/housn/hoteldetail>

**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/>

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