



CITY OF ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

100 North Fifth Ave. P.O. Box 8647

Ann Arbor, Michigan 48107-8647

Web: www.A2Gov.org

For Immediate Release

BECOME A MASTER COMPOSTER

ANN ARBOR, Mich. — April 12, 2011 — Online registration is now open for the annual six-session Washtenaw County Master Composter class, provided through the Ann Arbor Public Schools Rec & Ed program, posted at <http://reced.aaps.k12.mi.us>. Learn how to turn your yard waste into something you can use to enrich your flowers, vegetables, and lawn. Discover the basics of home composting in this fun class taught by Master Composters eager to share their experience with you. After attending this course, passing the open book exam, and clocking 10 hours of hands-on community experience, you will become a certified Washtenaw County Master Composter. The \$49 fee (\$59 for non-Ann Arbor resident) includes six sessions and a printed manual. Instructors are: Lisa Perschke, Advanced Master Gardener; Christopher Simmons, City of Ypsilanti; Nancy Stone, City of Ann Arbor, with other featured presenters, including soils professor Jon Dahl of Michigan State University and Starr Valley worm farmer Jessie Raudenbush. The classes are held at Ann Arbor Pioneer High School with one session at the City of Ann Arbor's Compost Center. Registration is posted online at Ann Arbor Public Schools Rec & Ed program <http://reced.aaps.k12.mi.us>.

Home composting information is also posted online at www.a2gov.org/compost. The class flyer is attached below.

Ann Arbor has 114,000 residents, spans 27.7 square miles, and is frequently recognized as a foremost place to live, learn, work, thrive and visit (www.a2gov.org/news). To keep up with City of Ann Arbor information, subscribe for e-mail updates (www.a2gov.org/subscribe), follow us on Twitter (<http://twitter.com/a2gov>) or become a city fan on Facebook (www.facebook.com/thecityofannarbor). The city's mission statement reads: The city of Ann Arbor is committed to providing excellent municipal services that enhance the quality of life for all through the intelligent use of resources while valuing an open environment that foster fair, sensitive and respectful treatment of all employees and the community we serve. ###



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Washtenaw County MASTER COMPOSTER Class in the Rec & Ed Spring 2011 Catalog

The Master Composter class for the Ann Arbor Public Schools Rec & Ed
Spring Catalog at <http://reced.aaps.k12.mi.us>

Become a Master Composter

The typical American household throws away over 5 pounds of compostable garbage daily! Take that garbage and turn it in to something you can use to enrich your flowers, vegetables, and lawn. Discover the basics of home composting in this fun class taught by Master Composters eager to share their experience with you. After attending this course, passing the open book exam, and clocking 10 hours of hands-on community experience, you will become a certified Washtenaw County Master Composter. Fee includes manual. Instructors: Lisa Perschke, Advanced Master Gardener; Christopher Simmons, City of Ypsilanti; Nancy Stone, City of Ann Arbor, with other featured presenters.

6 weeks. 4/25-6/6 (no class on Memorial Day, May 30) FEE: \$49 (\$59 for non Ann Arbor resident)
6:30 PM – 8:30 PM Room E107 at Pioneer High School. The May 23 class will be held at the City of Ann Arbor's Municipal Compost Center. General information posted at www.a2gov.org/compost, Master Composter link.

6 sessions of the class; 5 at Pioneer High School; 1 at the city's Compost Center.

- 4/25 Class overview, Composting basics, types of bins (*Nancy Stone*)
- *5/2 Soil Health and Soil Testing, microorganisms (*Professor Jon Dahl, MSU*)
- 5/9 Yard waste reduction, mulching, trench/pit composting (*Chris Simmons*)
- 5/16 Worm bins, special composting, compost teas (*Jessie Raudenbush of Starr Valley Farms*)
- 5/23 Tour of municipal composting operations, commercial bin exhibit at 4150 Platt Road.
Distribute/discuss open book exam (*Nancy Stone*)
- 5/30 **No Class-Break for Memorial Day.**
- 6/6 Guest presenters with community composting opportunities, Take-Home Exam corrected in-class; share ideas for volunteer projects, set date and topic/speaker for fall graduation pizza dinner (*Lisa Perschke*)

(*one class is open to the public. Please give paying students priority on questions and handouts (Additional copies can be downloaded from www.a2gov.org/compost. Thank you!)

