

City of Plano Master Composter Training

Purpose:

- To develop a corps of volunteers knowledgeable about
 - the methods, benefits and uses of compost and vermicomposting
 - municipal waste reduction through yard trimming diversion
 - soil management
 - the seven steps to a Texas SmartScape
 - native and adapted plants for the North Central Texas region
 - the use of Integrated Pest Management in residential pest control
- To provide an opportunity for Live Green in Plano Volunteers to become certified as State of Texas Master Composters.

Requirements:

Master Composter candidates will attend:

Overview of State of Texas Master Composter program	.5	hrs
Basics of municipal waste	.5	hrs
Basics of composting	1	hrs
Food waste composting with worms	1	hrs
Food waste composting with bokashi	1	hrs
Principles of Texas SmartScape landscaping	2	hrs
Basics of composting (hands-on practice)	2	hrs
Working with the public	1	hrs
Overview of large scale compost use and production	1	hrs
Additional education: fieldtrips, research, reading, lectures	2	hrs
Independent study: Backyard Composting module	1	hrs
Independent study: Food Waste Composting module	1	hrs
Independent study: Green Guide to Yard Care	1	hrs
Independent study: Home Composting Made Easy	1	hrs
Independent learning: candidate's choice	4	hrs
Total Education	20	hrs

Master Composter candidates will complete:

Volunteer work in compost-related activities:

Example: working at the Environmental Education Center or Plano Community Garden, staffing an exhibit or compost special event, making a compost presentation, preparing teaching materials, hosting a backyard compost talk.

Total Volunteer Commitment 20 hrs

For more information or to enroll in the Master Composter program, contact Erin Hoffer, Environmental Education Coordinator, (972) 769-4228 or erinhof@plano.gov.

Updated 8/30/2016

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Incentives

Completion of 16 in-class hours

- Compost bin
- Master Composter t-shirt
- Rodale's Book of Composting

Completion of 4 hours additional study and 20 hours compost-related volunteering

- Master Composter certificate
- Master Composter hat

Completion of 20 additional hours Plano community-based volunteering

- Compost thermometer
- Discount on Texas Pure Products

All classes are conducted at the City of Plano's **Environmental Education Center** (4116 W. Plano Parkway, Plano, 75093).



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