

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 19, 2017

Contact:

Steve Stelzer, Program Director
steve.stelzer@houstontx.gov
832-394-9050



City of Houston to Offer September Certified Master Composter Class

HOUSTON—Area composting enthusiasts who want to enhance their skills and spread the sustainable practice can become a Master Composter through a training hosted by the City of Houston [Green Building Resource Center](#), Sept. 21- 24.

The Yard Wise Master Composter Certificate Program, administered by the [State of Texas Alliance for Recycling](#), offers an in-depth course featuring a team of experienced Houston professionals. At the end of the training, Master Composters will be able to make a worm bed, create “compost recipes” for specific plants, and help others embrace the environmental benefits of composting.

Offered at the Houston Permitting Center at 1002 Washington Ave., the 4-day program includes classroom work, field trips and lectures from the following guest speakers:

- John Ferguson, Nature’s Way Resources
- Sarah Mason, City of Houston
- Luis Chamorro, The Ground Up
- Joe Blanton, Blanton Landscaping
- Danny Wilson, Farm Dirt
- Bob Randall, Urban Harvest
- Pat Greer & H.C. Clark, Pat Greer’s Kitchen
- Lora Hinchcliff, Living Earth Technologies

To complete their certification, participants will perform 20 hours of volunteer service showing others how to compost.

“Composting can save money with its byproduct of rich fertilizer, and it can reduce the need of toxic pesticides for lawns and gardens. It also reduces amounts of food and foliage waste being deposited in landfills,” says Steve Stelzer, program director of the Green Building Resource Center. “When tossed for garbage, this waste creates methane, which is 25 times more harmful than carbon dioxide. Composting is nature’s way of recycling—sharing it is our way of helping nature.”

Registration is \$40 and seating is limited to 20 participants. Interested composters can learn more or enroll online at codegreenhouston.org or by contacting Stelzer at 832-394-9050 or steve.stelzer@houstontx.gov.

About the Green Building Resource Center:

Located on the first floor of the LEED-certified gold Houston Permitting Center, the Green Building Resource Center has over 70 displays to familiarize oneself with green building technology and materials, including outdoor demonstrations such as a bioswale and vegetated roof with AC condensate. Open Monday through Friday, 8 am to 5 pm, the GBRC also offers Second Saturday free green building consultation. Learn more at codegreenhouston.org.