

## What do 'Master Composters' do?

- ⌘ Actively compost their own backyard debris.
- ⌘ Promote backyard composting as a cost-effective waste reduction method.
- ⌘ Encourage others to become backyard composters.
- ⌘ Provide assistance to backyard composters.
- ⌘ Conduct field trips for school-age children.
- ⌘ Conduct two-hour backyard composting workshops for interested citizens.
- ⌘ Speak to community groups and garden clubs.
- ⌘ Maintain an information booth at the North Central Washington District Fair.
- ⌘ Distribute waste reduction and recycling information.

## How do I become a Douglas County Master Composter?

Options include:

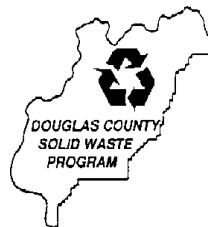
- Contacting the Douglas County Solid Waste Program Office at (509) 886-0899.
- Contacting Mother Nature's Natural Helpers at (509) 663-1781.
- Contacting a current Douglas County Master Composter.
- Attending a Backyard Composting Workshop.



### *Douglas County Master Composters can provide:*


- \* **Speakers for civic and service organizations, schools and church groups.**
- \* **Advice on composting yard debris & food scraps.**
- \* **Displays and exhibits for classrooms, civic groups, fairs, festivals and community events.**
- \* **Classroom presentations and activities for teachers and students, including worm bin demonstrations.**
- \* **Technical assistance to backyard composters and gardeners.**

*The Douglas County Master Composter Program is one of many local programs offered by the Douglas County Solid Waste Program.*



*For additional information regarding the Master Composter Program, backyard composting or other waste reduction and recycling programs, please contact:*

**Douglas County Solid Waste Program  
(509) 886-0899**

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# DOUGLAS COUNTY



## MASTER COMPOSTER PROGRAM

*What are Master Composters?*

Douglas County Master Composters are trained volunteers dedicated to promoting backyard composting through education and public awareness.

**Douglas County Master Composter  
Mission Statement:**

It is the mission of the Douglas County Master Composters to serve as networkers, educators, researchers, facilitators, consultants and motivators in composting at home.

**Douglas County Master Composter  
Program Goals**

The five major goals for a Douglas County Master Composter are:

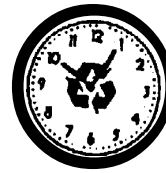
1. To **provide** every citizen within Douglas County who wishes to compost with the **basic knowledge**, methods and steps necessary to begin successfully composting at home.
2. To **develop and distribute** current, accurate and **clear information** stressing the ease, convenience and flexibility of backyard composting.
3. To maintain an **active** backyard composting demonstration site at their residence.
4. To **demonstrate** the proper steps and methods of **backyard composting**, and to educate the general public as to its benefit.
5. To **implement** a county-wide **community outreach program** designed to inform the general public about the Douglas County Master Composter Program and its mission and goals.

**What do Master Composters study?**



- \* Organic decomposition
- \* Composting biology
- \* Odor control
- \* Composting methods
- \* Composting with worms
- \* Co-composting
- \* Open burning and air pollution
- \* Community outreach and public speaking
- \* Waste reduction issues in Douglas County
- \* Recycling services available in Douglas County

**How much TIME is involved in becoming a Master Composter?**



*Each volunteer applicant must participate in nine evenings of formal instruction and three field trips. Each volunteer applicant must construct and maintain a backyard composting demonstration system at their residence. Each volunteer applicant must prepare a community outreach plan outlining their internship. Upon completion of their internship, each volunteer applicant shall receive a Douglas County Master Composter Certificate and will be qualified as a Master Composter.*

**WHAT INFORMATION IS COVERED DURING THE FORMAL INSTRUCTION PHASE?**

- **Class #1:**  
Introductions, program materials, history of composting, organic composting.
- **Field #1: Saturday 10:00 am - Noon**  
South Wenatchee Transfer Station, Greater Wenatchee Regional Landfill.
- **Class #2:**  
Organisms in a compost pile, organic recycling systems.
- **Class #3:**  
Composting biology, rate controlling factors.
- **Field Trip #2: Saturday**  
Mother Nature's Natural Helpers - Vermicomposting site visit.
- **Class #4:**  
Odor control, impacts on soils and plants.
- **Class #5:**  
Managing organic materials at home, composting methods.
- **Field Trip #3: Saturday**  
BPI - Biosolids application site visit - Mansfield.
- **Class #6:**  
Pesticides and parasites in compost, compost uses.
- **Class #7:**  
Co-composting with biosolids, open burning.
- **Class #8:**  
Master Composter program, working with the public, community outreach plans.
- **Class #9:**  
Final exam.