

Commercial Composting Workshop Offered In Mt. Vernon On July 26

URBANA, ILL.

University of Illinois Extension and Illinois State University will be hosting a one-day commercial composting program on July 26 in Mt Vernon, Ill. at the Farm Credit Services Building.

“Composting is a topic of growing interest throughout the country because composting provides a partial solution to an issue of great concern in many communities,” said U of I Extension animal systems specialist Teresa Steckler. “All around the country, landfills are filling up, garbage incineration is becoming increasingly unpopular, and other waste disposal options are becoming harder to find.”

Commercial composting refers to the practice of transporting a large volume of organic waste (food, paper waste, leaves, and wood) from municipalities, schools, hospitals, etc. to a processing facility where it can be recycled into soil amendments and other value-added products.

Although composting is simple (you just put organic matter in a pile and wait for it to de-

compose), it also involves some fascinating and as yet incompletely understood interactions between biological, chemical, and physical processes.

The workshop will teach participants the benefits of composting, Illinois IEPA regulations related to composting, permitting and local siting requirements, composting basics, and compost uses.

The conference will begin with registration at 8:15 am and the program will start at 9:00 am.

Single registration cost is \$20 and family registration (2 people) is \$30 was due by July 17 (postmarked). The fee includes a light morning and afternoon refreshments, a noon meal, and workshop materials. Late and on-site registration is \$30 (single). Lunch is not guaranteed for late and on-site registration. More information and registration forms are available by contacting Teresa Steckler at 618-695-4917, tsteckle@illinois.edu, or register on-line at <http://web.extension.illinois.edu/dsac/>. Δ



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