



MASTER COMPOSTER VOLUNTEER APPLICATION

While the **CCE Tompkins County Volunteer Application** relates to more general matters, this portion of the application addresses areas of particular importance to the Master Composter Program. If a response requires more space than is provided, please use the **Additional Space for Application Responses** section on the bottom of the second page. Please complete both pages of each application and return them to CCE Tompkins, 615 Willow Avenue, Ithaca, NY 14850 or fax them to us at (607) 272-7088. Feel free to call the “Rotline” (607) 272-2292 with any questions. Thank you in advance for your interest in the Master Composter Program.

1. Do you compost at home now or have you the past? ___ Yes ___ No
If ‘yes’, what do you compost? What composting system do you use (i.e., type of bin, if any)? How do you use the finished compost? _____

2. Describe your gardening experience. _____

3. You are asked to list your volunteer, paid or educational experiences in Question 5 of the **CCE Tompkins County Volunteer Application**. Please expand upon:
 - a. Any coursework in the areas of waste management, natural resources, soil science, etc.

 - b. Formal or informal teaching experience related to composting or other subjects.

5. Why do you wish to become a Master Composter? _____

6. What skills would you like to develop as a Master Composter? _____

7. Do you speak a language other than English? ___ Yes ___ No
If ‘yes’, what language? _____ Fluently? ___ Yes ___ No

8. Check the types of volunteer activities that most interest you.

- Adult education (lead workshops/give presentations to groups, advise individuals)
- Youth education (assist teachers, visit classrooms, camps, etc.)
- Staff or coordinate the compost education booth at area events, festivals and fairs
- Work at or manage compost demonstration sites (maintain bins, signs and grounds)
- Liaison/troubleshoot with on-site composting efforts
 - Residential – single
 - Residential – group settings
 - Institutional/Commercial/Industrial (i.e. small businesses)
- Technical assistance (answer “Rotline” calls, do research, write articles)
- Program development/administration (training curriculum, planning, office work)

9. Check the Master Composter training topics that particularly interest you.

- Cooperative Extension
 - Waste Management
 - Basic Compost Science
 - Compost Systems (bins)
 - Large Scale Composting
 - Compost Quality/Maturity
 - Community Education
 - Vermicomposting
 - Compost Uses
 - Biology/Ecology
 - Chemistry/Physics
 - Other (explain below)
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To obtain certification as a Master Composter, newly trained volunteers are required to participate in Program-sponsored events and self-directed community outreach. (See the **Volunteer Job Description** for specifics.) Master Composter trainee selection is based in part on an applicant’s ability to fulfill the volunteer commitment.

10. Do you have any particular limitations (i.e. difficulty finding transportation) that may prevent you from fully participating? Yes No

If ‘yes’, please describe. _____

11. Do you now have or anticipate any obligations that may prevent you from fulfilling the volunteer commitment to the Program over the next two years? Yes No

If ‘yes’, please describe. _____

ADDITIONAL SPACE FOR APPLICATION RESPONSES

Question/Section Additional Information