

# Midwest Extension Composting School 2009

**June 8-10, 2009**  
**University of Minnesota**  
**Landscape Arboretum**  
**Chaska, MN**

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

**EXTENSION**

## **The purpose of this school is to:**

Educate composters in the science of composting, handling feedstocks, enhancing compost quality, using compost in construction projects, understanding compost sampling and analytical testing, and utilizing the finished products.

## **Who should attend?**

- Composters
- Professional engineers and consultants
- Natural Resource Conservation Service professionals
- DNR personnel including field staff
- City administrators and zoning officials
- Waste professionals
- Landfill managers and operators
- Compost facility operators
- Waste water treatment plant operators
- Yard waste recyclers
- Waste generators
- Organic compost producers
- On-farm composters

**Each day will include a combination of hands-on training, lecture and discussion, and problem solving.**

*This school is a collaborative effort between the University of Minnesota, Iowa State University, MPCA, Carver County and RW Farms.*

## **Midwest Composting School Agenda**

**Day 1 - Monday, June 8, 2008**

- 7:00am**      **Registration opens**
- 8:00**            **Welcome and Introduction to the Course –**
- 8:20**            **Introduction to the Composting Process –**
- 9:30**            **Break**
- 9:45**            **Matching Feedstocks and Technology to End Uses –**
- 10:45**          **Process Variables and Recipe Development –**
- 12:00 Noon**    **Lunch and Participant Introductions**
- 12:45 pm**      **Facility Layout, Management, and Design**  
**- *A Panel Discussion with Facility Managers***
- 2:15**            **Break**
- 2:30**            **Use of Monitoring Equipment and Control Charts for Process Variables**
- 3:00**            **Introduction to Recipe Calculator –**  
**Introduction to Outdoor Field Exercises – Building Compost Piles**
- Break (move to the field and build test piles)**
- 5:30**            **Recess for the Day**
- 6:30**            **Hospitality**
- 7:00 pm**        **Dinner**

**Midwest Composting School Agenda**  
U of MN Arboretum

**Day 2 - Tuesday, June 9, 2009**

**Breakfast - On your Own**

**7:30** Monitor team compost piles and pre-made compost piles  
– *field exercise area Tom Halbach and Faculty*  
Collect samples from field exercise compost piles, Rebuilding of Piles

**Classroom activities**

**8:30** Discuss Monitoring Results and Troubleshooting Strategies –

**9:00** Compost Quality Evaluation –

**9:30** Material Testing Methods: H<sub>2</sub>O, EC, pH, O<sub>2</sub>, Bulk Density, Air Space -

**10:00** Analyze samples and break -

**10:15** Lab Testing Procedures and Interpretation of Results - -

**11:15** Use of composted organics for storm water retention and erosion control

**12:00 Noon** Lunch

**12:45 pm** Transfer to the LEBRC facility – Participants to use their vehicles

**1:00** Specific yard waste and source separated composting experience. -

**2:00** Field Tour, City of Mayer Compost Site Tour -

**3:00** Wright Compost Facility – A yard waste composting facility.

**4:30** Life Cycle of a of a Compost Site -

**6:30** Return to Arboretum

# Midwest Composting School Agenda

U of MN Arboretum

Day 3 - Wednesday, June 10, 2009

7:00am Breakfast on your own.

7:30 Monitor team compost piles and pre-made compost piles – *field exercise area*

## Classroom activities

8:00 Compost pile judging –

8:30 Compost – Some Case Studies – *Compost as a Value added Product -*

9:15 Compost Marketing Program Implementation Options –

10:00 Q&A / BREAK

10:15 10:15 am Emerging Carbon Offset Credit Markets –

11:00 Compost Quality Issues –

11:30 Minnesota and other States Compost Rules –

11:45 Lunch

12:30 Establishing a Market for your Compost – *A Panel Discussion with Facility Managers*

2:15 Break and School Evaluations

2:30 Exam – *All Instructors*

4:00 School adjourns

# Midwest Extension Composting School 2009 Registration



## Registration Instructions

- Complete the registration form and send with check or credit card to:  
**Midwest Extension Compost School**  
**225 Soils Bldg.**  
**1991 Upper Buford Circle**  
**St. Paul, MN 55108**
- Registrations may also be faxed with credit card information to 612-625-2208.
- One registration per form. Photocopy for additional registrations.
- Checks should be payable to University of Minnesota
- Telephone registrations are not accepted.
- No walk-in registrations are allowed. Registrations must be received by noon, June 1. Cancellations requesting a refund must also be received by noon, June 1, 2009.
- The School must have 24 students registered by May 7, 2009 or the School will be cancelled.
- If the School is canceled all registration fees will be returned.

## Questions

For questions about the Midwest Extension Composting School 2009 contact our office at 612-625-3135 or email us at [thalbach@umn.edu](mailto:thalbach@umn.edu). You can also find more information online at [www.compost.umn.edu](http://www.compost.umn.edu).

## Lodging

Participants are responsible for making their own lodging reservations.

Rooms are available at:

OAK RIDGE, A DOLCE CONFERENCE HOTEL  
One Oak Ridge Drive  
Chaska, MN 55318  
Phone: 952-368-1442 Fax: 952-368-1494  
[www.dolceoakridge.com](http://www.dolceoakridge.com)

Country Inns & Suites By Carlson, Chanhassen  
591 West 78th Street, Chanhassen, MN 55317  
Reservations: (888) 201-1746 US Toll Free  
Telephone: (952) 937-2424 Fax: (952) 934-1945  
<http://www.countryinns.com/reservation/rateSearch.do>

## Maps

Maps of the University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum Chaska, MN will be sent following the receipt of your registration. They are also available on the school web site.  
<http://www.arboretum.umn.edu/directions.aspx>

## Registration Fee

Registration fees include the evening reception meal, refreshments and handouts.

Early registration (postmarked or completed by <b>May 7, 2009</b> )	..... \$375
Late registration .....	\$425
<b>Total submitted</b> .....	\$ _____

Name _____		
Organization _____		
Address _____		
City _____	State _____	Zip _____
Email - you will receive your registration confirmation and receipt by e-mail. _____		Daytime phone _____
Credit Card number (Discover, MasterCard, VISA accepted) _____		3-digit security code in signature panel on back _____
Expiration date _____	Name as it appears on card _____	
Signature _____		

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