



# Mid-Atlantic BETTER COMPOSTING SCHOOL

SEPTEMBER 24-28 2018

Sponsored by University of Maryland, Virginia Tech



GARY K.  
FELTON, Ph.D.

Dr. Felton, Associate Professor, Department of Environmental Science & Technology, University of Maryland, specializes in the fate and transport of nutrients and on-farm applications of technology. In particular, his work has focused on poultry litter application, co-composting litter and other was wastes, and nutrient fate and transport from poultry litter stockpiles.



GREGORY K.  
EVANYLO, Ph.D.

Dr. Evanylo, Professor & Extension Specialist, Department of Crop & Soil Environmental Sciences, Virginia Tech, specializes in the utilization of biosolids, manure, and other residuals derived from agricultural, industrial, and municipal activities. His work emphasizes the availability, transport, and effects of nutrients, trace elements, and organic matter in such residuals on planet earth, soil properties and water quality.



CRAIG COKER

Craig has over 35 years experience in the planning, permitting, design, construction and operation of organics recycling facilities processing animal manures, animal mortalities, food wastes, biosolids, yard trimmings and source-separated organic solid wastes, as well as in the marketing and sales of compost and compost-amended horticultural products. He serves on the Board of Directors for the Virginia Recycling Association and is a Senior Editor at BioCycle magazine. Craig has training as both an engineer and a scientist and has experience with windrow composting, aerated static pile composting, aerated composting bins, invessel systems and both aerobic and anaerobic digestion.

## PURPOSE

To train operators of commercial and large-scale compost facilities in the science of composting.

## WHO SHOULD ATTEND

Composting plant operators, managers and other interested persons.

## ENROLLMENT LIMITATIONS

Enrollment will be limited to the first 40 who enroll with the required registration fee.

## COURSE OF INSTRUCTION

School starts promptly at 10a.m., September 24 and ends at noon, September 28.

## REGISTRATION FEE

\$450 if received by September 4, 2018.

Registration after September 4, 2018 will be \$500.

The registration fee includes handout materials, third-day tour, all breaks, tour lunch, facility rental and other administrative costs.

## LOCATION

Classroom and laboratory work will be held at the USDA Beltsville Agricultural Research Center Building 005 and other locations.

## LODGING

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Holiday Inn (10000 Baltimore Ave (Route 1), College Park, MD 20704), \$117/night for single or double occupancy (includes breakfast). Participants are responsible for making their own lodging reservations. A block of 10 rooms will be reserved at the above price until August 29, 2018. Call **Holiday Inn** for reservations at **301-345-6700**. Indicate that you are with the Better Composting School (BCS).

*Precise directions will be sent with registration confirmation. Holiday Inn will have available transportation to and from the USDA Beltsville Agricultural Research Center.*

# TOPICS

- Introduction
- Science of Composting
- Processes and Equipment
- Site Selection
- Feed Stocks and Mixes
- Composting Mortalities
- Processes and Odor Control
- Computer-Aided Recipe Making
- Tour of 4-5 Commercial Composting Facilities
- Collect Compost Samples for Laboratory
- Health and Safety Issues
- Compost Quality and Standards
- Laboratory Procedures for Compost Quality
- Compost Utilization
- Marketing and Economics

## ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTORS

**Patricia D Millner, PhD** - *Research Microbiologist, USDA Agriculture Research Center in Beltsville, MD*  
She has worked with biological waste management since 1976 and was instrumental in the development of the Aerated Static Pile method of composting. She has expertise in microbiology of composting, compost products, food safety, and pathogen reduction. Pat has been an extraordinary advocate for organics recovery and composting for more than 20 years. Her work has done more to advance the cause than anyone else in the federal government. She is a constant source of technical expertise and wise counsel.

**Lonnie Heflin** - *Project Manager at Maryland Environmental Service*  
Lonnie has been President of Bay Organics, LLC, has worked at WSI International, LLC and Wood-Tech Mulch. He has 30 years of experience in organics recycling and composting, including operations, product development, marketing, sales, and management.

**Lyndell Pate** - *Technical Sales Manager for Ecoverse Industries in the Charlotte, NC Area*  
Ecoverse delivers a full line of environmental processing equipment including Doppstadt line, BACKHUS, Backers, Tiger, Stationary Solutions, and Harvest Quest compost equipment lines. Lyndell has in excess of 12 years experience in technical support, sales, and consultation for compost operations, specifically with regard to process and equipment recommendations.

## COMPOSTING & COMPOST STANDARDS

Composting is becoming the method of choice for converting organic waste into a marketable product. If horticultural industries and home gardeners are to accept commercial compost as they do fertilizers, processed animal manures and peatmoss, the compost must be produced under controlled conditions employing methods deemed acceptable by the industry. Horticultural industries include nurseries, greenhouses, landscape contractors, garden centers, and landscape maintenance companies are major users of organic matter and fertilizers. Since commercial compost can be manufactured from a variety of waste materials, a variety of standards have been established based on end uses. Managers of composting facilities must be familiar with these standards and with the waste materials and composting systems that can best produce the desired products. Composting to produce a product that is consistent in quality will require good management and quality control. School participants will learn the basics of making good compost. They will tour commercial operations. They will perform product sampling and learn simple procedures for compost testing. Participants will become better composters. For additional information, call 301-405-1198.

# REGISTRATION

(please type or print legibly)

## COMPANY NAME

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## PARTICIPANT NAME(S)

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## PHONE NUMBER (WITH AREA CODE) & EMAIL

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## BUSINESS ADDRESS

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## PERSONAL ADDRESS

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CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

NO. ATTENDING \_\_\_\_\_ \$ = \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS: \_\_\_\_\_  
(vegetarian, etc.)

**Make check payable to:**  
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND  
COLLEGE PARK FOUNDATION, INC. (UMCPF)

**Mail by August 30, 2018 (early registration)  
or Sept. 14, 2018 (late registration)**



**BETTER  
COMPOSTING  
SCHOOL**

ATTN: Tina Scites  
Environmental Sciences and Technology Department  
University of Maryland  
College Park, MD 20742-2315 (301-405-1198)

*Note: We are unable to process R\* (Stars) and Credit Card transactions at this time; however, we DO accept checks and cash.*