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Northeast Organic Farming Association  
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THIS EVENT HAS PASSED.



## Building Soil Health with Mushroom Compost

October 8, 2023 @ 9:30 am - 4:00 pm |

\$35 – \$65

[Ver la pagina en español](#)

Join us in our journey of diving deep into the world of compost and mushroom substrate. Throughout the day, we'll be looking into the living world of soil and mycelium and sensing how to **integrate spent**

### DETAILS

**Date:**

October 8, 2023

**Time:**

9:30 am - 4:00 pm

**Cost:**

\$35 – \$65

**Event Categories:**

Farming, Mushrooms, NOFA/Mass Event, Soil Health, Spanish Language

**Event Tags:**

Carbon Sequestration, Events, Farmers, Farming, Food Access, Landcare, Practical Self

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Roots Farm’s no-till, hand-scale, growing, composting, mulching, and harvesting practices, and how mushroom substrate is being incorporated into their farming practices.

Mushroom substrate is an amazing way to increase the bioactivity of your compost, making your soil rich and nutrients more accessible to plants. **We will be looking at compost at all stages: mixing it ourselves, observing a well-inoculated sample, and spreading compost on our beds.** We’ll also take a close look at compost throughout the inoculation process **via microscopes**, guiding you to know what to look for on your own. For those that don’t have a microscope at home, this is a great chance to learn how to build one using simple materials and a smartphone. DIY kits will be for sale. Afterwards, you’ll be able to *sense into* making your own beautiful mushroom compost blend, look for the creatures who make compost happen, and apply this knowledge to your very own beds.

REGISTER NOW

Throughout the day we will:

- Review all of the practical applications from the lessons we have learned from the Mushroom Compost Project such as combining substrate with compost in appropriate portions
- Apply the compost blend to beds for fall bed prep
- Discuss ways in which compost-related management practices can nurture the soil as well

<https://www.nofamass.org/event-details/building-soil-health-with-mushroom-compost>

## ORGANIZER

NOFA/Mass Ed Events

### Email

[events@nofamass.org](mailto:events@nofamass.org)

## VENUE

Woven Roots Farm

12 McCarty Road  
Tyringham, MA 01264  
United States

 + Google Map

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- View various states of mushroom substrate within compost
- Learn how to build a microscope
- Enjoy lunch on the farm and mingle with other farmers, gardeners, and community members

**Schedule/Agenda:**

9:30 am – Arrival

10:00 am – Gather and Intros

10:30 am – Farm Tour

11:00 – Substrate Combination

12:00 – Break & Lunch

1:00 – Microscopy Demo & DIY How to Build Your Own Microscope

2:30 – Compost application & bed prep

3:30 – Discussion and Q&A

4:00 – Wrap up

**Cost:**

*Sliding Scale: \$35/50/65 (includes \$15 for lunch)*

*Full Scholarships available: [Apply here](#)*

*No one will be turned away for lack of funds.*

*If you are a beginning or BIPOC farmer, you can*

*If you are a beginning or BIPOC farmer, you may also be eligible for a stipend on the behalf of the [Beginning Farmer & Rancher Development Program](#). Contact [events@nofamass.org](mailto:events@nofamass.org) for more information.*

### **Lunch:**

Included in price of the ticket. Catered by [Once Upon A Table](#)

### **Materials:**

DIY microscope kits will be available for purchase on site from Woven Roots, with a how-to demo during the event.

### **About**

[Woven Roots Farm](#) is a traditional, hand-scale vegetable farm, Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program, and education center located on unceded Mohican land in the present-day southern Berkshire hills of western Massachusetts. Through a deep relationship with the land and one another, we commit to feeding, educating, and empowering our community members by co-creating equitable pathways to become healthier individuals, ethical growers, and caretakers of the earth and one another.

Woven Roots celebrates that agriculture itself is rooted in the long-standing cultural practices within

built on stolen land and that all US systems are built on the stolen labor of Black, Indigenous, Latinx, Asian and other people of color.

Our agricultural practices are centered in the ancestral ways of acknowledging nature as a part of us—just as much as we are a part of nature. We recognize the interconnectedness of all life: soil, plants, microbes, insects, and animals. We embrace these connections and seek to enhance them, not disturb them. In direct opposition to colonized agriculture, we move through a space of reciprocity that prioritizes our responsibility as land stewards.

In tandem with providing produce full-time, Woven Roots Farm & Education Center also creates for community members to reconnect to Earth's natural rhythms and teachings from toddlerhood through elderhood. Our education center works to provide students a safe and productive community setting to grow and transform while cultivating food and skills for activism. We also create space for individuals and businesses seeking in-depth knowledge in successful hand-scale and ecological farming practices that produce abundant and vibrant vegetables on a small plot of land. Our farm offers intensives and workshops for both beginner and experienced farmers, as well as those interested in building their skills in self-reliance, food sovereignty, and environmental leadership.

### **About the Instructors:**

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**Jen Salinetti** (she/her) is a co-founder, farmer, and Executive Director of Woven Roots Farm – a farm, education center, and CSA in present-day Tyringham, MA, that grows vegetables, herbs, and flowers using traditional, hand-scale farming practices. For 20 years, Jen has offered programs and workshops that develop relationships to land, build skills of resilience, promote traditional growing practices, and amplify pathways to social justice in the community, for the Northeast Organic Farming Association (NOFA), and other regional organizations. Jen serves on the MA Soil Health Advisory Council and is a part of the farmer consultancy program for the state. Jen is also President of the Massachusetts chapter of the Northeast Organic Farming Association & co-chair of the Equity & Inclusion Committee as well as the Food Access Committee.

**Rubén Parilla** (he/him) is the Soil Technical Coordinator for NOFA/Mass and trained in microscopic soil microbial identification through the Soil Food Web School. He is a Certified Lab Tech and studied Environmental Design at the University of Puerto Rico. Rubén has 15 years' experience working at different capacities in the environmental laboratory industry. He has been performing soil carbon proxy testing, soil health assessments, soil chemical analysis, and soil microbiological evaluations for NOFA/Mass over the past year and has extensive experience farming and working with

related outreach and education events for NOFA/Mass by leading monthly farmer learning calls, providing hands-on workshops and instruction at soil health education events, and networking with farmers and individuals in the agricultural industry. He is a fluent and native Spanish speaker and fully English/Spanish bilingual.

### **About the Project:**

These projects are made possible by the support of:

The USDA Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program provides grants to organizations for education, mentoring and technical assistance initiatives for beginning farmers and ranchers. NOFA/Mass is providing this programming through a partnership with the Pocasset Pokanoket Land Trust.

SARE Mushroom Compost – This material is based upon work supported by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, through the Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education program under subaward number ONE22-422. Any opinions, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the view of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

### **Accessibility:**

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Cushioned folding chairs available on site.

Composting toilet with one step-up is currently available.

Greyhound has a bus depot in the neighboring town of Lee. A rideshare can be arranged from that site.

This site has uneven terrain and inclines in varying areas. Accessibility parking is available as well as a golf cart that a farm member can escort an individual with.

### **More Information:**

Masks are not currently required at this location but are welcomed. If you don't feel fully healthy, we ask you to stay at home.

### Parking

Parking area is to the left of the driveway and is one-way. Please note entrance and exit signs upon arrival. Two accessibility spots are located closer to the barn. To access them, make a right once in the driveway and drive up in front of the barn. Look for blue signs on the right.

### Google Map:

### Woven Roots Farm

### **Refund/Inclement Weather Policy:**

For information on our refund and inclement weather

Capacity for this event is limited to 50 people. Please register ahead to reserve your spot!

If you cannot attend, please contact [events@nofamass.org](mailto:events@nofamass.org)

### Register Online Now

REGISTER NOW

### Questions?

Any questions, please contact Hannah at [events@nofamass.org](mailto:events@nofamass.org)

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### Go Nuts Bi-Monthly

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8:30 pm 

**Community Seed  
Exchange at  
Mowry  
Commons**

March 10 @ 12:00  
pm  
- 3:00 pm

**Field Notes :  
Local Food &  
Farm Stores with  
CISA**

March 10 @ 1:30 pm  
- 4:00 pm

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NORTHEAST ORGANIC FARMING ASSOCIATION, MASSACHUSETTS CHAPTER

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