

# Creating a Quality Compost Product: Compost Operations and Marketing Training

Monday, March 26, 8:00 am – 4:30 pm  
Wrentham Developmental Center, Wrentham, MA

From product quality to siting—learn the important elements to successfully run and manage an agricultural compost operation. Training will include classroom lectures and a compost facility tour. Open to commercial, municipal, and agricultural composters.

Topics to be covered:

- The Science of Composting
- Feedstocks and Overview of Recipe Development
- Composting Methods and Turning/Aeration Equipment
- Windrow Management and Monitoring
- Regulations, Permits, Registrations
- Site Design and Layout
- Managing the Operation (odors, fire, noise, dust, etc.)
- “Matching Game” – Match the Final Product with the Feedstocks
- The Importance of Making a Quality Compost Product and Tips for Success
- Compost Marketing Insights: Applications, Marketing Plan, Sales Strategies, Social Marketing
- NRCS Compost Pad Construction and Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)



## Compost Facility Tour

Wrentham Farm (Groundscapes Express) is an agricultural composting facility that composts source-separated food waste and commercial organics using a dedicated windrow turner. View on-site demonstrations of erosion control measures utilizing compost blankets, FilterMitts,<sup>™</sup> berms, and the application of compost tea. [www.groundscapesexpress.com](http://www.groundscapesexpress.com)

**Cost:** \$20, includes lunch and materials.

To register visit the MassRecycle Conference Website

<http://massrecycle.org/conference/index.html>. **Registration deadline is Tuesday, March 20.**

For more information contact Athena Lee Bradley at 802.254.3636 or [athena@nerc.org](mailto:athena@nerc.org). A map and additional information will be emailed to all registrants.

## ***Presenters***

*Holly Wescott* is founder and president of Compostabilities, LLC, a business dedicated to improving soil health in local communities through composting. She was formerly a Compost Specialist with the Washington State Department of Ecology in Olympia and one of the founders of the Soils for Salmon initiative in Washington State. This model program evolved over 10 years to develop practices that improve the function of soil as a way to conserve water, and to improve and protect water quality.

*Athena Lee Bradley* is the Projects Manager for the Northeast Recycling Council, Inc. She specializes in organics management for NERC, including managing its Compost Marketing project. She has experience in compost technique, manure management, and small farm agriculture. She attended the Maine Compost School and has presented at numerous composting workshops.

*Lisa Petruski* is a soil conservationist at the U.S.D.A. Natural Resource Conservation Service in Wareham who works with vegetable, livestock, hay, and cranberry farmers in Norfolk, Plymouth and Bristol counties.

*Sumner Martinson* is the Compost Director at the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection. He provides regulatory and technical oversight and assistance, to municipalities, commercial and agricultural composters. He is currently involved with implementation of the organics section of the MA DEP Solid Waste Master Plan, which is focused on strengthening the infrastructure which supports the diversion and composting of commercial and institutional organics.

*John Engwer* is owner and operator of Groundscapes Express, Inc. (Wrentham Farm). Groundscapes Express, Inc. has been providing innovative, environmentally sound, erosion control solutions since 1998.

## ***Sponsors***

Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources ▪ Massachusetts  
Department of Environmental Protection ▪ Northeast Recycling Council