

County of Santa Clara

Department of Agriculture and Environmental Management
Integrated Waste Management Division



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March 26, 2009

To: Technical Advisory Committee
From: Sarah Smith

Subject: Update on Home Composting Education Program Activities

1. Jose Garcia is working full time as a Associate Management Analyst for the Home Composting Education Program.
2. There are currently 65 active Master Composter volunteers. The program has trained 328 volunteers.
3. *Earth Machine* compost bins and wing-digger compost turning tools are for sale by appointment at the HCEP office at the County Service Center at 1553 Berger Drive and at compost workshops. In FY09 2nd Quarter 61 *Earth Machine* Compost bins were sold, 56 wing-diggers, 23 thermometers, 68 Kitchen Containers, and 42 worm bins.
4. In FY09 2nd Qtr there were participants at our events as follows:
 - 1 special lecture with attendance of 8
 - 28 school presentations with attendance of 871
 - 10 compost workshops with attendance of 334
 - 7 table displays with attendance of 1515
 - 331 volunteer hours were donated during this quarter.
5. Second Quarter FY09 there was no paid advertising.
6. FY09 3rd Quarter we are advertising in the Metro. Bill inserts were sent out to the unincorporated households. Calendar ads are successful in promoting the free compost workshops. Bay Friendly Workshop schedules were mailed to 500 households that have attended a composting workshop.
7. The next Master Composter Training will begin in January 2010. The application and syllabus will be posted on the website in November.
8. There are nine Bay-Friendly Gardening Workshops scheduled for the calendar year 2009. Workshops will be taught by trained Bay-Friendly Instructors. The classes offered include: Bay-Friendly Gardening Basics, Gardening from the Ground Up, Gardening to Manage Pests Naturally. The registration forms are posted on the website www.ReduceWaste.org