

Composter Specialist Training

Elaine McIntyre and Linda Bruno attended the Specialist Compost Training class which started June 9th. The first two days we were at the San Antonio Botanical Center listening to a group of excellent speakers. We also had the opportunity to assist in construction of a demonstration compost bin and there is nothing worse than a group of Master Gardeners critiquing construction of anything done for the garden. Of the twenty plus students, we all had twenty plus different ideas about how the bin should go together and how it could be improved. We sure had fun!

The third day we spent the morning at the New Earth facility with the owner, Clayton Leonard, who gave us an amazing tour. He takes "playing in the dirt" to a new level. To see what he starts with and the wonderful compost that results gave us hope that we could duplicate some of those efforts in our own gardens.

We are still digesting all the information and the research sources that were provided. Lots of credit to Lou Kellogg and David Rodriguez of Bexar County for putting together an awesome program. Are Elaine and Linda ready to pass on all the information we learned? Not yet, but we are working on it. We'll get back with you once the internal temperatures have heated up, the microbes have really started working to break everything down and we have some good potent compost created.

Class views lots of compost



Linda Bruno in awe of monster row turner



Clayton Leonard with heavy duty temperature meter



New Earth compost operation

