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## Riverside County NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Janet Moreland, Recycling Specialist Riverside County Department of Waste Resources

(951) 486-3200

## County waste department classes on building worm bin helps composters

Learn a new way to compost your food waste into nutrient rich amendment for your garden. Put worms to work through a composting method called vermicomposting – the process of using worms and associated organisms to break down organic waste into material containing nutrients for plant growth. Volunteer master composters will offer a special vermicomposting presentation on April 9 to teach county residents how to set up, build, care for, and harvest castings and worms.

Adult county residents interested in the Make Your Own Worm Bin class must register to secure one of the 28 available seats. Participants will receive a short list of class materials that cost no more than \$15. Tools for building a worm bin will be available for use at the workshop, along with enough worms to get your bin started. The two-hour classes are free and will be held on April 9, allowing participants to choose the 9 a.m. or 1 p.m. class held at the Riverside County Department of Waste Resources, 14310 Frederick St. in Moreno Valley.

The class is offered to increase the awareness about organic material recycling and how composting can help preserve valuable space in county landfills. The backyard composting program, which started in 1993, has held over 500 compost workshops and offers low-cost compost bins subsidized by the department. Interest in vermicomposting has increased and these classes will be a good opportunity to participate in a hands-on experience to explore vermicomposting and take home an inexpensive working worm bin.

Register online at: <a href="http://www.rcwaste.org/opencms/recycling/Vermicomposting.html">http://www.rcwaste.org/opencms/recycling/Vermicomposting.html</a>.

For more information, please contact the Riverside County Department of Waste Resources at (951) 486-3200 or email <a href="www.waste.org"><u>WasteCompRecyc@rcwaste.org</u></a>.