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Riverside County **NEWS RELEASE**

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County waste department class on vermicomposting and 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 class on Saturday (6/17) to teach county residents how to set up, build, care for and harvest castings and worms. After the vermicomposting class, there will a hands-on Make Your Own Worm Bin workshop.

Adult county residents interested in the Make Your Own Worm Bin workshop must go to <http://www.rcwaste.org/vermicomposting> to see a short list of class materials needed for the class. The materials will cost approximately \$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 class and workshop are free and will be held at the City of Murrieta Public Library, 8 Town Square in Murrieta on Saturday (6/17). The class will be held from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. and the workshop will be held from 10 am. to 1 p.m.

These classes are offered to increase the awareness of organic material recycling and how composting can help preserve valuable space in county landfills. The backyard composting program began in 1993 and has held over 500 compost workshops and free classes. Interest in vermicomposting has increased and this workshop will be a good opportunity to participate in a hands-on class to explore vermicomposting and take home an inexpensive working worm bin.

For more information, please contact the Riverside County Department of Waste at (951) 486-3200 or email WasteCompRecyc@rcwaste.org .