

Foundations of Composting

This intensive and interactive one-day training will cover the basic concepts, practices and “how to’s” of compost production. The course will provide a broad foundation for novice compost operators, managers and regulators and will refresh veteran composters on the underlying scientific principles. Subjects will include: Basic principles of composting, process insights, facility design and managing, feedstock properties, qualities of compost, odor control, major processing methods, and an overview of markets for compost.

Serves as a review in preparation for the Certified Compost Operations Manager™ test or the Certified Composting Professional™ test

Instructors: Dr. Robert Rynk and Matthew Cotton

Fee: \$310 for USCC members, \$385 for nonmembers

Duration: 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, with one hour for lunch (not included)

CCOM™ PDHs: 7.5

Schedule

8:00 – 8:30 am	Greetings, Course Objectives
8:30 – 9:15 am	Why Composting?
9:15 – 10:30 am	Compost Uses, Markets, Compost Quality
10:30 – 10:45 am	Break
10:45 – 12:00 am	Basic Principles of Composting
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Lunch (on your own)
1:00 – 2:30 pm	Composting Methods & Processing Operations
2:30 – 3:30 pm	Siting and Design
3:30 – 3:45 pm	Break
3:45 – 4:30 pm	Management Issues
4:30 pm	Questions and Discussion

About the instructors:

BOB RYNK is Professor at the State University of New York, Cobleskill campus. At SUNY Cobleskill, Bob teaches courses on composting, waste management, renewable energy and agricultural engineering. He also coordinates the Environmental and Energy Technology Bachelor’s degree program at SUNY Cobleskill. In a previous life, Bob was Senior Technical Editor for *BioCycle* magazine and Executive Editor of the peer-reviewed journal, *Compost Science and Utilization*.

MATT COTTON has had the privilege of working for some of the best composters in CA for over 20 years. From providing permit assistance to new and expanding composting facilities, to

providing hand's on odor control mitigations, to conducting important statewide studies of the California organics industry. He has also had the opportunity of working closely with CalRecycle to survey the organics processing industry through three CalRecycle funded projects. This gives him a unique perspective on the industry; it's challenges and opportunities.

Matt has served three terms as the President of the Board of Directors of the US Composting Council. He spends a lot of his free time at meetings of state and regional agencies determined to keep composting a viable and indeed critical part of California's future.