Date: August 19, 2022

To: Thomas B. Modica, City Manager

From: Eric Lopez, Director of Public Works

For: Mayor and Members of the City Council

Subject: City of Long Beach Launches Master Composter Recycler (MCR) Program

The Department of Public Works Environmental Services Bureau (ESB) is launching a Master Composter Recycler (MCR) Program for Long Beach residents. The purpose of this program is to provide participants with in-depth knowledge of waste reduction strategies, recycling history and current practices, backyard composting and vermicomposting systems, and to impart skills they can use to engage and educate their community. This eight-week program will be offered in-person for the first time in the Fall at the ESB building located at 2929 E Willow Street at no cost to residents. The MCR program begins Saturday, September 24, 2022. The program runs for eight weeks and each session is from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. The program will follow the latest COVID-19 safety protocol.

The training course will be a combination of lectures and hands-on learning led by the Waste Diversion/Recycling Division. Participants will apply the knowledge they gained in class by becoming a resource and advocates for their community. Volunteer opportunities may include staffing booths at community events, hosting workshops, or organizing neighborhood waste reduction, recycling, or composting efforts. Participants that complete both the training course and required volunteer hours will become certified Master Composter Recyclers.

In preparation for the launch of the MCR program, a Master Composter Recycler pilot program occurred in Spring of 2022. The pilot program included ten participants. Surveys showed 100 percent of participants were “very satisfied” with the content of the overall course.

Long Beach residents ages 18 and up can register for the Fall 2022 Master Composter Recycler class at bit.ly/lbmcrprogram. All recycling and composting experience levels are welcome. Space is limited and pre-registration is required. The deadline to apply for the Fall 2022 session is Sunday, September 11, 2022.

For more information or to register, please see the attached flyer or visit longbeach.gov/lbrecycles.
If you have any questions, please contact Diko Melkonian, Environmental Services Bureau Manager/ Deputy Director of Public Works at (562) 570-2856.

ATTACHMENT: MCR FLYER.PDF

CC:  CHARLES PARKIN, CITY ATTORNEY  
     DOUGLAS P. HAUBERT, CITY PROSECUTOR  
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     KEVIN LEE, CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER  
     MONIQUE DE LA GARZA, CITY CLERK  
     DEPARTMENT HEADS
Learn how to inspire others in your community to reduce waste, compost, and recycle!

The City of Long Beach invites you to participate in our Master Composter Recycler Program (MCR). This free eight-week training provides Long Beach residents with a unique opportunity to explore, in-depth, the fascinating world of waste reduction, composting, and recycling. Participants who complete the training course and the required volunteer hours will become certified Master Composter Recyclers.

What You’ll Learn
• Waste Reduction Strategies
• Recycling History and Current Practices
• Food Waste Prevention
• Backyard Composting and Vermicomposting (Worm) Systems
• How to Engage Your Communities

Register today for our Fall 2022 MCR Program!

Have questions or need more information? Visit longbeach.gov/lbrecycles or call 562-570-2869