



The Compost Education Center (CEC) of Project Grow Community Gardens

*-by Joet Reoma & Jesse Raudenbush,
Project Grow
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Acknowledgement:

- Michigan Master Composter Program, The Washtenaw County Consortium for Solid Waste Management
- Project Grow Community Gardens, Lucas Di Gia
- Leslie Science and Nature Center
- Starr Valley Farms

Background, Mission & Goals of CEC



1. CEC is part of Project Grow

- a. Project Grow – founded in 1972. Mission: we inspire, create and manage community gardens. Current number of sites: 19
- b. CEC Location: Leslie Discovery Garden of Project Grow, on the grounds of the Leslie Science and Nature Center (LSNC)
- c. A CEC existed in 1980's at Leslie Science Center. Died, buried and resurrected in 2011 as a special project of Project Grow.



(Background, Mission & Goals of CEC – continued...)



2. The Mission Statement of CEC

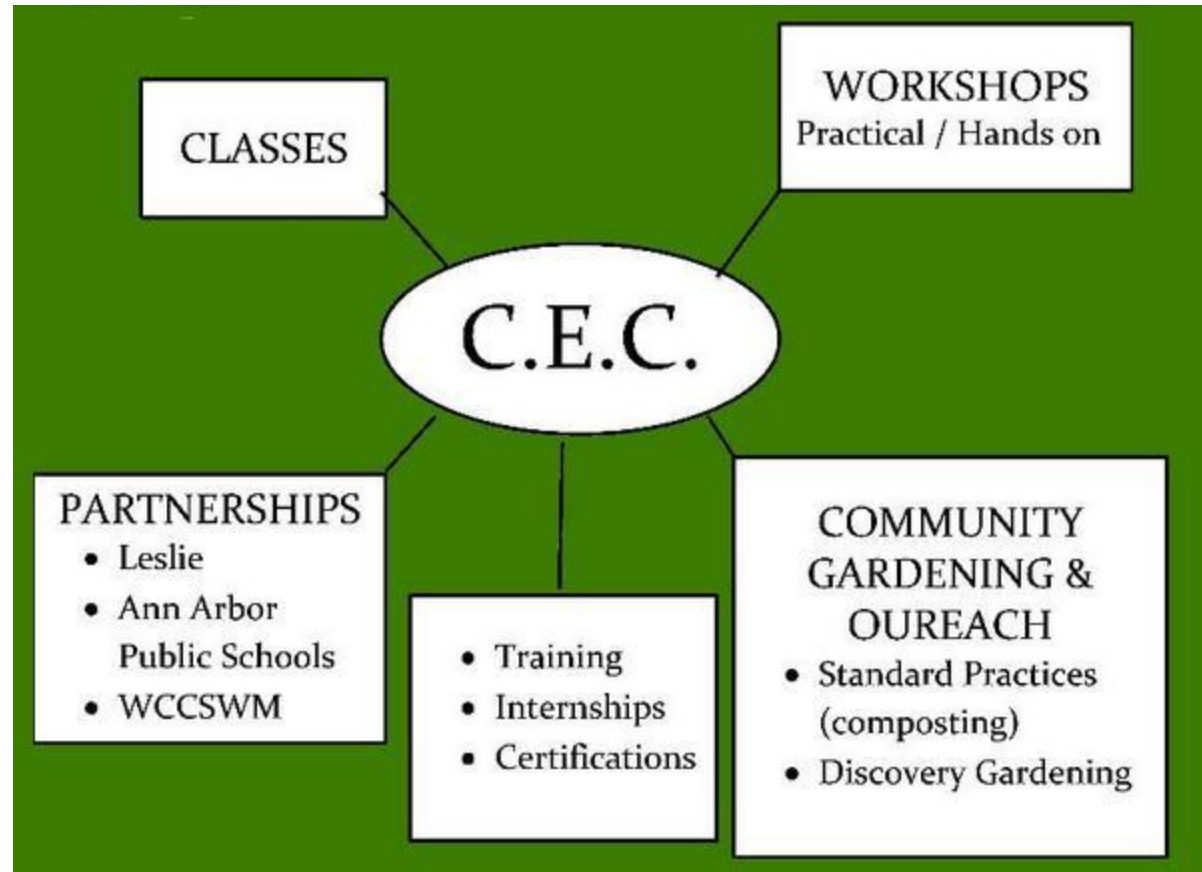
- a. To *inspire lifelong learning* in waste management and organic gardening.
- b. To *advance the knowledge and the art* of composting as the managed process of creating the ideal conditions for the rapid decomposition of organic waste; and
- c. To *strengthen community linkages* by helping design composting systems that can serve dual functions of compost-learning and compost-making.



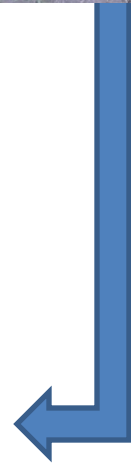
3. The Goals of CEC

- a. Support WCC certificate course and MC Certificate course. We provide input on course content, local instructors, new approaches.
- b. Target many Workshops throughout the seasons. We hold classes and workshops in spring, summer, fall and winter.
- c. Strengthen Community partnerships in private and public sectors.

CEC in Summary



1. From Compost Piles to Compost Bins



2. From Indoor Classes To Workshops



3. From Indoor Classes To Outdoor Classrooms

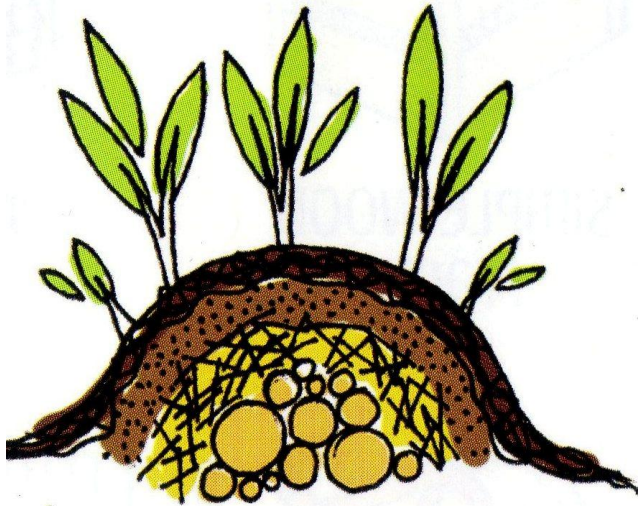


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4. Not Only Hot Composting But Also Fungi Composting and Vermi-Composting

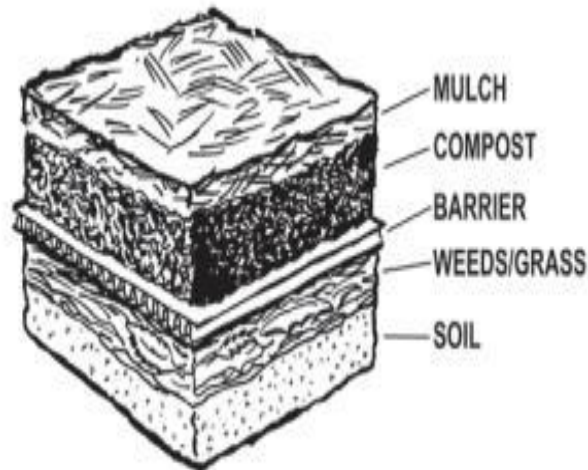


5. Hugelkultur & Sheet-Mulch Methods



Hugelkultur Compost Gardening or Mound Gardening.

Mimics nature decomposing fallen logs.



Sheet-Mulch Compost Gardening or Lasagna Compost gardening...

Mimics nature decomposing fallen debris on forest floor.

6. CEC Community Partnerships



*compassionate, affordable
care for addictions*



Leslie Science & Nature Center.

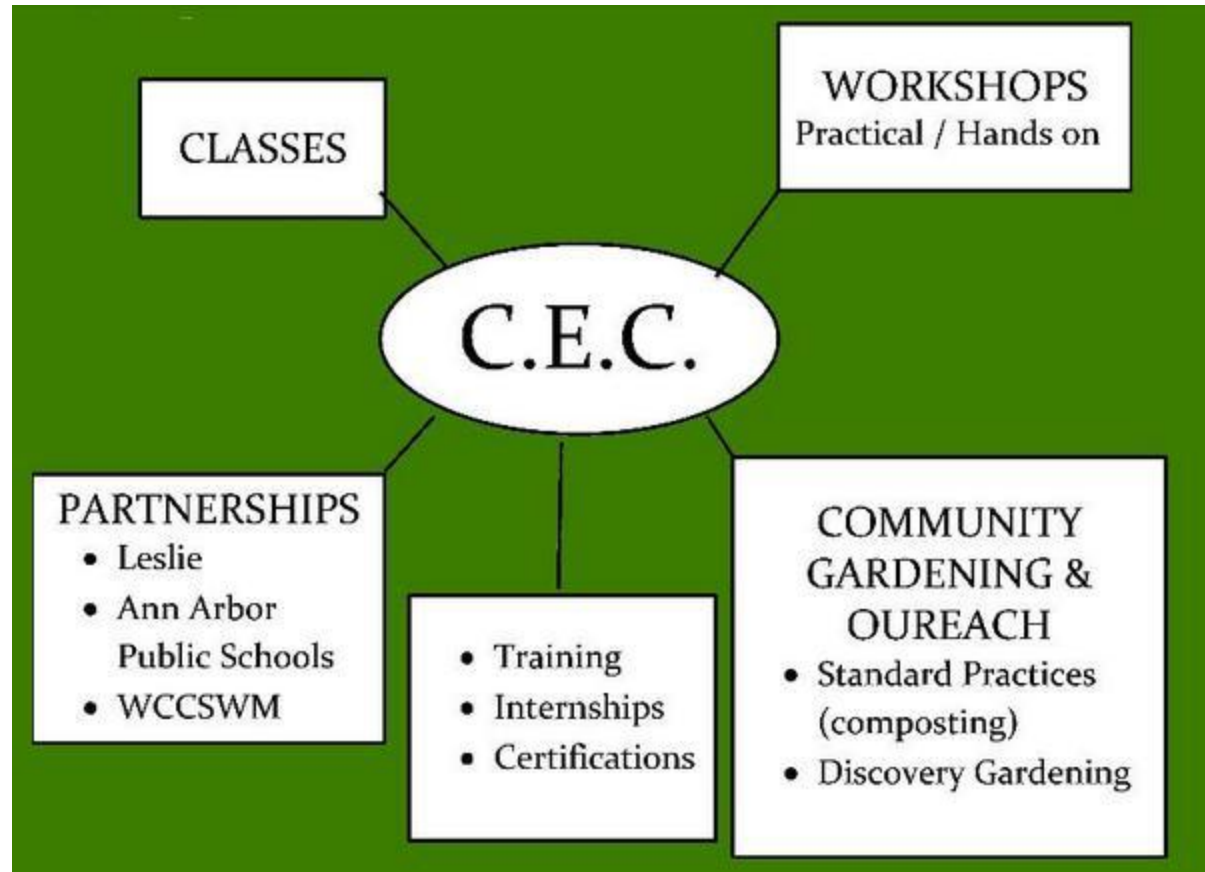
LSNC provides us venue for classroom and garden site. We manage their composting bins.

Ann Arbor Public Schools. Provides community garden sites, joint projects, recycle science curriculum, worm feed, share volunteers.

Dawn Farm. Shares hoop house and composting advice.

Center for Independent Living. Help in developing Accessible Composting System.

CEC Volunteer Opportunities Behind This Scenery



Q & A



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