



US Virgin Islands Organics Education Stewardship Program Description

**Program Offered Through the
Syracuse University Environmental Finance Center
(efc.syracusecoe.org)**

Thank you for your interest in becoming a part of the US Virgin Islands Organics Education Stewardship Program, based out of the Syracuse University Environmental Finance Center (EFC) in collaboration with the [US Virgin Islands Recycling Partnership](http://www.virginislandsrecycling.com) (VIRP). Stewards for this program will be chosen on the basis of education, experience, participation at a daylong training on May 25, 2014 (offered at no cost to them), and demonstrated dedication to community service. Below is a guideline of what is expected and required of Stewards over the course of the program. We're excited to see the results of your work!

Position title: Organics Education Steward (aka: Composting Consultant)

Position dates: July 2014 through September 30, 2014

Number of hours and pay rate: 40 hours, at \$10/hour (maximum of 40 hours)

Steward Duties:

- Attendance at Training and Meetings
Stewards will receive hands-on organics management training on May 25th and be required to have brief bi-weekly phone meetings with the EFC Program Coordinator, Laura Cardoso. Time allocated for the training and meetings will be included in the total number of hours worked.
- Engagement of School(s) and/or Community Sites
From July through August, 2014, Stewards will be asked to convey composting lessons learned to community groups by setting up training projects. They can contact places where they have a personal connection to, or research other sites in close proximity to their home or work – the decision is up to the Steward. These community groups may include: schools (individual classes, groups of teachers, or administrators); youth groups; community organizations and other approved locations. Interns will schedule a time to visit one or more sites.
- Preparing Lesson Plans and Composting Plans
Interns will work with their chosen sites to establish a more sustainable organics management plan, as well as teach students/educators/staff about composting.

- EFC Staff Support

EFC staff are available to answer questions regarding educational methods/tools and discuss questions and ideas for lesson plans and composting projects.

Laura Cardoso	Stewardship Program Lead Contact	Lcardoso@syr.edu 315-884-2987
Ana Arache, Lisa Ruggero	Available for Composting and Education Related Questions	avarache@syr.edu , ldrugger@syr.edu

- The intern will work with EFC and VIRP with any help they need along the way. Sample lesson plans and educational resources can be found at these links:

- Cornell Waste Management Institute: cwmi.css.cornell.edu/composting
- Puerto Rico Recycling Partnership: prrecycles.org/prrp-school-chapter

- Implementation of Lesson Plans & Composting Plans

Interns will visit schools and/or community sites to teach in classrooms and in the community, to introduce to them to how to do composting.

Stewards will set their own schedules, and will be free to choose when and where they do the projects, as long as they are within the US Virgin Islands and within the specified project period (May 25, 2014 through September 30, 2014). However, we encourage interns to choose to do projects where there is greatest need, such as in public and rural schools.

Stewards are encouraged to work in groups and will have the flexibility to do a range of projects within one of the 3 categories listed below on Page 3.

- Final Report

Interns will be required to submit a 1-2 page final report to EFC with the following information:

- Introduction to the the school(s) and or community site(s) and community members engaged
- Overview of what was accomplished
- Statistics: How many students or community members were taught? How many pounds of waste are expected to be diverted through the established composting system?, etc.
- Recommendations for how to improve, build upon, or replicate the program at another site – What worked? What didn't?

VI Organics Internship Project Categories

For each of the following Stewardship project categories, interns are expected to first gain permission from a contact at their designated project site(s) as well as from Laura Cardoso.

Category A (complete 3 projects, approximately 12 hours each) Category A consists of organizing 3 or more small projects, such as (but not limited to) organizing 3 of the following:

- A classroom lesson and activities on composting
- A composting presentation and community dialogue at a local community event
- A composting demonstration to a camp, school or community group. (Ie: Bring examples of food and yard waste to use as a demonstration to teach and discuss.)

Category B (complete 2 projects, approximately 20 hours each) Category B consists of planning and dedicating time to 2 larger composting projects, such as (but not limited to) 2 of the following projects:

- A workshop on assembling worm boxes and/or compost bins and how to use them.
- A workshop on how to build a compost system. (Ie: Bring examples of food and yard waste to use as a demonstration and discuss and actually build a compost system.)

Category C (complete 1 project, 40 hours) Category C consists of dedicating time to one in-depth project at a single location. In order to choose this option you should establish a good relationship with contacts at a particular site and make a semester long commitment to an educational program that you design. An examples of this option is:

- Design and implement a multi-day project to establish an organics composting program for a school, housing development, youth group, or community organization. . You will be expected to periodically visit the site and assist in their compost maintenance.

**Thank you for your interest in the Organics Education Stewardship Program.
To apply send a short description of your experience in community and
environmental stewardship, your availability and project proposal to
Laura Cardoso at Lcardoso@syr.edu.**

Let's get composting!