



## ~ ACP MEMBER NEWSLETTER ~ DECEMBER 2016

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear ACP Members,

It's hard to believe that 2016 is nearly over and we're already in full swing getting ready for 2017 activities. You should know that there is about 100 company members in the California State Chapter of the USCC making us the largest state chapter BY FAR!

I really hope to see all of you at the USCC conference in LA next month so we can show our presence and make sure our needs, issues, and concerns are heard. We should also express our thanks for a strong year for the industry around California and across the nation. It's critical that we all get to know each other and work together so we can have a positive impact in Sacramento as well as our local jurisdictions.

Please look for the California Track to get detailed updates on important issues to California. We will update the group on issues like the General Order and the industry's efforts to mitigate impacts as well as the Mandatory Commercial Recycling Ordinance which will be having much greater impacts to us over the next couple of years. There will be discussions about environmental justice and how those policy issues will affect new and existing facilities. We'll also talk about the challenges of land applying uncomposted materials and how that impacts permitted facilities.

I look forward to seeing familiar and new faces in LA next month, please look for me to say hello!

Sincerely, your ACP and USCC State Chapter President, Jeff Ziegenbein,  
[ziegenbein@ieua.org](mailto:ziegenbein@ieua.org).

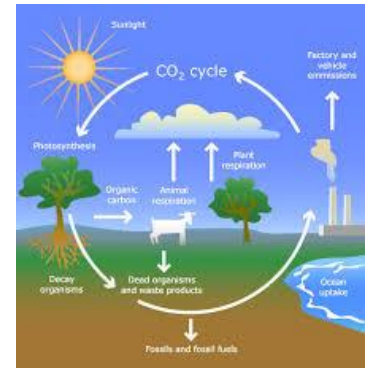
### ANNOUNCEMENTS



**COMPOST17: 25 Years and Growing!** Jan. 23-26, 2017, Westin Bonaventure, Los Angeles, CA USCC is hosting its annual conference in Los Angeles in January and ACP is putting together the "California Track". The sessions are put together, give Dan Noble your feedback and he will convey it to the ACP and USCC COMPOST17 Program Working Groups. This is still not final, and many changes can, and will be made prior to being in touch with the folks have submitted abstracts. "COMPOST17CaliforniaTrack 12.4.16"  
<http://compostingcouncil.org/conference-program/>. [Register Now!](#)

- **CBA-ACP Symposium- Nov. 1-2, 2016**  
**“Renewable Carbon Management in California”**

We collaborated with our government agency and bioresource industry colleagues to hold an exceptional conference on how organics, especially compost, is at the center of building the renewable carbon management industry and markets in California is going to take place in Sacramento next month. A copy of the program is at: [“CBA-ACP Symposium Nov1-2, 2016”](https://www.epa.gov/ca/renewable-carbon-management-california). If you missed this symposium, you can still see all the presentations, posted at: <https://www.epa.gov/ca/renewable-carbon-management-california>. In addition, video recordings of all the presentations and panels will be posted thanks to the work of ACP Board Member, Melissa Fischer, LACSD.org.



## ASSOCIATION BUSINESS

### A) Governance

- [ACP 2016 Goals & Marketing Plan](#) -- *Posted for reference*
- ACP 2017 Annual Planning Meeting** – Wed. February 22, 2016 – location TBA, (Topics to be covered will be Review of progress on 2016 Goals and Objectives, Discussion and prioritizing of New Initiatives, endeavor to gain more participation from existing and new members)

### B) USCC CA State Chapter

- [Certified Compost Operations Manager Certification \(CCOM\)](#), - Cary Oshins, Jeff Ziegenbein – Officially launched on October 27, 2016. We strongly recommend that you get you and your Compost Operations Managers certified through this new program!

### C) Membership & Messages

- [USCC/ACP Membership Reconnect](#) – ACP Continues to gain new members. New members this month include Republic Services and Cold Creek Compost, among other returning USCC Members from California

## ACP'S MARKET DEVELOPMENT - WORKING GROUP UPDATES

If you're not already a member of one of ACP's many Working Groups, please don't delay in joining one today. They are an excellent way to collaborate on advancing the compost market of your particular interest! Pick from the [“ACP Working Groups 9.22.16”](#) list, and contact Dan Noble, ACP ED, [danwylthernoble@gmail.com](mailto:danwylthernoble@gmail.com) to sign up. If you don't see a Working Group that you feel suits your compost market develop needs, then please start one! Again, contact Dan to discuss how to go about doing that. (Unless otherwise stated, these all meet via regular conference calls)

The following is the status of each of the working groups:

- Seminars-Presentations Working Group – Chair: Craig Kolodge, ACP Board Member  
 This working group conducted a survey to determine the market development needs of our members. We have a special focus on expanding the stormwater and erosion control markets for compost. 20% of ACP members took the survey. See [“ACP Compost Market Survey Results 12.1.16”](#) It showed a major focus on both stormwater management using compost, but also dealing with the new Water Board Compost General Order. The Seminar Working group has crafted a new direction for market development in local jurisdictions based on



the results. A new approach to market development from these efforts will be folded into next year's ACP Goals. This new process will be further crafted at the ACP Annual Planning Meeting in February and implemented in 2017.

- **Compost Advocacy** – Chair: Kathy Johnson, Kellogg Garden Products, Co-Chair, Finian Makepeace, Kiss the Ground



The NEW Compost Story Video in production! Please support this effort by sponsoring at level that works best for your organization. See "[USCC-CCREF The Compost Story Deck](#)", "[Sponsors for ICAW and Compost Story](#)". Your sponsorship will go to finishing the production and especially for using it to promote International Compost Awareness Week (ICAW), May 7-13, 2017.

- **Biosolids-Based Compost** – Chair: Sara Hammes, Synagro, The Biosolids-based compost working group is very active in ACP and has the following mission and objectives:

**Mission:** To enhance the perception of biosolids-based compost products, and expand the volume and value of those compost products sold and used in California.

**Next Steps;** Dan and Sara to start drafting the three brochures

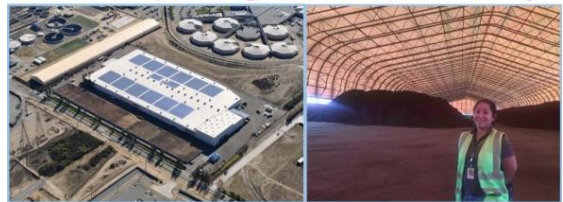
- General Risk Brochure (like the "[NWbiosolids RISKbrochure](#)")
- Specific Brochure for [Sustainable Landscapes](#)
- Specific Brochure for Agricultural applications, geared to the [RCD's](#) and [Calif. Certified Crop Advisors](#).

In addition, Dan and other members of this Working Group are also participating in California Association of Sanitation Agencies, Science & Research Work Group, and UTILITY BRANDING NETWORK, Bay-Area Workshop, that focuses on "[December 2016 UBN Workshop Agenda – Final](#)"

- **Small/Independent Compost Systems Working Group** Chair: Tom Shearer, Soiland After a series of weekly meetings, this working group has determined that it will focus on leveraging ACP's other activities and is taking the following Next Steps:

- Continue meeting as a small group, and
  - Information Sharing (6 sub-elements)
  - Education (5 sub-elements)
  - Regulatory (relationship to regulatory team), especially direct interaction on the Compost General Order
- Help Craft & Implement the ACP's "Large Generator Initiative"
- Continue to Research out to these Members, as part of membership Growth

**Inland Empire Regional Compost Facility**



Fully enclosed composting facility

OCSD inspector at compost storage facility



## **LEGISLATIVE & GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES – STATE AGENCIES**

### **A) ACP's Policy Priority**

ACP leadership continues to refine and focus our policy priority, “*ACP Policy Priority & Discussion Points 11.18.16*”, “*Weekly News\_11-27-16*”

- B) AB 1045** (Irwin)--Organic Waste: Composting. *Requires CalEPA in coordination with CalRecycle, the State Water Resources Control Board, the State Air Resources Board, and the Department of Food and Agriculture to develop and implement policies to aid in diverting organic waste from landfills.* (Chapter 596). After our special panel at the CBA-ACP Symposium on AB 1045, (Nov 1, 2016), we came to realize that the new integration required in this legislation, in order to be useful to composters, needs to be replicated at the Regional (Water Board) and Air District levels, as well as at the Jurisdictional levels between the solid waste Jurisdictions, LAMD, LEA, Water Districts and Wastewater Agencies. The ACP Board, growing out of our Seminar Working Group is developing a proposed program to implement this coordination and compost facility and market expansion at all three levels.

### **C) CalRecycle (Policy, Regulations, Legislation)**

CalRecycle is in the process of implementing key legislation into programs and regulations that will impact, both positively and in some cases negatively, California composters ... currently and for years to come. ACP will continue to work with our members to support their engagement with this ongoing process. Specifically, we address the following ongoing regulation implementation (*click on any of the headings to go to that CalRecycle webpage*):



#### **Reporting Requirements - AB 901**

ACP staff and members attended recent workshops on the development of new State reporting requirements, which applies to all composters. ACP signed on to a coalition letter that supports further collaboration with our industry, and the lowering of the costs and impacts of these new reporting requires. The letter is titled: “[AB 901 Draft November for Public 11.4.16](#)”, “[AB 901 - ACP Notes and Questions 11.20.16](#)”

### **D) Water Boards & DWR**

#### **a) Water Board Statewide Order D. Noble, Paul Ryan**

ACP continues to work with State Water Board staff to advise them on the “[Development of Performance Measures for Implementation of the Compost General Order](#)”. ACP representatives, Paul Ryan, Kathy Lynch and Dan Noble Discussed various issues with Water Board members related to implementing the General Order, the Water Board Trash Policy as it applies to various compost use specifications.

There was much discussion at this meeting at CalEPA about how the new General Order will have the effect of putting new, midsize, independent composters out of business due to compliance costs. The Water Board staff said that they will be looking at this under Goal #4: Assess Implementation Costs”, and the Board requested that the industry assess these costs and that the Water Board will work with local industry to help modify those costs, once they are directly communicated.





## ASSOCIATIONS AND PROJECTS

Dan Noble attended two sister association meetings this past two weeks on behalf of ACP Members.

**OFAC – [Organic Fertilizer Association of California](#)** held a meeting (Nov 29) and November 30, 2016 – Sustainable/Organic Seminar, Citrus Fairgrounds, Cloverdale, CA. The Seminar was co-sponsored by CAPCA (California Association of Pesticide Control Advisors).

- **[Building Healthy Soil with compost](#)** plays a keep role in supporting the life of the microbiomes in the soil (Rhizosphere). See attached presentation titled “*CAPCA Seminar Microbiomes 2016 RK*”. Based on this meeting, ACP members would be well advised to carry their message not only to CAPCA members but also, or especially, California Certified Crop Advisors ([www.cacca.org](http://www.cacca.org)).
- **CNPK** – A concept that we’ve been opening discussions on is if Compost and Biofertilizer producers should start forwarding and setting standards for the discussion of “CNPK” rather than only “NPK”. Where “C” represents the % carbon compounds by weight. The role that carbon compounds play in providing life and supporting nutrient metabolism by microbes and plants not only needs to be considered, but needs to be valued in the market by our customers.



**BAC – [Bioenergy Association of California](#)** was attended by D. Noble and other ACP members this month. The Review of the strategy, as well as exploring ways our two bioproduct/bioresource associations can work together was discussed. A verbal report of the meeting will be made as part of the December 2016 ACP meeting. See the following documents provided for this gathering:



“BAC's Strategic Plan (Aug2015)”, “Agenda for BAC Member Mtg 12.6.16”

### Attachments in the December 2016 Newsletter library:

1. ACP Member Meeting Agenda 12.7.16 (2 pages) ✓
2. ACP Member Newsletter Dec 2016 ✓
3. COMPOST17CaliforniaTrack - 12.4.16 ✓
4. CBA-ACP Symposium Nov1-2, 2016 ✓
5. ACP Working Groups 9.22.16 ✓
6. USCC-CCREF The Compost Story Deck ✓
7. Sponsors for ICAW and Compost Story ✓
8. ACP Compost Market Survey Results\_12.1.16 ✓
9. NWbiosolids\_RISKbrochure ✓
10. December 2016 UBN Workshop Agenda – Final ✓
11. ACP Policy Priority & Discussion Points 11.18.16 ✓
12. Weekly News\_11-27-16 ✓
13. Gov. Brown-Achieving 2030 Climate Goals - 12.2.16 ✓
14. AB 901 Draft November for Public 11.4.16 ✓
15. AB 901 - ACP Notes and Questions 11.20.16 ✓
16. CAPCA Seminar Microbiomes 2016 RK
17. Agenda for BAC Member Mtg 12.6.16 ✓
18. BAC's Strategic Plan (Aug2015) ✓
19. CAPCA Seminar Microbiomes 2016 RK ✓