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COMPOST PRODUCER ACTIONS

Association of Compost Producers Member Meeting

**Wednesday, April 28th
from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM
at IEUA**

**Inland Empire Utilities
Agency 6075 Kimball Ave.
Chino, CA 91710**

909-993-1600

Agenda and handouts will be available on Monday, April 26, 2010. If you want any new agenda items to be included, please contact Dan Noble.

Please note: We will have the regularly scheduled meeting from 9-11AM as usual, and we will have additional time for “Any ACP Working Group” meetings from 11AM to 12 Noon for any members who need to continue to work face to face.

We will have a speaker phone available if you want to call in. Simply call into the main switch board number above and ask to be put into the ACP Meeting Conference Call.



Association of Compost Producers

A non-profit organization of public and private organizations dedicated to increasing the quality, value and amount of compost being used in California. We do this by promoting activities & regulations that build healthy soil, benefiting people & the environment. ACP members invest together to increase compost markets and improve compost & manufacturing standards. The association provides education & communication on compost benefits & proper use through support of scientific research & legislation aligned with developing and expanding quality compost markets.

ACP Steps April 2010

The ACP Next Steps, are outlined each month and posted on our website, at the top of the ACP documents page: <http://www.healthysoil.org/acpinitiativesresults/acpdocuments.html>

The projects that we engage in include:

- ACP Administration & Membership
- Carbon Credits for Compost Task Force
- Compost Legislative Tracking & Input Working Group
- Sustainable Landscapes
- Green Building Task Force
- Pathogen Control Task Force
- Ocean Friendly Garden Collaborative

Please contact Dan Noble at 619-303-3694 or via email at dnoble@inquiryinternational.com if you would like to participate on any ACP Task Force that are implementing one or more of these compost market expansion initiatives.



Green Building Compost Credits

ACP members Erika Ellis of San Bernardino County and Dan Noble in San Diego, continue working with local representatives to further develop and promote the use of compost to gain

Green Building Credits.

Actions on this initiative this month include continued participation in USGBC-Inland Empire and USGBC-San Diego Activities. Please see

the schedule of meetings in your area and strongly consider attending, participating and reporting back how you are promoting compost use in your area.

Sustainable Landscape Cooperative

ACP Executive Director, continues meeting and working with Surfrider Foundation, San Diego Coastkeepers, as well as the County of San Diego Staff, SD State University, and professional sustainable Landscape Consultants and grant writers. Efforts toward continued development and packaging of Surfrider's "Ocean Friendly Gardens" initiative into a "Sustainable Landscape Cooperative" process continues. The goal is to create a "cooperative" of the various for-profit and non-profit organizations and professionals who have stake in developing sustainable landscapes.

What's a "Sustainable Landscape"? ... you might ask!

Sustainable landscape, or garden, can be defined as a constructed and maintained landscape that:

- Minimizes resource input, disease and pollution output:
- Lower water use, low/no chemical fertilizers, less energy (gas, electricity), low/no storm water runoff, low/no air pollution, no water pollution, low labor, and
- Maximizes enjoyable and productive output of:

Benefits of a sustainable landscape includes rich, living, healthy soil, beautiful flowers and plants, local food production, wildlife interface, cooling shade, and cleaner air.

The OFG Collaborative is pro-

gressing with its strategy and tactics. As is laid out and found in next steps below. Also, a set of websites already exist and are listed.

Background:

The Surfrider Foundation, in collaboration with the Green Gardens Group, have formed a very unique program to expand OFG's on *existing landscapes* through a combination of *principles* (CPR = conservation, permeability, retention), *workshops* (HOW = hands on workshops) and *assistance* (GAP = Gardener Assistance Program) that it combines the best of education, help your neighbor by volunteering and with "pay it forward" and "barn raising" methodology, all supported with professional leadership and administration. Surfrider has published an Ocean Friendly Gardens manual that provides an excellent introduction to sustainable landscaping that is friendly to oceans by minimizing surface water runoff into the oceans. It includes using compost to both reduce water use, enhance water infiltration, minimize storm water runoff, protect against soil erosion as well as support landscape native habitat interfaces and build wildlife friendly and edible, sustainable landscapes. ACP is playing an ongoing role in organizing, promoting, assuring of the role of healthy soil, and creating sustainable funding and expansion for the collaborative. ACP is looking to lead the formation of local/region "Sustainable Landscape

Cooperatives", formed from local NGO's, government agencies and private companies to lead the conversion of existing landscapes from unsustainable, to sustainable.

Next Steps:

In Los Angeles Area:

Ocean Friendly Gardens "Basics Classes, Saturday, April 24, 9am-12noon at Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook (in the Theater room). 6300 Hetzler, Culver City. Limited seating. RSVP info below. \$6 parking fee charged by State Parks.

In San Diego OFG Collaborative include:

- OFG 100 Basics, 6 pm – 9 pm, Wednesday, April 7, 2010 (Santa Fe Room, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA); and
- HOW 101 Site Evaluation for Sunday, May 2nd.
- GAP event June 6th
- The OFG Basics and the HOWs are pay-to-play, with a budgeted cost of \$1,000 each. Costs can be offset by enrollment fees, sponsors, and other funding sources. Note: No charge for GAPs.

More HOW's and GAPs are being set up to continuing to move forward

IMPORTANT WEBSITES TO VIEW

OFG Collaborative Website: <http://sites.google.com/site/ofgsandiego>

Surfrider Websites: <http://www.surfrider.org/ofg.asp>; <http://oceanfriendlygardens.blogspot.com> and <http://ofg-sandiego.blogspot.com>

A business plan and presentation (see ACP Website; <http://www.healthysoil.org/acpinitiativesresults/acpdocuments.html>)

Consultants to Surfrider OFG, www.greengardensgroup.com

Water District Partner, West Basin Municipal Water District (<http://www.westbasin.org/water-reliability-2020/conservation/landscape-gardening-programs/ocean-friendly-garden>)

Carbon Credits for Compost Production

ACP's Compost Carbon Credits Task Force, chairman, Thornton Schaaf (Carbon Solutions Group) submitted input and comments on the draft protocol, "**Organic Waste Composting Project Protocol: Avoiding Methane Emis-**

sions by Aerobically Composting Food Waste", **Work Group Draft, Version 1.0**, by their first deadline of March 19th, 2010. We will look for feedback on this from their next working group meeting. Any interested ACP

members can join "ACP's Compost Carbon Credits Task Force" by contacting Thornton at: 312-550-5254 tschaaf@carbonsolutionsgroup.com.



Pathogen Control with Compost

Since we sent the letter to Calrecycle and CDFA about participating with them on the "drafting of the Quarantine Agreements" (reported in ACP March 2010 Newsletter), we received positive feedback from both our contacts in those state agencies that they are very in-

terested in working with us on this important agricultural industry problem. We are now awaiting a notice for a meeting and process for engaging with them in the weeks and months to come. We will report more as we fully engage with them moving forward. For more information, please

feel free to contact Pathogen Control Working Group member Dan Noble, at 619-303-3694, dno-ble@inquiryinternational.com

Agricultural Market Expansion

ACP recently formed an Agricultural Compost Market Expansion Working Group ("Ag Working Group"). New member, Tom Kelley, with Harvest Power, Inc., has graciously agreed to be Chairman of our Ag Working group. Other members include: Bob Engel, Engel & Gray, Jeff Ziegenbein, Inland Empire Regional Composting Authority (IERCA), Andrew Tuckman, Vision Recycling, Steve Patton of Steve Patton Consulting.

The purpose of the ACP Agricultural Market Expansion Working Group (Ag Working Group) is to define a strategy and implement specific tac-

tics (market development programs) to expand sustainable compost markets into enduring soil enhancement applications in the agricultural industry in California.

Based on the background and recommendations from the Ag project report and results (May 2009, project with Calrecycle), ACP AG Working Group is considering the following subset of the 30 or so recommendations that came out of that study:

1. Initiate the Compost Use Index (CUI) wiki, and assign an operations manager to it (creating a perpetual funding mechanism by system users)

2. Marketing system for integrating STA test results, specific ag specs and the CUI wiki

3. Develop an ACP specific Ag Market Development Program:

4. Outreach Materials (Ag Soil Manual & CUI wiki)

Outreach seminars through RCD's and professional landscape and ag programs

If any other members would like to participate in the Ag Working Group, please email Tom Kelley, tkelley@harvestpower.com & Dan Noble, dno-ble@inquiryinternational.com

IMPORTANT WEBSITES TO VIEW

Climate Action Reserve

[http://](http://www.climateactionreserve.org)

www.climateactionreserve.org

[http://](http://www.climateactionreserve.org/how/protocols/in-progress/composting/)

[www.climateactionreserve.org](http://www.climateactionreserve.org/how/protocols/in-progress/composting/)

[g/how/protocols/in-](http://www.climateactionreserve.org/how/protocols/in-progress/composting/)

[progress/composting/](http://www.climateactionreserve.org/how/protocols/in-progress/composting/)

For a complete list of regulated articles and map of the quarantine areas, click here:

<http://pi.cdfa.ca.gov/pqm/manual/pdf/420.pdf>

Ag Compost User Database (coop marketing model, <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cooperative>)

COMPOST LEGISLATION

SJVUAPCD Organic Waste Composting—Update



The San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District (SJVUAPCD; www.valleyair.org) held its most recent Organic Waste Technical Working Group meeting last week to report back and further discuss the "Organic Waste Composting Project," on which Dr. Fatih Buyuksonmez,

SDSU, is the Chief Investigator. ACP members provided detailed feedback after reading and reviewing the report which will be used for VOC mitigation from compost operations, rule making this spring by the SJVUAPCD. The Compost Carbon Task Force, who is also tracking

this process on behalf of ACP members, who received a copy of these comments, and circulated and discussed them to the Working Group members. If others would like a copy, please contact Dan Noble at dno-ble@inquiryinternational.com.

Bifenthrin Containing Compost

Calrecycle, and CDFA is still awaiting for the USDA National Organics Program (NOP) to consider a recommended "stay of certification suspension" until such time as the USDA NOP, CDFA and OMRI can all come to an agreement if the Bifenthrin problem is a true problem to render

compost containing this material as worthy of losing its Organic Certification. Formal notes from the special roundtable discussion on Bifenthrin in California Compost, held at the EcoFarm Conference (www.eco-farm.org) on Thursday January 21, 2010 have been received by

ACP in the past month, and can be found on the ACP Documents portion of our website: (<http://www.healthysoil.org/acpinitiativesresults/acpdocuments.html>)

IMPORTANT WEBSITES TO VIEW

- SJVUAPCD
- www.valleyair.org
- CALRECYCLE Bifenthrin Document
- <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Archive/IWMBMtgsDocs/mtgdocs/2009/12/00025143.doc>
- Compost Carbon Credits
- <http://www.climateactionreserve.org/how/protocols/in-progress/composting/>

Composting Project Carbon Credits Protocol

As mentioned under the Compost Carbon Credits Working Group section, there were a set of meetings already underway of the working group on the Climate Action Reserve to develop a carbon credits

protocol for food waste compost... and possibly other feedstocks.

ACP has a seat in this process, is providing input and recommendations, and reporting back con-

tinuously to ACP membership.

I ALWAYS WONDERED WHY SOMEBODY DIDN'T DO SOMETHING ABOUT THAT, THEN I REALIZED I WAS SOMBODY.

-LILLY TOMLIN

COMPOST PRODUCER SPOTLIGHT

Featuring the “Engel and Gray”

Engel and Gray (www.engelandgray.com), has been a member and strong supporter of ACP, and its many initiatives, for many years. Bob Engel, one of the co-owners, is also the Secretary/Treasurer of our Board.

Engel & Gray, Inc. has been serving California and the Central Coast since 1946, providing quality services to industry. The team at Engel & Gray, Inc. provides manpower, equipment, and material to serve the needs of our customer. We are a diversified company with experience and knowledge, forming strategic alliance with customers to accomplish projects on time and under budget

E & G works with four main industries within the Central Coast; Oil Industry, Agricultural Industry, Landscape Industry and Construction Industry. Within these industries, we provide a wide range of services - Trucking, Construction, Environmental, and Roll-off services.

Engel & Gray, Inc. operates a 40-acre Regional Composting Facility providing quality compost and recycling services to agriculture, landscape and green industries.

As an example of our diversity, you might see our general engineering division provide construction services to a multinational oil company. Our transportation division works with our environmental division to clean and haul material away from crude oil impacted real estate.

Our Roll-off division works with a local winery to handle their organic waste stream and compost the material into a finished product which will be applied back onto the vineyard where the grapes were grown; hereby completing the cycle of recycle

Engel & Gray has been promoting their “Harvest Blend” of products with marketing approaches that includes:

Working through their Dealer Network, Application for multiple landscape and agricultural applications as well as providing General Information on compost benefits and use. Please see their detailed website at:

<http://www.engelandgray.com/compost.htm>

OR

www.gotcompost.com





COMPOST NEWS/EVENTS

USGBC Meetings– North & Southern CA March & April

In recent newsletters we have discussed the potential market potential of teaming with green builders to use compost on the landscape portion of green building projects. Green builders are holding meetings throughout all of California and composters can benefit from developing strong ties to this market. To locate Green Building Council sponsored meetings, check out the following websites and upcoming meetings in your area. Also, as you attend meetings, make contacts and develop business in your region, please let us know of your market development successes and we will be sure to report on them here (dnoble@inquiryinternational.com).

USGBC– Southern California Capters

Inland Empire (www.usgbc-ie.org)

USGBC-IE, Coachella Valley Branch Spring Membership Meeting, Thursday, April 29, 2010

USGBC-Los Angeles (www.usgbcla.org)

April 14 2010 – Don't miss our 9th Annual Municipal Green Building Conference & Expo with keynote speakers, Bill Reed and Panama Bartholomy. Follow this link for information on registration, exhibiting, or sponsoring this sell-out event!

USGBC-Orange County (www.usgbc-oc.org)

April 20, 2010, Pass Your Portfolio, Earth Week Happy Hour

4/30/2010 LEED Green Associate Exam Training, 3220 South Waxie, Fairview Street Santa Ana, CA 92704-6509 (714) 545-8441, 08:30am - 4/30/2010 04:30pm

USGBC-San Diego (www.usgbc-sd.org)

April 21: Retrofitting Existing Buildings for Energy Efficiency and Demand Response, The Soledad Club
5050 Soledad Road, 5:30 – Registration and Light Hors D'oeuvres, Mixer, 6:15 – Featured Presenters, Q & A
7:45+ – Mixer

USGBC – Northern California Chapter (www.usgbc-ncc.org)

East Bay

April 20, 2010, Bay Friendly Landscaping – Water Efficient and Attractive

San Francisco

April 13, 2010, Tour of ClimateWorks' LEED CI Platinum Office

April 14, 2010, Construction Specifications Institute SF ProFair

April 21, 2010, Workshop: LEED AP Existing Buildings: Operations & Maintenance Exam Prep

April 28, 2010, The Competitive Edge, Part 3: Understanding and Communicating the Financial Case for A/E/C Professionals

May 12, 2010, BAYLUG: Living Building Challenge v2.0 - A Visionary Path to A Restorative Future

May 13, 2010, Workshop: LEED AP Interior Design & Construction Exam Prep

May 20, 2010, Sustainable Communities Best Practices Forum: Bridging the Gap between Green Building and Urban Planning

Sacramento

April 7, 2010, Workshop: LEED Green Associate Exam Prep

Silicon Valley

April 13, 2010 Green Schools – LEEDing the Way

May 12, 2010 Silicon Valley Branch 2nd Year Anniversary Celebration & Green Building Expo

25th Annual West Coast BioCycle Conference

Conference Highlights

- Proven Tools To Empower Sustainable Communities
- Food Waste Collection, Transport and Composting
- Optimizing Operations Of Composting, Anaerobic Digestion Facilities
- How To Navigate, Profit From Carbon Credit Protocols And Markets
- Compost Links To Community Food Production
- Digester Biogas Conditioning To Expand Market Options

- Ordinances, Mandates And Incentives To Sustain Organics Diversion
- Best Management Practices To Minimize Environmental Impacts
- Anaerobic Digestion Of MSW Organics — Systems And Substrate Processing

To show the popularity of this Conference, already:
AD Workshop is Sold Out! As of April 2, 2010
Exhibit space is sold out.

Plan now to be at the MOST IMPORTANT Conference in 2010 on Composting, Organics Recycling, Renewable Energy and Waste Diversion For presentation categories, further details and online submission form, go to www.BioCycleWestCoast.com



UC Energy Week 2010 – CA Biomass Collaborative Forum, May 10–11, 2010

[Seventh Annual Biomass Forum: May 10 & 11, 2010](#)

The California Biomass Collaborative will hold its seventh annual forum on biomass in conjunction with the University of California-Davis Energy Institute and its UC Energy Week 2010, May 10-13. Forum registration will open late February; please check back for updates. [Click here for more details.](#)

The California Biomass Collaborative, is a statewide collaboration of government, industry, environmental groups, and educational institutions administered for the state by the [University of California, Davis](#). Sponsored

by the [California Energy Commission](#) and other agency and industry partners, the Collaborative works to enhance the sustainable management and development of biomass in California for the production of renewable energy, biofuels, and products. [A list of the Collaborative's sponsors may be viewed here.](#)

The Collaborative realizes its mission through statewide coordination with government and industry, resource inventory and generation assessment; facility performance reporting and evaluations, technology research, development, demonstration and deployment, the

study of policy issues and implications; developing standards; research management, education and training and extension and public outreach.

A Preliminary Roadmap for Biomass Development in California has been prepared and implementation planning is now in progress.

California Biomass Collaborative
 Dept. of Biological & Agricultural Engineering
 University of California
 One Shields Avenue
 Davis, CA 95616
 Email: llovgren@ucdavis.edu
 Phone: 530-752-3028; Fax: 530-752-4361

USCC/ACP Compost Operations Training Course



The USCC Compost Operations Training Course held in Davis, CA in February 2010, was a sell out success.

In addition to the one being held in New York, in August (<http://www.compostingcouncil.org/education/training.php>), another one on the west coast

is being planned for the first week in November, 2010 (Nov 2-6).

It will be held in the UC Riverside area and intends to attract composters from around the So. Calif. Region. Mark your calendars and plan to have you and/or your people attend this important and

comprehensive week long workshop.



Bay Friendly Landscape Conference



Bay-Friendly Landscape Conference

Transforming Urban Landscapes to Protect Our Water Resources

Friday, September 17th, 2010

St. Mary's Event Center, San Francisco, CA

Join the Bay-Friendly Coalition as we create a common understanding of sustainable landscaping and explore the lat-

est information and cutting-edge practices for environmentally-friendly landscapes.

- Learn how to cost effectively minimize environmental impacts while promoting ecological potential.
- Get the most recent information from experienced professionals and practitioners.
- Discover innovative landscaping products and services.
- Improve your skills, knowledge, and bottom

line.

Compost producer sponsors of this event are being actively sought after.

[Become a Sponsor](#) - Increase your organization's visibility and commitment to the sustainable landscaping movement.

<http://www.bayfriendlycoalition.org/2010Conference.shtml>

“COMPOST OVERS”

Compost Awareness Week– Call for entries

International Compost Awareness Week (ICAW) is the largest and most comprehensive education initiative of the compost industry. It is celebrated each year in the first full week of May

ICAW is a multi-media publicity and education event that showcases composting and compost products. It features composting in your back yard or at large scale commercial composting facilities.

For the past 13 years ICAW has grown in both strength and numbers of celebrants through its sponsors and compost advocates. Compost Awareness Week serves the important role of bringing the Compost! message to the attention of the public,

businesses and other groups. Communities and government agencies, as well as members of the composting industry, utilize the week to promote their specific Compost! message and programs.

To bring positive attention to the possibilities that composting can provide to communities, ICAW was designed to rally composting advocates and build awareness in every community. Compost discussions, State ICAW Proclamations, promotions with local dealers and landscape supply stores, informal lectures by well-known gardening experts, backyard composting bin promotions and urban gardening programs are examples of how municipalities and public and private groups

can be involved.

Browse the Compost Week menu for tools and ideas to help YOU celebrate International Compost Awareness Week!

<http://www.compostingcouncil.org/programs/icaw/>

Awareness Week
May 2-8, 2010



Food Scrap Composting– New Working Group

Since, food scraps are the compost feedstock focused on by the new CAR Compost Protocol (see **Composting Project Carbon Credits Protocol** article in this newsletter) as well as the new regulations being drafted by CalRecycle (<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/LEA/regs/review/default.htm>).

If there are ACP members who are interested in building this resource flow business,

either within or beyond their operation and value chain, please contact Dan Noble and discuss it with him at: (619-303-3694; dno-ble@inquiryinternational.com).



ASSOCIATION OF COMPOST PRODUCERS

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“We Build Healthy Soil”



OUR MISSION

The Association of Compost Producers (ACP) is a non-profit association of public and private organizations dedicated to increasing the quality, value and amount of compost being used in California. We do this by promoting activities and regulations that build healthy soil, benefiting people and the environment.

ACP members work and invest together to increase compost markets and improve compost product and manufacturing standards. The association provides education and communication on compost benefits and proper use through support of scientific research and legislation aligned with developing and expanding quality compost markets.



Newsletter Contribution by Dan Noble, Executive Director ACP

Newsletter Design by Erika Ellis, ACP Member