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## COMPOST PRODUCER ACTIONS

### Association of Compost Producers Member Meeting

**Wednesday, February 24th  
from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM  
at IEUA**

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

**909-993-1600**

Agenda will be included with Handouts Monday, February 22, 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 February 2010

The ACP Next Steps, for November 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
- Green Building Task Force
- Pathogen Control Task Force
- Ocean Friendly Garden Collaborative

Please contact Dan Noble if you would like to participate on an ACP Task Force that are implementing one or more of these compost market expansion initiatives.

## Green Building Compost Credits



ACP Members have joined the local Green Building Councils (USGBC Chapters) in order to both learn and promote the use of compost as an important green building tool for creating low impact development by using the principal of high carbon containing healthy soils. For example, Erika Ellis of the County of San Bernardino Solid Waste Management Division is looking to get her Green Associate Certification with the USGBC-Inland Empire Chapter. Dan Noble recently (1/13/10) gave a “lunch and learn” presentation on compost also to the USGBC

-Inland Empire Chapter. And in San Diego, Dan continues 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 participating in the USGBC Inland Empire and San Diego activities:

[USGBC San Diego](#)  
2-17-10 Green Home Solutions – Greening the Places We Call Home  
[USGBC Inland Empire](#)  
2-3-10 Cogeneration and Green

Data Center with Capstone’s Micro Turbine

2-9-10 AB811 Making It Work For Your City

2-10-10 Energy Portfolio Manager Tool, Use your utility bill as a map to hidden treasure in your building AND LEED Green Associate Exam Prep Class

2-17-10 The History of Water in the Inland Empire

2-24-10 Improving the Bottom Line through Retrofits

### IMPORTANT WEBSITES TO VIEW

Ocean Friendly Garden links

<http://sites.google.com/site/ofgsandiego>

<http://www.surfrider.org/ofg.asp>

<http://ofg-sandiego.blogspot.com>

[www.greengardensgroup.com](http://www.greengardensgroup.com)

<http://www.westbasin.org/water-reliability-2020/conservation/landscape-gardening-programs/ocean-friendly-garden>

<http://www.westbasin.org/files/ofg-workshops/WBN--Ocean-Friendly-Flyer-Deer-Lawndale1-6-10.pdf>

<http://www.healthysoil.org/acpinitiativesresults/acpdocuments.html>

Beyond the basic “Green Building” initiatives above, ACP Executive Director Dan Noble, had a half day strategy meeting (1/24/10) with the Surfrider Foundation, San Diego Coastkeepers and the County of San Diego Staff to develop an Ocean Friendly Landscapes and Gardens initiative in the region. A strategy and set of next step tactics were laid out and is found below. Also a set of websites already exist. A business plan and presentation (see ACP website) were also developed. In addition, Surfrider has published an Ocean Friendly Gardens (OFG) manual that provides an excellent introduction to sustainable landscaping that is friendly to oceans by minimizing surface runoff, protect against soil erosion as well as support landscape native habitat interfaces and build wildfire friendly and edible, sustainable landscapes.

The Surfrider Foundation in col-

laboration with the Green Gardens Group, with funding from West Basin Municipal Waste District,, have formed a very unique program to expand OFG’s on existing landscapes through a combination of principles : conservation permeability (CPR), hands on workshops (HOW) and the Gardener Assistance Program (GAP),. These principles combine the best education with help your neighbor by volunteering and with “pay it forward” and “Barn raising” methods, combined with professional leadership and administration.

Next Steps:  
In Los Angeles Area:

The next Ocean-Friendly workshop is scheduled for February 13, 2010 from 9:45am to 1pm in Lawndale. or on ACP’s Document web page.

In San Diego OFG Collaborative include:

OFG 100 Basics, 6 pm – 9 pm,

Thursday, April 8, 2010; and

HOW 101 Site Evaluation for Sunday, May 2nd.

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.

Below is the proposed OFG 2010 Schedule of OFG training, Hands-On Workshops [HOW] and Gardener Assistance Program [GAP].

1st Series, April-June  
OFG 100 Basics  
HOW 101 Site Evaluation GAP To include “Rain Garden”

2nd Series, July-September  
OFG 100 Basics  
(One or more classes based on demand.)  
HOW 101 Site Evaluation  
HOW 102 TBD  
GAP

## Carbon Credits for Compost Production

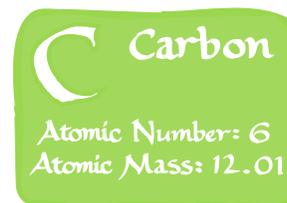
ACP’s Compost Carbon Credits Taskforce had a lot of activity in January 2010. Taskforce Chairman Thornton Schaaf (Carbon Solutions Group) was chosen to fill one of the 20 or so seats on the Climate Action Reserves (CAR) committee, thanks to all the support of the ACP and its members.

At the first meeting of CAR, “Compost Project Protocol Workgroup (Meeting #1), on February 2, 2010 from 1 to 3 PM PST the following highlights were listed by Thornton:

- *WG participants need to submit feedback on studies by February 8th*
- *Protocol will be distributed to WG participants Feb 12th.*
- *Protocol will address FOOD WASTE composting ONLY*
- *Concerns were raised on the exclusion of yard waste and bio-solids. CAR has yet to determine if they will reconsider their inclusion*
- *CAR hopes to have this protocol*

*through the WG, public comment period and adopted by June 30th, 2010.*

Thornton Scaaf will continue to interact with the ACP Task Force, as well as the membership in general and we will have input in the process for the entire time of this CAR Compost Protocol.



## Pathogen Control with Compost

The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) on January 20, 2010, notified the “green waste industry” to inform them of an upcoming information sharing meeting regarding the recent detection of the Asian Citrus Psyllid in Orange and Los Angeles Counties and how detection may affect the green waste industry.

**WHEN:** February 25th, 2010  
**WHERE:** Los Angeles County Arboretum, Ayers Conference Hall 301 N Baldwin Ave. Arcadia, CA 91007  
**TIME:** 10:00AM to Noon

A copy of the full letter is posted on the ACP website, along with a map of the meeting location and a map of the Asian Citrus Psyllid quarantine areas.

Briefly, the letter state, “The Asian citrus psyllid (psyllid), an insect pest known to vector citrus greening, a devastating disease of citrus, has been found in California in San

Diego, Imperial, Los Angeles, and Orange counties. As a result, the CDFA implemented a State Interior Quarantine that restricts the movement of host articles in an attempt to prevent the further spread of psyllid into other areas of California. **Green waste is among the articles covered by the quarantine.**

Further CDF stated, “It is our intent to work collaboratively with the green waste industry to identify and implement movement and handling protocols that will mitigate the risk of moving psyllid on green waste from infested areas. We have scheduled the information sharing meeting to develop practical and enforceable solutions to the issue of green waste movement out of the psyllid infested areas. It has been requested that , “To ensure a productive meeting, the CDFA is requesting that you come prepared to complete a questionnaire with the following information:

- Physical location and mailing

address of your green waste facility

- Method of processing green waste (e.g. grinding, chipping) and location where processing occurs if other than at the location above
- Final destination of green waste (type of facility and physical address).

ACP representatives intend to attend and participate in this meeting however, if your company either chip and grinds only or composts any green waste material, we highly recommend that you attend along with us. After the meeting we will hold an ACP task force meeting and specifically address a course of action for association members and non-members alike.

**IMPORTANT WEBSITES TO VIEW**

<http://www.healthysoil.org/acpinitiativesresults/acpdocuments.html>

For a complete list of regulated articles and map of the quarantine areas, click here:  
<http://pi.cdffa.ca.gov/pqm/manual/pdf/420.pdf>

# COMPOST LEGISLATION

## SJVUAPCD Organic Waste Composting—Update



The San Joaquin valley Unified Air Pollution Control District (SJVUAPCD) 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 and rule making this spring with the SJVUAPCD. The comments from the Technical Working Group

participants (close to two dozen from ACP members) were aggregated by Ms. Koshoua Thao, Air Quality Specialist, Project Manager for this project, received by ACP Thursday, February 4, 2010 and have been forwarded for her detailed review.

The Compost Carbon Taskforce, who is tracking this process on behalf of ACP members will receive a copy of these comments. If others would like a copy, please contact Dan Noble at [dnoble@inquiryinternational.com](mailto:dnoble@inquiryinternational.com).



### IMPORTANT WEBSITES TO VIEW

SJVUAPCD

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

EcoFarm

[www.eco-farm.org](http://www.eco-farm.org)

CalRecycle Bifenthrin Doc

<http://>

[www.calrecycle.ca.gov/](http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/)

[Archive/IWMBMtgDocs/](http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Archive/IWMBMtgDocs/mtgdocs/2009/12/00025143.doc)

[mtgdocs/2009/12/00025](http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Archive/IWMBMtgDocs/mtgdocs/2009/12/00025143.doc)

[143.doc](http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Archive/IWMBMtgDocs/mtgdocs/2009/12/00025143.doc)

## Bifenthrin Containing Compost

A special roundtable discussion on Bifenthrin in California Compost, was held at the EcoFarm Conference on Thursday January 21, 2010. Bifenthrin containing compost has caused the loss of Organic Certification by three green waste composters in California. The key take home from this meeting is:

- There is not clear agreement as to if and why there should be zero tolerance for Bifenthrin in compost to maintain its organic input certification under the USDA National Organics Program.
- CDFA had to respond to a claim made by industry or the public on this issue in California
- Composters asked for a “moratorium” to retain their Organic Input Certification under USDA NOP until this issue is truly resolved
- The representative at the meeting from the USDA NOP program in Washington DC will go back and respond to the above request by April 2010, in time for the height of

the compost sale season.

While we have not received any formal notes from this meeting, we will report back and share them when they are available. “Bifenthrin in Compost” is a roadmap, “Core Issue” for Cal Recycling this year.

**Anne Scott-James:**

*However small your garden, you must provide for two of the serious gardener's necessities, a tool shed and a compost heap.*

## Capitol Alert

On February 4th, 2010, an article was released by Capitol Alert stating the following information:

### INITIATIVE TO SUSPEND AB 32 CLEARED TO GATHER SIGNATURES

“A proposed initiative to suspend California’s landmark legislation to reduce greenhouse gas emissions was cleared by the Secretary of State’s office late Wednesday to begin collecting signatures.

A creator of the initiative, Assemblyman Dan Logue, R-Linda, said he has commitments of \$600,000 from businesses interests for a campaign to qualify the measure for the ballot.

The initiative would suspend implementation of Assembly Bill 32, which called for reducing California’s greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by 2020. Logue and other opponents have argued that AB 32 would be extremely costly to businesses and take a heavy toll on the state’s economy. The proposed initiative would suspend the state’s greenhouse-gas reduction requirements until California’s unemployment rate, currently above 12%, falls below 5.5% or less for four consecutive quarters.

To qualify for the November ballot, backers of the initiative must collect 433,971 voter signatures by June 24th. To qualify for a 2011 special election or a 2012 statewide election, the deadline is July 5, the Secretary of State’s office said.

The initiative would, of course, derail the efforts by Californians for the past 3-4 years who are diligently working and investing (with their time, money and energy) to make actual changes and progress to produce Climate Change results.”

ACP members are considering NOT supporting this measure.





## COMPOST NEWS

### USCC/ACP Compost Operations Training Course

#### USCC/ACP Compost Operations Training Course

Please consider having you and/or your people attend the first West Coast Compost Operations Training Course being offered by the US Composting Council and its California Partners, Feb. 2010. You can start registering now by clicking through to the registration form posted on the USCC web site!

**Register now for the new Compost Operations Training Course**

**Learn what it takes to run a successful composting facility!**

**Date:** February 22-26, 2010

**Location:** University of California, Davis

**More details:** [www.compostingcouncil.org/education/training.php](http://www.compostingcouncil.org/education/training.php) **CLICK HERE**

**What you will learn?** Biology and Process Control, Site Design, Air and Water Management, Product Quality and Marketing, Operations and Regulations

**How you will learn?** Lectures, hands-on activities and field trips

**Who will teach you?** Leading industry experts

**Who should come?** Compost operators (any size or feedstock), Equipment Vendors, Consultants, LEAs, and anyone who wants an in-depth instruction on the art and science of commercial scale compost production and marketing

**CA sponsors:** Soil Control Lab, Vision Recycling, Recology, Reotemp

**CA Partners:** CA Organic Recycling Committee, CA Integrated Waste Management Board, Association of Compost Producers, Agriculture Sustainability Institute at U.C. Davis, University of California Extension

#### YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO MISS IT!

More info: Cary Oshins, (484)547-1521 [cary.oshins@compostingcouncil.org](mailto:cary.oshins@compostingcouncil.org)

## 25th Annual BioCycle West Coast Conference

This four-day event will be held on April 12-15, 2010 in San Diego, California at the Town & Country Resort. Training workshops will be held on Monday, April 12. Conference sessions and tradeshow featuring more than 50 exhibitors are scheduled on April 13 and 14, followed by an all day site tour on April 15.

The 2010 BioCycle West Coast Conference will bring together project managers, policy makers, planners, researchers, solid waste and recycling coordinators, industry plant managers, consultants, and other waste and wastewater management professionals who want to know about the latest industry trends and tools in waste diversion, composting, organics recycling and renewable energy. Conference sessions feature over 50 technical and practical presentations that will cover zero waste, renewable energy from organ-

ics recycling, building compost markets, residential source separated organics collection, advances in MSW composting, compost utilization, biofuels developments and much more.

BioCycle Conferences have earned a reputation for providing the most useful operational insights and research findings on advancing composting, organics recycling and renewable energy. Participants have told us how much valuable data they have gained and how many problems have been avoided. We are confident that the BioCycle West Coast Conference 2010 will continue to fulfill these goals.

#### Conference Highlights

- Proven Tools To Empower Sustainable Communities
- Food Waste Collection, Transport and Com-

#### posting

- 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

Plan now to be at the MOST IMPORTANT Conference in 2010 on Composting, Organics Recycling, Renewable Energy and Waste Diversion

# “COMPOST OVERS”

## Compost Awareness Week– Call for entries

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 govern-

ment 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!

For details see: <http://www.compostingcouncil.org/programs/icaw>



## Food Waste Paper

“Beyond Recycling: Composting Food Scraps and Soiled Paper”

A very timely and interesting paper authorized by Gary Liss and others, and funded in part by the CENTER for a COMPETITIVE WASTE INDUSTRY (CCWI) at “Beyond Recycling”. ACP members are reading it and going to factor it into a food waste agenda for 2010. BioCycle editors have also reviewed it already.

**We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children.**  
~ Native American Proverb

### IMPORTANT WEBSITES TO VIEW

- DIY Resources
- [www.Compostmanual.com](http://www.Compostmanual.com),
- [www.mastercomposter.com](http://www.mastercomposter.com),
- [www.compost-info-guide.com](http://www.compost-info-guide.com).

- CCWI
- [www.competitivewaste.org](http://www.competitivewaste.org)

- Food Waste Paper
- [http://www.beyondrecycling.org/pdf\\_files/FinalReport.pdf](http://www.beyondrecycling.org/pdf_files/FinalReport.pdf)

- BioCycle Review
- [www.jgpress.com/archives/\\_free/001992.html](http://www.jgpress.com/archives/_free/001992.html)

## ASSOCIATION OF COMPOST PRODUCERS

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<http://www.healthysoil.org/>

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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, Recycling Specialist, County of San Bernardino SWMD