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COMPOST PRODUCER ACTIONS

Association of Compost Producers Member Meeting

**Wednesday, March 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, March 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 March 2010

The ACP Next Steps, for March 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 at 619-303-3694 or via email at dnoble@inquiryinternational.com 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



Erika Ellis of San Bernardino County is working on getting her LEED Green Associate Certification with the USGBC-Inland Empire. Please feel free to contact her to see how this relates to our compost world (eellis@swm.sbcounty.gov). Dan Noble continues to participate in the USGBC in San Diego, to continue working with local representatives to further develop and promote the use of compost to gain Green Building Credits.

[USGBC San Diego](#)
3-17-10 GreenMeet: The Real Facts on Affording Green Building. Location: The Soledad Club, 5050 Soledad Road, San Diego, CA 92109

[USGBC Inland Empire](#)
 03-15 & 16, 2010 LEED for Existing Buildings O&M 2-Day Exam Prep Class
 03-25-10-"A Pathway to Climate Neutrality: LACCD's Strategic Sustainability Plan"



Ocean Friendly Gardens Collaborative

IMPORTANT WEBSITES TO VIEW

OCEAN FRIENDLY GARDEN LINKS

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

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

<http://oceanfriendlygardens.blogspot.com>

<http://ofgsandiego.blogspot.com>

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

County of San Diego Staff, SD State University, and professional sustainable Landscape Consultants and grant writers toward continued development of an Ocean Friendly Landscapes and Gardens initiative in the Region.

The OFG Collaborative is progressing 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. Sur-

frider 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.

Next Steps: [In Los Angeles Area:](#)

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

Garden Assistance Program, Sun-

day, March 21, 10am to 3PM in Mar Vista. The GAP workday will be at the home of one of the Green Garden Groups principles.

[In San Diego OFG Collaborative include:](#)

OFG 100 Basics, 6 pm – 9 pm, Wednesday, April 7, 2010 (Sante Fe Room, Balboa Park, San Diego); 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 GAP's are being set up to continue moving forward.

Carbon Credits for Compost Production

ACP’s Compost Carbon Credits Task Force, chairman, Thornton Scaaf (Carbon Solutions Group) attended the first Climate Action Reserves (CAR) sponsored “Organic Waste Composting Project Protocol” Working Group meeting last month (of which the total representation nationwide has been limited to 20 people.) The ACP Task Force, which is supporting Thornton in his input and comments on the protocol, are reviewing the Organic Waste Composting Project Protocol: Avoiding Methane Emissions by Aerobically Composting Food Waste., Work Group DRAFT, Ver-

sion 1.0, February 22, 2010 (49 page) document and responding to Thornton by March 17th. He will in turn submit all our comments by their first deadline of March 19th, 2010.

On of the more controversial aspects of this protocol drafting process, is that this protocol is only addressing food waste (not green waste, biosolids or manure). It is believed by CAR that green waste composting does not pass the “additionality” test required for carbon credit marketing and that biosolids and manure are already covered under the current

“Organic Waste Digestion Protocol” which was drafted and approved last year by CAR. But there are a lot of voices in the working group, in addition to ours, arguing that at least green residuals should be included back in this protocol. However, there are also a lot of “good reasons” why it is being argued that it should not be there too. Any interested ACP members can join the ACP’s Compost Carbon Taskforce by contacting Thornton at 312-550-5254 or via email at tschaaf@carbonsolutionsgroup.com

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 continuously to ACP membership.

Pathogen Control with Compost

Three representatives from the ACP Pathogen Control Working Group (Paul Ryan, Jeff Ziegenbein and Dan Noble) along with representatives from City of Los Angeles and CalRecycle, and other independent haulers, chip and grind operators, attended the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), Asian citrus psyllid Quarantine Meeting for Southern California on:

When: February 25, 2010

Where: Los Angeles County Arboretum, Ayers Conference Hall 301 North Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, CA 91007

Time: 10:00 am. To Noon

A copy of the full invitation letter is posted on the ACP web site, along with a map of the meeting location as well as the Asian citrus psyllid quarantine areas, along with the presentations from that

meeting.

ACP sent a letter to both CalRecycle and CDFA in order to formally participate in the drafting of the Quarantine Agreements which will apply to green waste chip and grinding operations as well as the receiving of this material as a compost feedstock. It is currently believed that permitted compost facilities, and the permitted compost process, will eliminate the treat of the Psyllid disease.

For more information, please feel free to contact Pathogen Control Working Group member Dan Noble.



Asian Citrus Psyllid
(*Diaphorina citri*)

IMPORTANT WEBSITES TO VIEW

CLIMATE ACTION RESERVE
<http://www.climateactionreserve.org>

<http://www.climateactionreserve.org/how/protocols/in-progress/composting/>

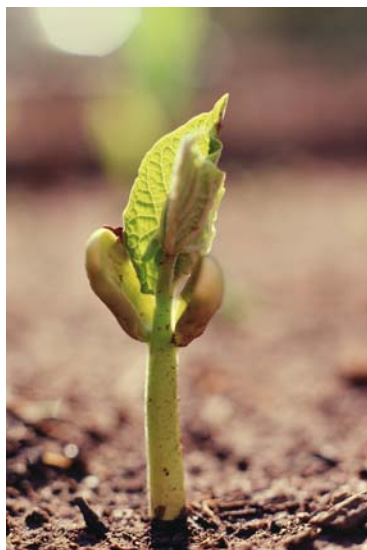
ORGANIC WASTE DIGESTION PROTOCOL
<http://www.climateactionreserve.org/how/protocols/adopted/organic-waste-digestion/current>

<http://www.healthysoil.org/acpinitiativesresults/acpddocuments.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

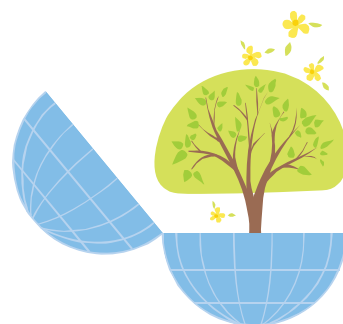
SJVUAPCD Organic Waste Composting—Update



The San Joaquin valley Unified Air Pollution Control District (SJVUAPCD) is still discussing 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.



IMPORTANT WEBSITES TO VIEW

SJVUAPCD

www.valleyair.org

CALRECYCLE

BITENTHRIN DOC

<http://>

www.calrecycle.ca.gov/

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

[mtgdocs/2009/12/000251](http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Archive/IWMBMtgDocs/mtgdocs/2009/12/000251)

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

ACP DOCUMENTS

WEBSITE

<http://>

www.healthysoil.org/

[acpinitiativesresults/](http://www.healthysoil.org/acpinitiativesresults/)

[acpdocuments.html](http://www.healthysoil.org/acpdocuments.html)

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:

The process includes waiting for the USDA National Organics Program (NOP) folks 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 this meeting have been received by ACP in the past month, and can be found on the ACP Documents portion of our website.



To cherish what remains of the Earth and to foster its renewal is our only legitimate hope of survival.

- Wendell Berry

COMPOST PRODUCER SPOTLIGHT

Featuring the “Inland Empire Regional Composting Authority” and Soil Pro Products

As many of our ACP Members know, the **Inland Empire Regional Composting Authority** (IERCA, www.IERCA.org) held a formal dedication for the Inland Empire Regional Composting Facility (IERCF) last May 2009. The dedication drew an impressive crowd of VIPs from the recycling community including our own Dan Noble.

The IERCA focuses on producing top quality compost under the guidelines outlined in the United States Composting Council’s Seal of Testing Assurance (STA) Program. Our quality control procedures, known as HACCP (Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point), are tailored after the U.S Army’s Natick Laboratories and a National Academy of sciences research on food safety for astronauts. IERCA’s Quality Assurance Program guarantees their compost to be a consistent stable product. In addition, their staff has earned Master Compost Certificates through the University of California Extension Riverside California. Inland Empire Regional Composting Authority operates the nation’s largest indoor composting facility, known as the Inland Empire Regional Composting Facility (IERCF). Developed and operated through a partnership between the Inland Empire Utilities Agency and the County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County, the IERCA focuses on producing top quality compost under the guidelines outlined in the US Composting Council’s Seal of Testing Assurance (STA) program.

The facility began operations in April 2007 and reached full capacity in December 2008. At full capacity, the IERCF processes over 200,000 tons per year of recycled materials and produces approximately 240,000 cubic yards (90,000 tons) of compost. All of the compost is sold into local markets.

The IERCA produces compost using the aerated static pile (ASP) composting method by mixing together organic material in large piles instead of in traditional windrows. Aeration occurs as air is pushed or pulled through the ASP. IERCF pulls air directly from the piles and sends the air to a biofilter along with air exchange through the composting building. The biofilter is 50,000 cubic yards of a special blend of wood chips that treats all of the air by removing odors and other regulated compounds before it is exhausted to the atmosphere.

Build healthy soil with our nutrient rich organic SoilPro™ Products Compost The benefits of using organic materials, such as compost, to amend soils and improve growth of crops are numerous and well documented. Compost products are proven to save water and produce direct benefits to soils and crops in both horticulture (lawns and gardens) and agriculture (vegetables, fruits, nuts, and hay crops).

Investing in Organics Recycling Many municipalities recognize the need for programs to reduce and divert urban organics from our landfills. Composting may represent the greatest potential for turning compostable materials into value-added products. IERCA is committed to transforming organic materials into valuable SoilPro™ Product, compost and marketing SoilPro™ Products to a wide variety of horticultural, landscape, agricultural and erosion control uses. Stay environmentally conscious and buy SoilPro™ Products today to help close the recycling loop. Call the IERCA Sales Department at 909-993-1500.

The IERCA Facility is overseen by Jeff Ziegenbein, Deputy Manager of Operations and Organics. Jeff is ACP’s Board President. When you are in town, or with the many group offerings, please feel free to contact him for a tour of your professional team, 909.993.1981, jziegenbein@ieua.org.



On the roof of the Inland Empire Regional Composting Facility are over 6,000 solar panels that can produce up to 1 megawatt of electricity. The biofilter occupies over 3 acres at the lower portion of the photograph. To the left is a compost storage facility, able to hold up to 3 months’ production as needed in winter, when sales typically slow.



COMPOST NEWS/EVENTS

USGBC Meetings– North & Southern CA March & April

USGBC- Southern California Capters

Inland Empire (www.usgbc-ie.org)

03.15&16.10-"LEED For Existing Buildings O&M 2-Day Exam Prep Class"

03.25.10-"A Pathway to Climate Neutrality: LACCD's Strategic Sustainability Plan"

USGBC-Los Angeles (www.usgbcla.org)

Saturday, March 20, 10:00am, LEED Platinum Homes Open House

Thursday, March 25, 7:00pm Green & Sustainable Practices for

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

3/18/2010 12:00pm Existing Homes: Energy Auditing, William Hezmalhalch Architects: 2850 Redhill Avenue, Suite 200, Santa Ana

March 25, 2010, Linking Sustainable Business with Profits, USGBC-OC Monthly Chapter Event

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

March 17, '10 GreenMeet: The Real Facts on Affording Green Building. Location: The Soledad Club, 5050 Soledad Road, San Diego, CA 92109

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

East Bay

March 18, 2010, The Path to LEED and Beyond - Sonoma Mountain Village

April 20, 2010, Landscaping - Water Efficient and Attractive

San Francisco

March 23, 2010 Water Conservation Showcase

March 24, 2010 Reusing Blackwater: Decentralized Approaches

April 7, 2010 The Competitive Edge, Part Two: Financial Considerations for Energy Efficiency Retrofits

April 9, 2010 Workshop: LEED Green Associate Exam Prep

Sacramento

March 18, 2010, Sacramento Area Sanitation District Tour

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



CALRECYCLE–Compost Stormwater Research Workshop

Have You Been Awaiting Results of Our Compost Research Studies?

Slope Stabilization

Fire-Ravaged Land

Water Management BMPs at Compost Facilities

Wait no more! Please Join Us:

March 30, 2010 from 9a.m - 2 p.m.

(8:30a.m. coffee & registration, Lunch Provided, No fee to participate!)



at the UC Riverside Extension Center, 1200 University Ave., Riverside, CA 92507 (Free parking)

Directions from the Ontario Airport: Take the I-10 E to the I-15 S to the CA-60 E to the I-215 S. Take exit 22 for University Ave.

Dr. David Crohn will present his important research results:

pH, Electrical Conductivity, Turbidity, Total Suspended and Total Dissolved Solids of compost plot runoff water samples

Water Management BMPs for compost manufacturing

Results demonstrated on a tour of the Slope Stabilization and Fire-Ravaged Lands Compost Demonstration Plots

Please note, "WEBINAR now available" for the March 30th Workshop

"We have had such a great response to our March 30th workshop that we have now added a Webinar

for those who would like to participate but cannot attend in person."

The workshop is free of charge however

registration is required, when submitting your registration please identify if you will be participating in person or using the Webinar.

TO REGISTER: Please send your Name and Contact Information to Linda Coco by e-mail sciences@ucr.edu, phone (951) 827-5804 or fax (951) 827-7374

Space is Limited, so Please Register Soon!



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
- Plan now to be at the MOST IMPORTANT Conference in 2010 on Composting, Organics Recycling,

Renewable Energy and Waste Diversion

[Exhibit space is sold out.](#)

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, bio-fuels, 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





“COMPOST OVERS”

ACP News

ACP Website - specific contact information

The ACP Board of Directors and officers have asked to have their names and contact information put on to the ACP web site, www.healthysoil.org. Also, any member who would like their more full contact info, please let Dan Noble know, all of the member names and websites are already on the website.

Agricultural Composting - New working group

The agricultural industry in California is the largest ag industry for any state in the U.S. by a factor of two, over the next largest state ag industry (and that's Texas). The ag industry in California has been larger than \$30 billion/year for that past decade. And while you do read a lot about our ag lands disappearing, nevertheless, ever more marginal lands are being brought into production as lands surrounding towns and cities are tuned into homes and business uses. This is all the more reason for ensuring that those marginal soils, in addition to the intensively farmed soils are continuously rejuvenated with organic matter and organic (organism derived) nutrients. Many ACP members, and now including more new members in the Northern California, the Central Coast and the Central Valley areas are all focusing on building their agricultural markets for compost. Also, agricultural lands (and the grower industry) have a lot of issues that are unique to them compared to other healthy soil markets (i.e. landscape and environmental restoration). For example:

- On farm composting regulations
- Price pressures on soil amendments
- Organic certification
- Community pressure for using waste derived and partially composted product
- Water quality regulations
- Food safety issues
- Agricultural pest quarantines
- Water prices and availability

To mention a only few! Composters who sell and deliver to farmers are involved in all these issues. ACP has formed a special “Agricultural Compost Working Group” to attend in a coordinated way, to these issues. If you would like to be on this working group, please contact Dan Noble at: (619-303-3694; dnoble@inquiryinternational.com).

Food Scrap Composting - New ACP Working Group in the offing?

Some ACP members are already working on developing food scrap composting programs. However, some, like our newest member, Vision Recycling, are being challenged with municipal clients who are pulling back from supporting their food scrap composting program, that they already got started. In addition, 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 by CalRecycle.

We asked the question at the last ACP meeting if we needed a working group focused just on expanding the food scrap composting business. If any members 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; dnoble@inquiryinternational.com)



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 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!

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

Compost!... Recycling for a Greener Tomorrow



ASSOCIATION OF COMPOST PRODUCERS

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

“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