



Inside this issue:

Compost Producer Actions	1
Compost Legislation Regulations, Research & Funding	4
Compost Producer Spotlight	6
Compost News and Events	8
"Compost Overs" Misc Tidbits	11
Associations	12

COMPOST PRODUCER ACTIONS

Association of Compost Producers Member Meeting

Wednesday, May 26th 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, May 24th, 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 May 2010

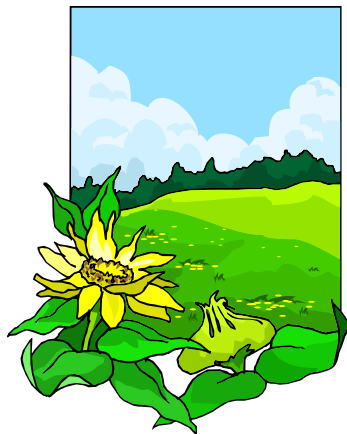
The ACP Next Steps, are outlined each month and posted on our website, at the top of the ACP documents page: <http://www.healthysoil.org/acpinitiativesresults/acpdocuments.html>

The projects that we engage in include:

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

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.

Sustainable Landscape Cooperative



ACP Executive Director, attended the first “Ocean Friendly Garden” Hands On Workshop” (HOW) in San Diego, April 2, 2010, promoted and sponsored by Surfrider Foundation, and their contractors (especially “G3”), 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. And use this “demand side management” (and marketing/education program) program contract vehicle to be funded by Water and

Stormwater and Low Impact Development agencies. Our goal is to accomplish this in the next month or two, in order to get this launched in earnest.

For more background and definitions on this emerging program, please see previous ACP Newsletters (esp. March and April 2010.

IMPORTANT WEBSITES TO VIEW

Sustainable Landscapes
www.greengardensgroup.com

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

Climate Action Reserve
<http://www.climateactionreserve.org>

Carbon Credits for Compost Production

Any additional questions or comments can be directed both through Thornton Schaaf at: 312-550-5254 tschaaf@carbonsolutionsgroup.com, or with CAR individually.

The final draft of the “Organic Waste Composting Protocol,” produced by the CAR working Group (Climate Action Reserve) is now available for public comment and can be downloaded from the CAR website at .

Thornton Schaaf, of Carbon Solutions Group, an ACP member, has both Chaired our internal ACP Carbon Credits Working Group, as well as represented ACP on the CAR Compost Protocol Working Group. So he has been coordinating our ACP effort on this process.

You will see (on the CAR website) that there is a Public Workshop addressing this protocol scheduled for May 27th in LA:

**Thursday, May 27, 2010
10:00 AM – 1:00 PM
PDT
The Standard Hotel
Big Loft meeting room**

You can attend in person, or via a conference call-in line.

Everyone can comment on this individually, as well as a member of ACP.

Comments will be accepted until 5 pm on June 4th, 2010. We will look to have ACP’s draft comments letter to review and discuss by the next ACP meeting, the day before the public workshop, on May 26th, and can discuss it then.



Agricultural Market Expansion

If you would like to be on this working group, please contact Dan Noble at: (619-303-3694; dnoble@inquiryinternational.com).

At the Biocycle Conference, on April 13, 2010, the Agricultural Composting Working Group met with the Calrecycle Organics Team (Brenda Smyth, Gerold “Jerry” Beruman and others). Members of ACP’s Agricultural Working Group present at the meeting were Tom Kelley, Harvest Power, Inc., Chair, Paul Ryan, PF Ryan & Associates, Andrew Tuckman, Vision Recycling, Dave Beauchamp, Green N2 Green, as well as ACP Board President, Jeff Ziegenbein, IEUA, and Dan Noble, ACP Exec. Dir. Other members who couldn’t make the meeting include Bob Engel and Steve Patton. The outcome of the meeting was:

✦ Calrecycle is very supportive of our efforts to expand agricultural compost markets. However, at this time, due to budgetary constraints, this does not include funding support. Ways Calrecycle can support ACP’s ongoing efforts include: printing literature, hosting compost tools on their website, and staff support in writing, publishing, seminars and workshops, etc. ACP members present voiced their appreciation of this support even during these lean economic times.

✦ Agriculture Project Summary from last years Ag project. Dan Noble, Technical Advisor and Principal Author of the Ag Project Report, will work with Jerry Beruman to summarize the Calrecycle

report (May 2009) to be *most useful for the compost industry*. Jerry and Dan are to set up a timeline for this process (next few months).

✦ Next Steps for ACP Ag Working Group. As we do our next steps, we will provide tools for composters to assist them in expanding Ag markets for compost, including:

- compost use index (includes online specifications for specific crops),
- compost manual for ag advisors about compost, workshops and demonstration sites for specific crops and targeted to crop specific associations on compost use in the evolving sustainable agricultural practices for those crops

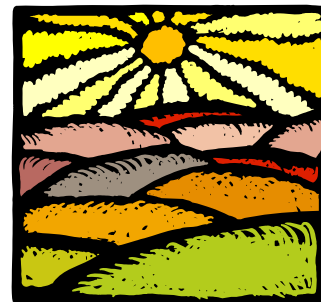
Background

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 the past decade. And while you do read a lot about our ag lands disappearing, nevertheless, ever more marginal lands are being brought into cultivation and production, as lands surrounding towns and cities are turned 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” (April 2010) to attend in a coordinated way, to these issues.



IMPORTANT WEBSITES TO VIEW

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), regarding the research project (to support rule making on Rule 4566, VOC mitigation best management practices on green waste compost piles) has not returned the next iteration of the paper. Even though we all gave comments in January, which were sent

in February, 2010, we have yet to hear back from the Chief Scientist, Fatih Buyksonmez of San Diego State University. We just got word from the SJVUAPCD project leader (May 17, 2010) that *“The project has been put on hold temporarily to work on another project. [They] plan to resume the compost project next week and get back to everyone*

within the next month.” If others would like a copy of those comments, please contact Dan Noble at dnoble@inquiryinternational.com. We’ll send out an announcement as soon as we hear from them about the resumption of the project and continued involvement by ACP.

AB 2137 Compost Nutrient Analysis

IMPORTANT WEBSITES TO VIEW

SJVUAPCD
www.valleyair.org
Compost Carbon Credits
<http://www.climateactionreserve.org/how/protocols/in-progress/composting/>

AB 2137 (Compost Nutrient Analysis, Assembly Member Wesley Chesbro) would allow composters to continue the longstanding practice of providing certified lab analyses showing the nutrient contents of their product to their customers, pending the completion of CDFA's evaluation of the proper regulatory standards for this material. It was previously not legal to provide nutrient analysis because composters couldn't "guarantee" a specific nutrient analysis in each batch of compost, owing to the variability of compost feedstocks in many green waste compost opera-

tions. The bill would allow composters to provide analysis, anyway, provided they add specific language describing that the analysis is not exact due to feedstock variability. And by providing a "certified laboratory analysis", composters can at least work with their customers to provide the actual analysis on the batch that they are providing. This would allow growers to account for the nutrients that are being provided by the compost they are using, without running afoul with the fertilizer regulations.

A recent version of the current wording of the bill was provided to ACP's lobbying partner CCC (California Compost Coalition, see article below in this newsletter, on CCC). ACP is considering CCC's request for support of this bill and will be discussing the details at May's ACP meeting. This is a potentially very important bill, since it can set the stage for an ongoing working relationship with CDFA (California Department of Food and Agriculture) relative to the regulation of compost quality and use in California.

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 com-

post... and possibly other feedstocks.

ACP has a seat in this process, is providing input and recommendations, and reporting back continuously to ACP membership.



SF Bay Area Soil Specifications Roundtable

BASMAA (the Bay Area Stormwater Management Agencies Association) held its soil specifications roundtable in the Bay Area on April 14th, and identified information that will help with preparing a regional biotreatment soil specification, for use in landscape-based stormwater treatment systems. Unfortunately, even though ACP composters were invited to participate, all of us were at the Biocycle Conference in San Diego at that time. Nevertheless, the regional specification for these, mostly, “bioswale” type specifications, may call for a sand that meets specific gradation requirements, mixed with compost that meets specific gradation requirements, with a goal of consistently achieving a 5-10 inch/hour infiltration rate, while supporting plant health. It was noted that a topsoil-based specification would be better for

plant health, however, it is easier to consistently achieve the desired infiltration rate with sand. The compost component is expected to help with plant health, as well as with pollutant removal.

We are receiving the meeting minutes, and are included on the distribution, to keep us in the loop. The BASMAA soil roundtable folks are hoping that roundtable meeting attendees, and interested parties who were unable to attend, may be interested in reviewing drafts of the regional biotreatment soil specifications, and other supporting information that the Regional Water Quality Control Board is requiring the BASMAA agencies to submit by December 1, 2010. We will distribute them to members for review as soon as they are received by us. Also, Frank Shields, of Soil

Control Labs, and Dan Noble (ACP,) have already provided some assistance to questions that they had about details of compost specifications. One of our new Bay Area ACP members, Andrew Tuckman, (Vision Recycling,) will be “taking point” on this relations. If you have any questions or want to participate more directly, please contact Andrew at: 510-385-0255, andrew.tuckman@visionrecycling.com.



IMPORTANT WEBSITES TO VIEW

BASMAA (the Bay Area Stormwater Management Agencies Association,
www.basmaa.org

“Bioswale” type specifications
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bioswale>

Soil Control Labs,
www.controllabs.com

ACP
www.healthysoil.org

Vision Recycling,
www.visionrecycling.com

Florida Landfill Ban– Bill Veto Recommendation to Gov. Crist

Along with other compost association collaborators (see new “Compost & Organics Association Collaborations” section below), ACP Board approved the submission of a letter to Florida Governor Charlie Crist. The letter requested that he veto the new legislation to rescind the landfill ban of organics going into Florida’s land-

fills. The main points in the letter were that:

- ✦ Will hurt Florida’s small businesses
- ✦ Will not contribute to energy independence
- ✦ Will hurt the formation of food waste recycling programs

✦ Will hurt the environment

Contradicts your own laws and the US EPA

A copy of the letter will be available with the handouts of ACP’s May meeting.



COMPOST PRODUCER SPOTLIGHT

Featuring “Kellogg Garden Projects”

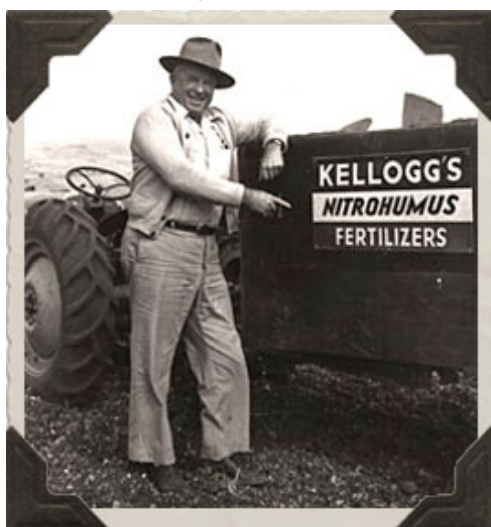
One of the largest, oldest and most respected compost companies in the Western U.S. is Kellogg Garden Products (www.kelloggsgarden.com). There is hardly a composter in the industry that doesn't know and respect Kellogg's brand. More than 80 years ago, H. Clay Kellogg Sr. found the roots of his family's innovative tradition in an unlikely place: the bottom of a dry Santa Ana riverbed. Little did H. Clay know at the time that the dark sediment he found was the soil equivalent of black gold, and that his discovery would ultimately shape the landscape of the Golden State—not to mention the future of his family. And it all happened quite unexpectedly one afternoon in the early 1920s while he worked as a surveyor. H. Clay noticed some vegetation thriving along the bank of the riverbed despite the generally dry Santa Ana climate. He scooped up some of the black soil (commonly known as sludge) that was located around the plants and took it home to experiment with it. Later, he applied the sediment to an orange tree in the front yard of his home and to another four acres of orange trees he owned.

The results were astounding as the trees soon after produced 4x the oranges than the other trees in his orchard, and many more oranges than previously. Neighbors and friends marveled at his beautiful yard and were amazed by the yield of his orange trees. He called his new discovery Nitrohumus®, as he had it analyzed and found it was rich in nitrogen and humus.

Eighty five years later, Kellogg Garden Products has been a major force behind the southern California agriculture, gardening and landscaping industries since it was founded. The company has deep roots spanning three generations. Planning has enabled the Kelloggs to retain the earlier generation's integrity while growing in new directions and exploring new markets and partnerships. The company marks its 85th anniversary in 2010.

H. Clay “Hap” Kellogg IV took over as Kellogg's current president and CEO in 1991. His sister, Kathy Kellogg Johnson, is the Chief Sustainability Officer for the company. And their mother, Jan Kellogg, serves on the Board of Directors. Kathy credits the foresight of her grandfather and father as instrumental in laying the foundation for Kellogg's continued success. “My grandfather was very smart, and my dad was way ahead of his time.” Hap Kellogg also credits the extended family of employees for making the company a success, “We have a lot good people here who have a great deal of passion and caring about their jobs. They have been instrumental in the company's growth through taking ownership over their roles.”

Kellogg's products have been used in creating a number of impressive landscapes and gardens in southern California and beyond. In the early 1950s, while they served together as members of the Orange County Farm Bureau board, Walt Disney sought H. Clay Kellogg's help in developing a viable jungle scene for Disneyland's planned Jungle Book ride. There was one major problem with the tropical plants that Disney had attempted to incorporate into the ride: tropical plants like those thriving in real jungles were difficult to cultivate in the dry Anaheim climate. H. Clay experimented with mixing Nitrohumus® with acidifying materials like bark and redwood and the plants soon thrived.



At the time, horticultural students from local agriculture programs visited Disneyland to study the plants growing in the Jungle Ride. Until then, they had rarely seen such plants thriving outside of a jungle or a temperature-controlled greenhouse. It is interesting to note that these two significant local companies are celebrating key milestones in 2010, with Disney marking its 55th anniversary and Kellogg Garden Products celebrating its 85th!

In 1995, Kathy Kellogg Johnson, and a few other private compost producers founded the Association of Compost Producers to address issues on behalf of the entire compost industry. Issues and challenges that a company even as large and successful as Kellogg Garden Products could not address alone. Today, 15 years later, Kathy Johnson is Vice President of the Board of Directors of ACP. Thanks Kathy for you and your family's leadership of both your company and the compost industry!



Inland Empire Regional Composting Authority Receives Award!

Recently featured in our March 2010, ACP Newsletter, the Inland Empire Regional Composting Authority (IERCA) just received Honors from the American Academy of Environmental Engineers®. IERCA has received the Excellence in Environmental Engineering® Honors Award in Operations/Management from the American Academy of Environmental Engineers® (AAEE). The AAEE Award seeks to identify, reward, and promote projects which encompass excellence in all aspects of environmental engineering practice. The criteria for being honored includes the demonstration of an integrated approach that considers all environmental media, quality measured by user satisfaction and performance, contribution to social and economic advancement, originality and innovation, as well as the complexity of the problem addressed. IERCA operates the nation's largest indoor composting facility, located in Rancho Cucamonga, CA. Solar panels can be found located directly on the facility's roof for energy production.





COMPOST NEWS/EVENTS

USGBC Meetings– North & Southern CA May & June

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)

Wednesday, May 26, 2010 from 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM (PT), USGBC-IE Presents: Inland Empire Green Building Conference & Expo 2010: "Creating Synergies"

USGBC-Los Angeles (www.usgbcla.org)

Tuesday, May 25, 10:30am, USGBC-LA High Performance "Green" Building Retrofits
Wednesday, June 16, 7:00pm, Green & Sustainable Building Certificate Program

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

May 26, 2010 05:00pm - 08:00pm, Benefits of LEED O&M: Fact or Fiction? |

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

May 19: Wounded Warrior Campus
June 3: Barona Resort & Casino Tour

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

East Bay

May 27, 2010, Thoughtful Community Planning in Curitiba, Brazil
June 16, 2010, Berkeley YMCA-PG&E Teen Center Tour
June 17, 2010, Commissioning, Energy & Atmosphere, Indoor Air Quality and YOU
June 23, 2010, Building a Net-Zero Home: Advantages, Misconceptions, and Challenges

San Francisco

May 20, 2010, Sustainable Communities Best Practices Forum: Bridging the Gap between Green Building and Urban Planning
May 25, 2010, Tour of City College Mixed-Use Building
May 26, 2010, Living Building Challenge Road Show
June 10, 2010, GreenerBuilder 2010
June 16, 2010, Berkeley YMCA-PG&E Teen Center Tour
June 23, 2010, Workshop: LEED Green Associate Exam Prep
June 24, 2010, The Competitive Edge, Part 3: Communicating the Value of Green Building Using the Principles of Real Estate Finance

Sacramento

May 20, 2010, Cosumnes River College Student Exhibition: 2010 Natural Talent Design Competition
June 17, 2010, UC Davis Viticulture and Enology Building Tour and Panel Presentation

Silicon Valley

May 20, 2010, EGB Tour of the Kirsch Center for Environmental Studies
May 21, 2010, Workshop: LEED Green Associate Exam Prep
June 8, 2010, Three Sustainable Strategies: San José Airport Expansion

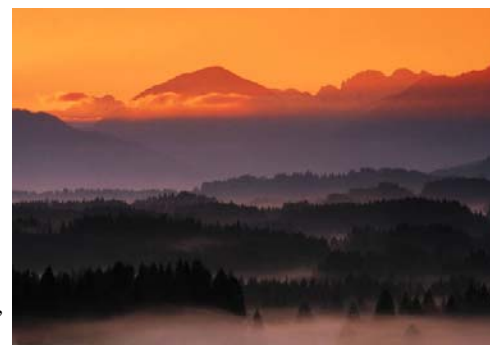
Organic Growing in So Cal July 22, 2010

OFAC (Organic Fertilizer Association of California) and the CAPCA (California Association of Pest Control Advisers, SoCal Chapter), are partnering on a seminar, "Meeting the Challenge of Urban Organic Growing in Southern California". The all day seminar will be held: Thursday, July 22 at Etiwanda Gardens, Etiwanda, CA. They expect over 150 PCAs and other specialists in the green industry

to attend. They are currently soliciting table top exhibitors and sponsors. Also, open for speaker suggestions.

The past support of firms exhibiting and sponsoring at their seminars series has been a key to their success. This is only periodically held in Southern California, and the topic is geared to communities in this region. Composters should seriously

consider participating, especially if they have organically certified material. For more information contact the OFAC Executive Director, Steven R. Beckley, S. Beckley and Associates, 1761 Woodside Drive, Woodland, CA 95695, (916)539-4107 – Cell, (530)666-2189 – Fax, sbeckley@aol.com.



2010 Pacific Southwest Organics Residuals Symposium

Energy and New Uses of Organic Residuals - Overcoming Cross-Media Challenges

September 14-15, 2010 – Sacramento Convention Center

<http://www.epa.gov/region9/waste/organics/symposium/index.html>

This is our fifth annual Pacific Southwest Organic Residuals Symposium, where organic residuals industry professionals, municipalities, regulators, researchers and other stakeholders come together to work out the optimal management

options for manures, biosolids, food wastes, green wastes, and other organic residuals. Our special focus this year is improving regulatory coordination among air, water, and resource recovery agencies, to promote those projects with

IMPORTANT WEBSITES TO VIEW

OFAC (Organic Fertilizer Association of California,

www.organicfertilizerassociation.org

CAPCA (California Association of Pest Control Advisers, SoCal Chapter

www.capca.com/southernCalifornia

Etiwanda Gardens, Etiwanda, CA.

www.etiwandagardens.com

USCC Call for Papers- <http://www.compostingcouncil.org/conference/abstracts.php>

US Composting Council Annual Conference – Jan. 23-26, 2011

A Call for abstracts was issued this month for next year's conference, to be held back in California again.

Abstracts are encouraged on the following conference topics:

Feedstocks, Collection, Processing & Energy Production

- ★ Increasing Food Residuals Composting in the U.S.
- ★ Renewable Energy from Organics
- ★ Composting Systems & Technologies
- ★ Odor Control, Process Management, & Facility BMP's
- ★ Compostable Plastics
- ★ Mortality Composting
- ★ Managing Disaster Debris

Economics, Business, Marketing and Markets

- ★ The Business of Organics Recycling
- ★ Marketing & Compost Quality
- ★ Applications & Benefits of Compost Use
- ★ Product and Market Developments

Environmental Protection, Regulations, Legislation, Education & Home Composting Climate Change, Organics & Composting Regulations & Legislation Air Quality Education Home Composting Programs

Abstract guidelines and forms

available [here](#)

Download Call for Papers in PDF format available [here](#)

Online call for papers available [here](#)

Download Abstract Submission Guidelines [here](#)

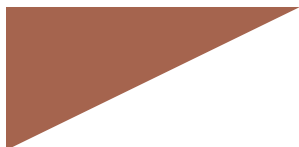
Online abstract guidelines available [here](#)

Download Abstract Submission form available [here](#)

Online submission form available [here](#)

Most of our members are also members of the USCC. Join us at the US Composting Council's 19th Annual Conference & Trade Show, January 23-26, 2011 | Santa Clara/San Jose, CA

USCC/ACP Compost Operations Training Course



Compost Operations training Course State at the State University of New York Cobleskill. The USCC's new Compost Operations Training Course is a 40-hr, 5-day course which includes hands-on activities on the knowledge and skills to run a successful composting facility.

Cost: EARLY BIRD SPECIAL! Up until June 1, 2010: USCC members: \$699,

Non-members: \$799

After June 1, 2010: USCC members: \$774, non-members \$874

[Click HERE for flyer and registration form](#)

NOVEMBER 15-19, 2010

Compost Operations Training Course

University of California Riverside

Details coming soon!

For more information, see: <http://www.compostingcouncil.org/education/training.php>

"You can tell how high a society is by how much of its garbage is recycled."

Dhyani Ywahoo

Floodplain Management Association Nov 2-5, 2010

**November 2-5, 2010
Loews Resort on Lake Las Vegas
Henderson, Nevada**

*When the Shoe Doesn't Fit...
Adapting to New Regulations*

CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS HERE

*Deadline: June 4, 2010
Registration starts at \$195!*

View Registrant and Sponsorship Options Here

http://www.floodplain.org/cmsAdmin/uploads/2010_Conference_Registration_Options_2_5.pdf

[0_Conference_Registration_Options_2_5.pdf](#)

Register to Attend the Conference Here
Register as A Sponsor or Exhibitor Here

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

The 2010 Bay-Friendly Landscape Conference and Mar-

ketplace will feature interactive sessions, professional networking, and a marketplace of cutting-edge technologies and products. Experts will offer practical tools and solutions to creating landscapes that conserve natural resources, prevent pollution, and cut greenhouse gas emissions while working with the uniqueness of the San Francisco Bay watershed.

NEW! [Pre-Conference Tour of Bay-Friendly Landscapes](#)

September 16th, 2010, space is limited. [Register now!](#)

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

“COMPOST OVERS”

Compost Mania

A new compost site for the promotion of backyard composting and compost education can be found at www.compostmania.com. It looks to be a good educational and compost and garden product support website. Thanks, Erika for bringing this interesting site to our attention!



“Water & Land: Old Problems, New Solutions

In celebration of Earth Day let us discuss a different class of entrepreneurial opportunities that can result from new solutions to age-old environmental problems. Technologies like solar, wind, ethanol and batteries have been well popularized in the press. However, for topics like water and land, what we mostly hear about are lawsuits and regulatory rulings. Join us and a panel of experts to learn about the underlying issues and trends affecting water and land, and the new business models being developed by some local San Diego

companies to better address our environmental problems.

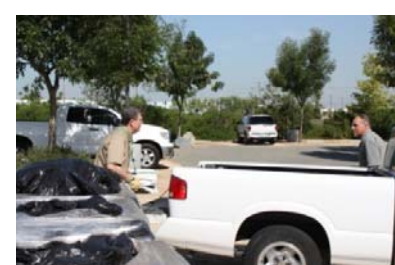
The panel of Experts include ACP Executive Director, Dan Noble, www.healthysoil.org, who spoke about the connections between composted organics, watershed management and creating sustainable agricultural, landscape and watersheds. Dr. Sandra Jacobson, co-founder of Algenic BioFuels, www.algenic.com, spoke on the topic of using algae as a new, highest energy Biofuel. And Joe Purohit, Founder/CEO of Ecolayers, Inc., www.ecolayers.com spoke about the .

The audience, of “The Indus Entrepreneurs” (www.sandiego.tie.org), were treated to new way of looking at the intersection of building healthy soils, sustainable bioenergy and collaborative watershed and environmental governance using state of the art web-based software networks. It was a clear example of the emerging, integrated sustainable marketplace.

International Compost Awareness Week

On May 2-8, 2010, IEUA Organics Management (IERCF) staff participated in a public and IEUA employee compost giveaway in celebration of International Compost Awareness Week (ICAW). Staff gave away over 1,000 bags of compost! The giveaway was an used as an opportunity to educate people about the benefits of using compost. They were told that compost is great for creating healthy soil in springtime gardens and turns grass bright green while saving water.

The ICAW program is "grass roots" in nature and allows a perfect opportunity to teach young and old about compost's ability to conserve water, protect groundwater and build beautiful landscapes. Each year the United States Composting Council sponsors a poster contest selecting a creative and exciting poster to represent ICAW for the year. Congratulations to Christopher J. Fee and Rose Volpe, City of Middleburg Heights Service Department, Middleburg Heights, Ohio! Their poster was chosen as the winning entry. Look for announcements next year encouraging everyone to participate in the poster contest. There are categories for adults and kids so everyone can participate! Visit compostingcouncil.org and see all of the poster entries as well as past winners. The website also offers great tips on composting and compost uses. Have a great spring!



COMPOST & ORGANICS ASSOCIATIONS COLLABORATIONS

Part of enacting ACP's mission of expanding compost markets in California is achieved by participating directly with National and State level associations that share part of our mission building healthy soil with high quality and quantity of compost use, i.e. sustainable organics and carbon management in California's watersheds. This new section of the ACP Newsletter provides both background on the form and quality of our relationships as well as the specific monthly activities with them.

US Composting Council (USCC)

ACP is an affiliate, state level association of the US Composting Council, although we are still in the process of coordinating with USCC about being a "formal, State Chapter". Most ACP members are also USCC members and

some of our members are on the USCC Board of Directors. In addition to ACP members, and our Science Coordinator, Dr. David Crohn, giving papers and presentations at the USCC annual conference, ACP co-sponsors various pro-

grams and events with USCC as it makes sense. For example, ACP is working with USCC to promote the Compost Operations Training Course in November 2010 in Riverside/San Bernardino County.

California Compost Coalition (CCC)

The California Compost Coalition (CCC) was created in 2002 by a group of compost operators to ban the use of Clopyralid, and was successful in passing a bill that has effectively limited the use, in order to produce clean compost. The CCC was utilized in 2003 and 2004 to address the Sudden Oak Death issue and ease the quarantine restrictions on moving wood chips out of the Bay Area to the Central Valley biomass plants. Most recently, the CCC weighed in on a bill to regulate organic compost. The CCC will be resurrected in 2009 and 2010 to address the statewide issues facing organic processing. CCC is only a direct Lobbying Coalition comprised of permitted compost operators, will not host workshops or conventions, and does not fund educa-

tional or scientific research.

The California Compost Coalition is a registered Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) Lobbying Coalition with quarterly filings since 2002, with Edgar & Associates, Inc. as the Register Lobbying Firm representing CCC. The bank account for CCC uses Edgar & Associates, Inc. Federal Tax ID Number, as required by Bank of America. <http://theedgarinstitute.org>.

Since ACP is a 501(c)3, non-profit association, our purpose is education and research that supports *our mission to expand the value and volume of compost used in Cali-*

fornia. Thus, we are not set up to, nor do we, lobby. However, we do work directly with many government agencies, ongoing, to insure that they have the latest research, and are educated about quality compost production and use. This is to ensure that the laws and regulations that they promulgate are consistent with ACP's mission. Therefore, some of our members who want to support compost lobbying in California also participate with CCC. We also support, with education, research, demonstrations, white papers, etc., CCC compost lobbying initiatives that support our mission of building healthy soils in California with high quality and quantities of compost.

California Organics Recycling Council (CORC)

ACP supported the special session put on by CORC at the recent Biocycle Conference in San Diego, CA April 12, 2010 on Biotreatment Technologies. This session was a "sell out" and attended by over 150 people at the conference with presentations made by over 10 companies and state agencies involved in this developing marketplace.

One of ACP's newest members, Harvest Power, Inc., www.harvestpower.com, via their Marketing Director, Kate Wattson,

gave a presentation on their high solids anaerobic digestion and composting project development process and business model.

Currently CORC with ACP and CCC support, is going to sponsor a special session at the upcoming USCC conference on the technology, regulations and marketing of "compostable plastics." The last CORC board meeting, May 14, 2010 was devoted to this topic. It was attended by a special guest composter from the State of Wash-

ington, Cedar Grove Composting, who has over 10 years of experience working with testing and developing compostable plastic procedures for their particular compost operation. Michelle Young, CORC Chair, is putting together a "matrix" of the multi-lateral issues that compostable plastics entail i.e. the various types, technologies, specifications, standards, regulations, companies, recycling and co-mingling challenges with other plastics, etc. We will try to keep you posted in the newsletter as this unfolds.

Organic Fertilizer Association of California (OFAC)

www.organicfertilizerassociation.org, P.O. Box 3725 Pinedale, CA 93650

OFAC's function is "Representing the California Organic Fertilizer Industry and promoting the knowledge of safe and effective organic farming systems through outreach, education and legislation"

NEXT MEETING

The next OFAC Board/Membership meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 19, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. It will be held in the conference room of Monterey AgResources, 3343 E. Central Ave, (SW corner of Central and Willow), Fresno. Please let me know if you are attending.

NOP MEETING

A very productive meeting was held with Miles McEvoy, NOP, and members of his staff prior to the National Organic Standards Board meeting in Woodland. Participating in the meeting from OFAC was: Chris Totten, Doug Graham, Brian Banducci, John Salmonson, and Katherine Borchard. Items discussed included: Inspection procedures,

Role of CDFA, and Uniform Standards. Miles was very receptive to our input. One thing that came out of the discussions is that NOP is looking very closely at the CDFA Fertilizer Organic Input Program to be a model to the rest of the country. Complete update at May 19th meeting.

I attended parts of the National Organic Standards Board meeting, along with several OFAC members, last week in Woodland. It was an interesting experience to see the procedures, decision making process, and hear the various comments. Also Doug Graham and I attended the CCOF Reception at the meeting location on Tuesday evening.

The link to the National Organic Program web site is <http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMSV1.0/nop>. They do a good job in keeping it updated regarding policy and other issues that impact organics.

CDFA

A subcommittee of the Fertilizer Inspection

Advisory Board is currently being formed to look at issues and the implementation process of AB 856. It is expected that OFAC will be well represented on the committee. One of the big issues is the regulation of compost products produced from green and urban waste. The production and application of these products are currently being regulated by CalRecycle.

Legislation that would exempt these products (AB 2137) from labeling requirements for several years passed out of the Assembly Ag Committee last week. CDFA is opposed to this legislation and if their position does not change, it is reasonable to assume it would be vetoed by the Governor. But in Sacramento, who knows.

I attended the California Organic Products Advisory Committee meeting, last Friday, in Sacramento. A presentation was made by Miles McEvoy and Mark Bradley on the USDA audit of the California program. Progress is being made on resolving the issues.

California Resource Recovery Association (CRRRA) www.crrra.com,

CRRRA is an association of the recycling coordinators of cities throughout California (62% of their membership is of this type), other members include State agencies involved in recycling (e.g. Calrecycle) as well as recycling industry companies, e.g. Recology, Urban Ore, etc. Their vision and mission are:

CRRRA Vision

Achieve environmental sustainability in and beyond California through Zero Waste strategies including product stewardship, waste prevention, reuse, recycling and composting.

CRRRA Mission

Provide CRRRA members with resources to advance local, regional and statewide waste reduction efforts which result in critical environmental and climate protection outcomes.

CRRRA Principles (see their web page: "Mission, Vision, Principles").

As you can see, composting is explicitly stated in their mission. In addition, CRRRA has special "Councils" as well as local Chapters (see the "Technical Council" and "Chapters" sections of their website for the active councils and chapters. Sometimes we work with the CRRRA Board and/or its committee's, especially Policy, to provide education and research support on compost issues. ACP has a permanent seat on the California Organics Recycling Council (CORC) Board, which is chaired by Michelle Young, City of San Jose. Also, ACP members participate in local Chapters in their area.

Local Chapters **Inland Empire**

On May 3rd and 4th a CRRRA Certification Course on Zero Waste and Organics was held at IEUA in Chino, CA.

http://www.crrra.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=160&Itemid=196

A CRRRA compost workshop is scheduled for July 14, 2010 at IEUA in Chino, CA.

San Diego

Dan Noble, ACP Executive Director, follows the agenda of the Local CRRRA Chapter in San Diego and attends the meeting periodically. It is run mostly by the principals of Zero Waste San Diego, www.zerowastesandiego.org, a non-profit group promoting zero waste in San Diego County. Zero Waste San Diego's mission is to create, promote and implement programs that maximize management and conservation of resources, reduce greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to global warming, and persuade citizens, businesses, and governments in the San Diego County region to adopt a zero waste philosophy. This is seen as completely consistent with CRRRA's statewide mission as well.

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

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