



# 2010 Annual Report



**Production**



**Delivery  
for  
Agriculture**



**Application**



**Landscapes**



**Environmental Protection**



## ACP 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 protecting air, water and soil.

ACP members work and **invest** together to increase compost **markets** and improve compost product & 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.

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## 1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: OVERVIEW OF ACP 2010

As reflected initially in the 2008-2009 ACP Annual Report, we were all working our way through the deepest recession since the Great Depression of the 1930's. And as we all have experienced, 2010 was not the "quick recovery" that we would have liked to have experienced in the compost industry. State budgets have been severely cut, and we are facing even more cuts in 2011. Business, while holding the line, has not rebounded, especially in the construction related businesses, especially the new landscapes and landscape conversion markets. Cost cutting for both materials and labor has been the modus operandi of most California businesses, including compost production.

During 2010, however, ACP has engaged in ongoing *initiatives, creating and launching new programs and relationships* along with integrated action in the key areas that we have traditionally engaged addressing questions and actions in the areas of:

1. **Projects:** What projects should we continue, expand or initiate, given our limited budget?
2. **Membership:** How best can we gain more members to join us in implementing our mission? And what is our relationship to the national US Composting Council?
3. **Issues:** What are the key issues and challenges of the compost industry?
4. **Actions:** How can we, collectively, work to turn our challenges into opportunities?

Owing in large measure to the fiscal and industry challenges, this annual report is actually a report of the past year and a half, and it aligns, not incidentally, with both ACP's fiscal year end, June 30th, 2009 and the emergence of the larger economy out of the recession and into recovery through the calendar year of 2010. However, at this writing, the California State government, a partner in many of ACP's ongoing projects, is searching for a new footing under the leadership of a new governor, Jerry Brown, a Democrat, having replaced Arnold Schwarzenegger, our celebrity Republican Governor. But even during this slow recovery period, ACP members continue to look and move forward with positive intent and action to make good on its mission of *expanding quality compost markets in California*. In addition, our members continue to engage with each other, our clients and our supportive partners (like the State and Regional Environmental Agencies) reinforcing through our actions our association's Vision, Mission and Values (see them in Appendix 3.1).

Some of the highlights of the last year and a half, from July 2009 through December 2010, include:

1. **Compost Market Expansion Projects:** Statewide, co-sponsored compost market expansion project leadership:
  - a. Agricultural Compost Project Industry Summary
  - b. Compost Utilization by Local Governments
    - i. CRRRA Organics Meeting - 2009
    - ii. Turfgrass & Landscape Expo - 2009
    - iii. Compost Use to Improve Water Quality
  - c. Carbon Credits for Compost Production - Protocol Developed
  - d. Sustainable Landscape Conversion Initiative Grant Submission & Award

2. **ACP Membership:** Expanding our membership activities
  - a. Special promotional membership in 2010
  - b. Face-to-face meetings with prospective members throughout California
  - c. New ACP members signed up in 2010
  - d. Petition and become an Official State Chapter of USCC
3. **Compost Legislation & Regulations:** Extensive legislative and regulatory involvement, specifically:
  - a. SJVAPCD - Draft Rule 4566 – Composting Green Waste; testimony, recommendations, participating on the Technical Working Group
  - b. SCAQMD - Draft Rule 1133.1 & 1133.3
  - c. Pathogen Control with Compost
4. **Compost Education:** Multiple conference and workshop presentations
  - a. Conferences: USCC, Biocycle, CRRRA, Bay Friendly Conference, SCSWM Forum
  - b. Workshops: Landscape Expo, Water Quality, Dirt! The Movie, Air Rules

It bears pointing out that this list doesn't include all of the ongoing announcements and discussions by and between members at each of the monthly ACP meetings. *One of the main purposes and accomplishments of any ACP gathering is the opportunity to meet regularly and discuss issues with colleagues within the compost industry.* Those activities support and enliven the actual accomplishments outlined in this Annual Report over the past year and a half.

Most importantly, all the ACP members, and especially its Board of Directors, deserve high praise and acknowledgment for their vision, time and financial support of the implementation of ACP's mission (see leadership and member list in Appendix 3.2). Without their clear intention and support, this important compost producer industry association would not exist, and we would not be making the positive movement in the direction of expanding quality compost utilization in California.

## 2 ACP ACTIONS AND RESULTS

In chronological order, ACP's specific actions and results, from July 2009 through December 2010 are summarized in a table in the Appendix 3.3 of this report. While ACP members and staff have performed many significant actions in the past year and a half, this year we have met with more positive results from our efforts than in the previous year and a half, during the depths of the recession. Reviewing our results and moving forward during these renewing times is the passion and the purpose of the Association of Compost Producers. Each of these actions and results are discussed in greater detail in the body and appendices of this Annual Report, along with the supporting documents that are posted on ACP's website ([www.healthsoil.org](http://www.healthsoil.org)).

We discuss these activities and outcomes in a little greater detail, with cited references in the body of this report. The actions and results *are divided into the main sections of ACP's mission*, namely:

- Compost Market Expansion Projects
- ACP Membership
- Compost Legislation & Regulations
- Compost Education

### 2.1 Compost Market Expansion Projects

As clearly articulated in ACP's mission, our association is "***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 protecting air, water and soil. ACP members work and invest together to increase compost markets and improve compost product & manufacturing standards.***" Along these lines, ACP staff and members have been engaged over the past year and a half continuing and developing new projects. They are the:

- Agricultural Compost Project Industry Summary
- Compost Utilization by Local Governments
  - CRRRA Organics Meeting - 2009
  - Turfgrass & Landscape Expo - 2009
  - Compost Use to Improve Water Quality
- Carbon Credits for Compost Production
- Sustainable Landscape Conversion Grant Submission & Award

In addition, ACP continues to lead the industry in articulating both the barriers and opportunities to define and expand compost markets in California. These are outlined in this section.

#### Agricultural Compost Project

The Ag Compost Project, which was completed with Calrecycle in mid 2009, was recommended to continue by the ACP project managers and technical advisors. This is because the agricultural market is the largest compost market in California, and is still both undervalued and can still support the most growth of compost use and quality enhancements. For this reason, the "ag market" for compost is of keen sustaining interest too all ACP members. Because Calrecycle, along with independent composters did not have the budget to continue this market expansion

project, it was put on hold. However, two extensions of this project were completed and initiated in the past year. These were:

- **Brief Report:** In order to make the work of the Ag Compost Project more accessible to composters and potential agriculture end-users (growers, farmers), ACP produced a Report Brief document that synopsized a 70 page report document, with 40 other supporting documents into a 12 page report brief, titled: "AgCompost-Project Report Brief 072610"
- **ACP Ag Working Group & Compost Use Index Next Steps:** In addition, ACP formed an "Ag Working Group" and outlined next steps to take the results of this project out to the marketplace. The purpose of the ACP Agricultural Market Expansion Working Group (Ag Working Group) is to define a strategy and implement specific tactics (market development programs) to expand sustainable compost markets into enduring soil enhancement applications in the agricultural industry in California. Based on the background and recommendations from the Ag project report and results (May 2009, project with Calrecycle), ACP AG Working Group prioritized the following subset of the 30 or so recommendations that came out of that study:
  1. Initiate the Compost Use Index (CUI) wiki, and assign an operations manager to it (creating a perpetual funding mechanism by system users)
  2. Create a "marketing system" for integrating STA test results, specific ag specs and the CUI wiki
  3. Develop an ACP specific Ag Market Development Program:
    - a. Outreach Materials (Ag Soil Manual & CUI wiki)
    - b. Outreach seminars through RCD's and professional landscape and ag programs

This program, after being articulated and prioritized, was put on hold until two other factors could be generated by ACP and its partners (especially Calrecycle) to:

- 1) Generate sufficient *additional funding* beyond the ACP dues to fund this initiative, and
- 2) Develop a rationale and business plan for the Compost Use Index as part of this project

This is being worked on in 2011 (see "ACP 2011 Goals" in Appendix 3.4 to this report).

## Compost Utilization by Local Governments

Continuing the experience of the previous Caltrans and Local Governments projects funded by Calrecycle (see ACP annual reports for 2006, 2007 and 2008-2009), a third project consisting of two demonstration sites, as well as 9 workshops was initiated in 2008 and was carried through 2010, focused on expanding compost utilization by local governments. ACP has been participating by both sponsoring workshops, providing technical advice as well as providing information to workshop attendees about the testing and sourcing of quality compost, produced by our members. Three outcomes of this were:

- **CRRA Organics Meeting - 2009:** As part of ACP's involvement on the California Resource Recovery Association's "California Organics Recycling Council" ([www.crra.com](http://www.crra.com)), we co-chaired the "Organics Management" dinner, and both provided and received new barriers and opportunities of organics recycling, including

- commercial compost production. These were summarized and updated in a document titled "Organics Ind Dynamics & Opportunities 0909"
- **Turfgrass & Landscape Expo - 2009:** As part of the continuing process of providing compost seminars under this grant process ACP participated in presenting an entire morning session at the 2009 Turfgrass & Landscape Expo in November of 2009 at the Long Beach Convention Center. The session was attended by approximately 40 private and public landscape professionals and the presentation is on the ACP website as "Landscape EXPO - Noble-ACP 110509".
  - **Compost Use to Improve Water Quality:** As an extension and continuation of the larger Compost Utilization by Local Government contracts (see ACP Annual Report 2008-2009) there was an extension of those projects to view the effect of compost (both biosolids and greenwaste) on fire ravaged lands water infiltration and erosion control and water quality enhancement. Dr. David Crohn, ACP Science Advisor, and UC Riverside Associate Professor, and UC Cooperative Extension Scientist, was Chief Scientist on the project. ACP provided both promotion of the workshop on the research to the compost industry, as well as a paper specifically oriented for compost industry professionals. This paper still needs to be peer reviewed and distributed, but it is available in draft form as " Compost to Improve Water Quality-Paper DN Draft 043010"

### Carbon Credits for Compost Production

ACP's Compost Carbon Credits Taskforce began activity in January 2010. ACP member and 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. Via Thornton's representation, ACP participated in the development of the "Organic Waste Composting Protocol." ACP produced both a comment letter into the protocol development process ("ACP Compost Protocol Comment Ltr to CAR 060710") and had direct input, via Thornton, to the protocol itself. Final protocol is available on the CAR Website as "Organic Waste Composting Protocol" at: <http://www.climateactionreserve.org/how/protocols/adopted/organic-waste-composting/current/>.

### Sustainable Landscape Conversion Initiative

Starting in mid 2009, ACP lead an effort to develop a Sustainable Landscape Initiative within the San Diego Region. This has always been envisioned as a prototype for engaging composters statewide in participating in sustainable landscape initiatives using their compost products. The Bay Friendly Landscape Coalition in the Bay Area ([www.bayfriendlycoalition.org](http://www.bayfriendlycoalition.org), initiated and lead by Stopwaste.org) is a one regional model within California, as are the Soils for Salmon ([www.soilsforsalmon.org](http://www.soilsforsalmon.org)) and Building Soils ([www.buildingsoil.org](http://www.buildingsoil.org)) in the Puget Sound region. National models have recently been promulgated by other associations and private companies; notably the "Sustainable Sites Initiative", by the American Society of Landscape Architects ([www.asla.org](http://www.asla.org), and [www.sustainablesites.org](http://www.sustainablesites.org)) and the staff of Filtrexx International who recently created comprehensive book title "The Sustainable Site: The Design Manual for Green Infrastructure and Low Impact Development (at [www.thesustainable.com](http://www.thesustainable.com)).

ACP began working with Surfrider Foundation, San Diego Chapter, to see if it made sense to team with their developing Ocean Friendly Landscape initiative

(<http://www.surfrider.org/ofg.asp>; see also "Ocean Friendly Garden Program Strategy 101509"). However, after a few meetings and attempts to work together, they did not want to collaborate directly, and wanted to pursue their own program development independently of ACP's efforts and healthy soil agenda.

ACP regrouped and pursued the formation of a "Sustainable Landscape Conversion Coalition" in the San Diego region, using key people and organizations who had a stake in this process (see especially "ACP Newsletter August 2011", page 2, for details on our team and proposal. This culminated in submission of a grant proposal that was accepted, for \$150,000 to begin in mid 2011, under the Prop 84 monies ([www.rmwater.com/clients/sdirwmp/funding.html](http://www.rmwater.com/clients/sdirwmp/funding.html)) in collaboration with the San Diego County Water Authority. This is 3/4 of the requested award of \$200,000, plus an additional \$100,000 of in-kind contribution that the ACP team proposed (see "SLCI Overview 080910", for a one page overview of a 20+ page online grant application). Our independent proposal was combined with three other Sustainable Landscape proposals submitted by the Water Authority, San Diego County and the City of San Diego, such that the total award for sustainable landscape will be \$1,050,000 over a two year period. ACP is now slated to play a more focused role of providing "compost best practices and actual compost donations" to the other team members in the larger project.

## 2.2 ACP Membership

In the past year and a half, ACP continued to engage in creative membership expansion activities. We found that the recession continued to provide downward pressure on composter's capability to invest in the market expansion activities that ACP provides. The activities in last part of 2009 through 2010 included:

- New Member Initiatives and Sign Ups
- Petition and becoming an Official State Chapter of US Composting Council

### New Member Initiatives and Sign Ups

The new member initiatives in the past 1½ years has been: a) special promotional membership in 2010, b) face-to-face meetings with prospective members throughout California, and c) new ACP members signed up in 2010, and/or are expected to sign up early in 2011:

- Special Promotional Membership: At the end of 2009, and extending into the first quarter of 2010, ACP offered initially a 40% dues discount for members signing up prior to the end of 2009 and then a 20% discount for members signing up in the first quarter of 2010. ACP received two new members, City of Santa Rosa, and Vision Recycling, as a direct result of this promotion.
- Face-to-Face Meetings: As part of attending both regular and special compost business meetings and conferences throughout California, ACP President (Jeff Zeigenbein) and Executive Director (Dan Noble) set up meetings throughout the region and state with the following individuals and compost organizations:
  - Paul Blount, Operations Manager, City of Los Angeles
  - Zachary Kay, City of Santa Rosa
  - Andrew Tuckman, Vision Recycling
  - Nathan Gorth, City of Modesto, co-composting facility,
  - Vince Tye, Grover Landscape Solutions (now part of Recology), Chris Choate and Kim Carrier, Recology
  - Glenn Bohling, Operations Manager and Sales, & Mark Buntjer , GM, Republic Services - Newby Island Compost Facility
  - Bud Chase, Republic Services - Otay Mesa Compost Facility
  - Richard Crockett & Chuck Tobin, Burrtec Waste Industries
  - Bill Camarillo, Agromin
  - Jack Wright and Roger Aguinaga, Aguinaga Green
  - Michael Hardy, Calbiomass
  - Lorrie Loder, Synagro
  - Henry Viramontes, Viramontes Compost
  - Beverly Williams & Henry Corona, Advanced Disposal
  - Jared Peters, Trane Comprehensive Solutions

We are in the process of obtaining new members from these meetings as outlined and discussed next.

- New ACP Members: As a result of a combination of the above efforts, as well as the impending USCC State Chapter designation (discussed below), ACP received the following new members during the time covered by this Report (July 2009 to Dec. 2010):
  - Zachary Kay, City of Santa Rosa

- Andrew Tuckman, Vision Recycling
- Richard Crockett & Chuck Tobin, Burrtec Waste Industries
- Roc White & Paul Relis, CR&R
- Lorrie Loder, Synagro
- Tom Kelley, Harvest Power

We believe, and are actively working with, representatives from Recology, Republic Services, Calbiomass, Terre Verde, Aguinaga Green and Waste Management, who we intend to sign up in 2011, as a further result of these membership acquisition efforts.

### **USCC California State Chapter - Proposal & Acceptance**

On December 22, 2010, the **US Composting Council (USCC)** Board of Directors voted to make the 15 year old, California focused **Association of Compost Producers (ACP)** an official "state chapter". USCC and its members in California will gain the benefits of:

- State representation from the largest state compost market in the U.S.
- ACP's 15 years of experience and relationships of representing composters within California
- Expansion of compost use volume and value in the California market
- CalRecycle working relationships developed by our members and professional staff
- A bridge from state compost market expansion to National support by USCC
- Tighter camaraderie both within California and between California and the rest of the country.

ACP submitted a proposal and explanation letter to USCC State Chapter Committee contained in the two documents (found on the ACP Website) as:

- ACP USCC State Chapter Proposal 9.29.10
- ACP USCC State Relations Committee Letter 9.29.10

Details as to ACP's proposal can be found in these documents. Based on this request, the USCC Board made the affirmative decision to make ACP an "official California State Chapter" starting in calendar year 2011. A press release was sent out immediately and can be found as an Appendix to this Annual Report as "ACP\_USCC Chapter Press Release" in the 2010 Annual Report document library on ACP's website ([www.healthysoil.org/ACPdocuments](http://www.healthysoil.org/ACPdocuments)).

ACP leadership, management and members, making good on the promise of being a USCC State Chapter beginning immediately in 2011, held a "California State Chapter Meeting" at the USCC Annual Conference on January 25, 2011, held at the Hyatt Regency in Santa Clara, CA. Further activities and outreach continue into 2011 and are written into ACP's 2011 Goals (Appendix 3.4).

## 2.3 Compost Legislation & Regulations

While ACP is not strictly a “lobbying” type of an industry association, and many of our larger agency members also retain lobbyists, as well as have an ongoing working relationship with State and local regulatory agencies, nevertheless, ACP members fully acknowledge that regulations can make or break compost markets. In addition, Calrecycle, specifically, has been very supportive of ACP’s mission to expand compost markets, and, as seen above in this report, when budget monies existed, have funded projects that ACP has recommended and either co-lead or collaborated with them in accomplishing. In addition, ACP has returned the favors in-kind, and worked with not only Calrecycle on other compost related projects, but has been directly involved providing testimony and recommendations on other initiatives that affect compost quality and market growth in air, water, solids, organic fertilizer and mixed media approaches to managing renewable carbon resources. These efforts, many of them ongoing, are briefly outlined in this section.

### Air

The two main air pollution control regulations that ACP has been working on and will continue to work on in 2011 are Draft Rule 1133.3, in the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD), and Draft Rule 4566, in the San Joaquin Air Pollution Control District (SJAPCD), as outlined here:

- SJVAPCD- Draft Rule 4566 – Composting Green Waste. Has participated in the oversight, and recommendations to SJVAPCD in their Draft Rule 4566 development of Green Compost Operations in the San Joaquin Valley. Tracking of this process can be found in the ACP 2010 newsletters as well as the most recent comment letter and Air Pollution Regulation Workshop Results as "Air Workshop WriteUp Final 120210". This work is continuing into 2011, and has yet to be completed.
- SCAQMD - Draft Rule 1133.1 & 1133.3 - In addition, thanks to long time ACP member, Paul Ryan, we submitted comments on SCAQMD (South Coast Air Quality Management District) Proposed Rule (PR) 1133.3 – Green Waste Composting (air pollution control measures in the South Coast Air Quality Management District, SCAQMD) along with the following industry organizations:
  - California Refuse Recycling Council - Southern District
  - Inland Empire Disposal Association
  - Los Angeles County
  - Waste Management Association Solid Waste Association of Orange County.

The joint letter that we sent can be found on ACP’s website as "1133.3\_Comment\_letter\_090610". ACP is continuing to actively work with these other associations, and its leadership, directly with the SCAQMD Staff to provide further information, input and recommendations into 2011. These rules are still very much a work in process. See also "Air Workshop WriteUp Final 120210", since it includes work on both these similar, but distinct draft air rules.

### Solids

As discussed above in section 2.1, ACP has worked with the CalRecycle ([www.calrecycle.ca.gov](http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov)) on four major compost market expansion projects over as many years. But in addition to these more formal projects, ACP has also been working with the Calrecycle and other state local

agencies, independently, on some of their other industry related policy and industry growth issues. The following projects or input initiated as an outgrowth of State and local policy implementation initiatives outline this work.

- Florida Landfill Ban – ACP sent a veto recommendation to Gov. Crist to not rescind the ban on green waste in Florida landfills.
- SD 8.3 Alternative Daily Cover and Food Green Waste Composting – ACP members attended a special workshop and provided input on the development of new ADC and Food Green Waste composting regulations being developed by the regulatory branch of Calrecycle (formerly the California Integrated Waste Management Board, or CIWMB). See comment letter as "ACP CIWMB SD 8.3 Ltr 081909" and "CalRecycle SD8.3 ACP 030310.pdf".

## Food & Agriculture

The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) had two initiatives that affected composters in 2010:

- Pathogen Control
- Organic Compost Labeling
- Pathogen Control - On February 25th, 2010, CDFA held an 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. Held at the Los Angeles County Arboretum, in Arcadia, CA, the purpose was to discuss about “The Asian citrus psyllid (psyllid), an insect pest known to vector citrus greening, a devastating disease of citrus, 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. 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, and therefore their product will not be further regulated since compost is considered a "pathogen reduction best management practice." The uncomposted chipped and ground material is what is of concern, and, unfortunately, ACP does not have these type of operations as members of our association.
- Organic Compost Labeling - AB 856 (Caballero. Fertilizing material: organic input material.) - The organics fertilizer industry (via CDFA and the Organic Fertilizer Association of California, <http://www.organicfertilizerassociation.org>, in order to rectify errors in organic fertilizer labeling within that part of the industry, promoted an implemented a bill that also included compost labeling. However, the affiliate member association to ACP, the California Compost Coalition (<http://ccc.it5.us>) was more directly involved on this issue in 2010 than any ACP members. Additionally, a number of ACP members already have fertilizer labels on their compost products, so for them, this is a moot issue. ACP is engaging in the implementation of this labeling as part of its 2011 activities.

## 2.4 Compost Education

As part of, or in addition to the above projects and work, ACP co-sponsored and/or co-lead compost presentations of various types at conference or independent compost works over the past year and a half. These included the following meetings and venues.

### Conferences

- California Resource Recycling Association, August 2009, Rancho Mirage, CA
- BioCycle Conference, April 2010, San Diego, CA
- Pacific Southwest Southwest Organics Residuals Symposium, September 2010, Sacramento, CA
- Bay Friendly Landscape Conference, September 2010, San Francisco, CA
- Southern CA Waste Management Forum, November, 2010, Fullerton, CA

### Workshops

#### Special ACP Meeting/Workshops

- **Special Screening of "Dirt! The Movie"**, Discussion Workshop, August 2010 (see ACP Newsletter August [& September] 2010)
- **Air Pollution Draft Rules:** A special ACP meeting was held on December 2, 2010 to address new Air Pollution Control rules being promulgated by *both* the South Coast Air Quality Management District (PR 1133.3), and the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (PR 4566). The meeting Presentations, Q & A, and Related Issues to these two rules are presented in this Air Workshop Write-Up, along with our Next Steps for further action. A Summary of the findings and action for Existing and New and Expanded compost facilities and Next Steps can be found in a separate document titled "Air Workshop WriteUp Final 120210".

#### Caltrans and Local Government Compost Use

- **Composting Workshop: Next Generation Sustainable**, The 2009 Landscape Expo, November, 2009, Long Beach, CA
- **Compost Use for Improving Water Quality**, UC Riverside Extension, March 2010

### 3 APPENDIX

#### 3.1 ACP's Vision, Mission and Values

##### Our Vision

Complete beneficial reuse of organics residuals in California, with compost playing a central role to build and re-build sustainable healthy soils, keeping our state's lands productive, green and biologically diverse for generations to come.

##### 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 protecting air, water and soil.

ACP members work and *invest* together to increase compost *markets* and improve compost product & 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 Members Core Values

- Building healthy soil, our customers' needs and product safety drive the quality of our products, our manufacturing processes and soil testing methods, not (solely) regulations.
- We support regulations that build healthy soil, benefit people and the environment.
- We never use our markets to *dispose* of excess product inventory.
- We never site a composting facility that will not be *welcomed* by the surrounding community.
- The odor of our products and facilities will match the expectations of our customers.
- We support creating value not merely “lowest cost.”
- We assume people are smart enough to understand clear ideas of value. It is our job to inform them with simple, meaningful messages.

##### Healthy Soil Benefits, Characteristics

**The benefits of healthy soil, made with compost, are:**

- **Healthy Soil Delivers Water Abundance and Productivity**
  - Healthy soil made with compost can conserve up to 30% of water use by itself. When combined with efficient irrigation systems, California-friendly plants, and optimal maintenance; water savings can be as high as 80-90% over traditional landscapes!
- **Composted Organics Saves Landfill Space**

- We can return nutrients and organic matter in plant clippings, selected food leftovers, animal manure, and biosolids to the land in the form of compost where they *build healthy soil* in our communities, conserving up to 70% of landfill space for non-recyclable wastes.
- **Compost Helps Turn Marginal Soil into Healthy Soil**
  - Marginal or sub-standard, unproductive soils must be re-built either by the developer or the new property owner in order to grow anything *and* conserve water.
- **Healthy Soil Makes Cleaner Groundwater Basins**
  - Healthy soil made with proper compost can help purify the water that seeps to the groundwater basin. How?
- **Compost Controls Pests and Weeds**
  - Compost use reduces the need for pesticides and herbicides. How?
- **Healthy Soil Increases Water Purity & Abundance**
  - Healthy soil made with compost is a proven remedy to reduce runoff that can cause surface water pollution and to return more clean rainwater into local aquifers.

### Healthy soil has the following attributes:

- **Optimum Structure:** An optimum combination of physical inorganic and organic constituents that maximize productivity for each plant species:
  - *Erosion Resistant:* A property of healthy soil is that it absorbs rain fall and run off because of it's added organic matter which acts as a sponge.
  - *Good Depth:* Optimum top soil depth for growing the desired landscape, crop or native ecosystem
- **Balanced Nutrients:** Proper balance of natural and beneficial compounds, especially beneficial plant nutrients:
  - *Macro Nutrients:* The main plant nutrients include nitrogen, phosphorous, potassium, calcium, magnesium, and sulphur. Adding too much of these beneficial nutrients can be toxic to plants or seep below the root zone and contaminate the groundwater.
  - *Micro Nutrients:* The remaining essential elements needed by plants include boron, chlorine, copper, iron, manganese, molybdenum, and zinc. Again, too much of any of these can be harmful or toxic to plants.
  - *Water:* Optimum water content for cultivation of desired plants.
- **Non-Toxic:** No excess accumulation of contaminants that might be toxic to plants, animals or people, including but not limited to:
  - *Salt*, in its various forms
  - *Trace metals* above the amount required by plants
  - *Organic compounds* that are unnatural and/or present in toxic amounts
- **Pathogen Free:** Acceptable, low levels of pathogens or harmful microorganisms
- **Diligence:** Healthy soil must be diligently managed to maintain the optimum profile for its use.

## 3.2 ACP Board and Members – 2010

	Organization	Contacts	Phone	Email
<b>Board</b>				
1	Inland Empire Utility Agency	Jeff Ziegenbein, <b>ACP President</b>	909-993-1981	<a href="mailto:jziegenbein@ieua.org">jziegenbein@ieua.org</a>
2	Engel & Gray Inc.	Bob Engel, <b>ACP Sec./Treasurer</b>	805-925-2771	<a href="mailto:Bob@ENGELandGRAY.com">Bob@ENGELandGRAY.com</a>
3	Kellogg Garden Products	Kathy Kellogg-Johnson, <b>ACP Vice President</b>	310-809-5708	<a href="mailto:kathyjohnson@kelloggarden.com">kathyjohnson@kelloggarden.com</a>
4	Garick Corporation	John Gundlach	909-993-1640	<a href="mailto:john.gundlach@garick.com">john.gundlach@garick.com</a>
5	Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County	Mike Sullivan Aja Malik Bob Conway	562-699-7411 ext. 2801 ext. 2824 ext. 2829	<a href="mailto:msullivan@lacsds.org">msullivan@lacsds.org</a> <a href="mailto:amalik@lacsds.org">amalik@lacsds.org</a> <a href="mailto:RConway@lacsds.org">RConway@lacsds.org</a>

<b>Members</b>				
6	Burrtec Waste Industries, Inc.	Richard Crockett	909-899-0911	<a href="mailto:richard@burrtec.com">richard@burrtec.com</a>
7	City of Santa Rosa	Zachary Kay	707-543-3374	<a href="mailto:zkay@srcity.org">zkay@srcity.org</a>
8	County of San Bernardino	Erika Ellis	909-386-8968	<a href="mailto:eeellis@swm.sbcounty.gov">eeellis@swm.sbcounty.gov</a>
9	CR&R Inc	Roc White	909-597-2811 ext. 11	<a href="mailto:rwhite@crrmail.com">rwhite@crrmail.com</a>
10	GreenN2Green	Gib Crowell	760-445-4116	<a href="mailto:gcrowell@gowanco.com">gcrowell@gowanco.com</a>
11	Harvest Power	Tom Kelley	951-764-6074	<a href="mailto:tkelley@harvestpower.com">tkelley@harvestpower.com</a>
12	P.F. Ryan & Associates	Paul Ryan	951-288-5049	<a href="mailto:pryan67356@aol.com">pryan67356@aol.com</a>
13	Rainbow Disposal Corporation	Sue Gordon	714-847-3581	<a href="mailto:sue@rainbowdisposal.com">sue@rainbowdisposal.com</a>
14	Serrano Creek Soil Amendments	Matt Rayl	949-768-1008	<a href="mailto:mattrayl@hotmail.com">mattrayl@hotmail.com</a>
15	Synagro	Lorrie Loder	951-277-2662 Ext. 18	<a href="mailto:lloder@synagro.com">lloder@synagro.com</a>
16	Vision Recycling	Andrew Tuckman	510-385-0255	<a href="mailto:andrew.tuckman@visionrecycling.com">andrew.tuckman@visionrecycling.com</a>

## 3.3 ACP Actions and Results: 2009 - 2010

<b>Date</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Result &amp; Related Documents</b>
Jul. '09	Project	<u>Green Building Compost Initiatives</u>	Transition Landscape Model Ordinance into Sustainable Landscape Initiatives, related to Green Building ("Green Building Compost Initiatives 070209")
Jul. '09	Regulations/ Rules	<u>Recommendations on SJVUAPCD on Proposed Rule 4566 (Composting Green Waste)</u>	Continue participation in rule development process; assist with finding funds for Mobile Ozone Chamber Assay Study ("MOChAProposal62609")
Aug. '09	Regulations	<u>SD 8.3 Alternative Daily Cover and Food Green Waste Composting - with Calrecycle</u>	Gave Testimony; Provided Comment Letter ("ACP CIWMB SD 8.3 Ltr 081909")
	Marketing/ Projects	<u>Co-Chair Organics Management Dinner at CRRRA-2009</u>	Developed guidance document outlining barriers and opportunities for the California organics recycling industry, including compost. ("Organics Ind Dynamics & Opportunities 1209")
Sep. '09	Regulations/ Rules	<u>Further Input on Proposed Rule 4566</u>	Reviewed research progress ("R4566 PP for 09 14 09 Site Visit")
		<u>Letters in Support of " The American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009"</u>	Letters drafted and sent to California Senators Boxer and Feinstein: ("ACP Senator Boxer Letter 9-11-09", " ACP Senator Feinstein Letter 9-11-09")
Oct. '09	Marketing/ Standards	<u>Life Cycle Assessment of Organics Diversion Alternatives and Economic Analysis of Greenhouse Gas Reduction Options</u>	Provided Analysis and detailed comments ("GHG Tool, ACP Comments 100609")
	Marketing	<u>Ocean Friendly Garden - San Diego: Program Strategy</u>	Worked with SD Coastkeepers, and local Sustainable Landscape Experts to develop program strategy ("Ocean Friendly Garden Program Strategy 101509")
Nov. '09	Marketing	<u>Compost Workshop @ Landscape Expo</u>	2009 Turfgrass & Landscape Expo presentations ("Landscape EXPO - Noble-ACP 110509")
Dec. '09	Project Priorities	<u>Annual Retreat: generation of ACP Objectives and project priorities for 2010</u>	Detailed Outline and publishing of ACP 2010 Roadmap Priorities (see Appendix)
Jan. '10	Marketing/ Standards	<u>Carbon Credits for Compost Production</u>	Obtained Seat for ACP Member (Carbon Solutions Group), on Climate Action Reserve "Compost Protocol Working Group"
Feb. '10	Member/ Communication	<u>ACP Monthly Newsletters</u>	Produced Vol. 1 No. 1, of ACP Monthly Newsletter ("ACP_Newsletter_Feb_2010")
	Regulations	<u>Pathogen Control with Compost</u>	Attendance and testimony on pathogen control of green waste with compost via ACP member Paul Ryan
Mar. '10	Regulations		
Apr. '10	Marketing/Ag	<u>Ag Working Group</u>	Formation of ACP Ag Working Group

Jul. '10	Marketing/Ag	<u>Report Brief of the Ag Compost Project</u>	Report Brief Developed and published on line ("AgCompost-Project Report Brief 072610")
	Marketing	<u>Sustainable Landscape Conversion Initiative</u>	Prop 84 IRWMP Grant Submission, and Collaborative Meetings - Online grant submission, ("SLCI Overview 080910")
Aug. '10	Marketing	<u>Special Screening of Dirt! The Movie</u>	Screening, discussion and action items relative to Dirt! The Movie by Kellogg Garden Products and Wood's End Labs ("ACP Newsletter August [& September] 2010")
	Marketing	<u>Sustainable Landscape Conversion Initiative</u>	Project Integration Meeting/workshops with San Diego County Water Authority ("ACP Newsletter September 2010", page 2)
Sep. '10	Regulations	<u>SJVAPCD PR 4566 Workshop</u>	Attended online PR 4566 online workshop and submitted comment letter ("1133.3 Comment letter 090610")
	Regulations	<u>Support AB 737-</u>	Sent letter of support for AB737 - " ACP AB737 Support Ltr 091310"
	Membership	<u>Proposal for State Chapter of the US Composting Council</u>	Submitted Proposal to State Chapter: " ACP USCC State Chapter Proposal 9.29.10" & " ACP USCC State Relations Committee Letter 9.29.10"
Oct. '10	Marketing	<u>International Compost Awareness Week (ICAW)</u>	Commit to representing USCC in its ICAW efforts and initiatives in California " Compost Awareness Week 2011 "
Dec. '10	Regulations	<u>Special Air Workshop - Dec. 2, 2010</u>	Held special Air Pollution Regulatory development workshop with SJVAPCD (PR 4566) and SCAQMD (PR 1133.1 & 1133.3) developed "White Paper" based on meeting results titled " Air Workshop WriteUp Final 120210"
	Membership	<u>Official State Chapter of the US Composting Council confirmed</u>	Vote by the Board of US Composting Council to be official state chapter representing California confirmed for ACP. Press Release drafted and sent out as " ACP_USCC Chapter Press Release".

### 3.4 ACP 2011 Goals

The ACP 2011 Goals were developed at the:

**Annual Statewide ACP Strategy Planning Workshop**  
*Held for the First Time in Two Locations at once, and Online!*  
*9-11:30 am, (1.5 lunch break), 1-2:30 pm wrap up*  
**Inland Empire Utility Agency (Chino, CA) & Calrecycle (Sacramento, CA)**  
**& Online**

**Wednesday, February 23, 2011, @ either of two physical locations and a virtual Webinar**

**IEUA** (Chaffey Rm, 6075 Kimball Ave., Chino, CA 91710), *AND*,  
**Calrecycle** (Rm 1110; 1001 I St., Sacramento, 95812-4025), *AND/OR*  
**Webinar & Phone** (<https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/264997385>,  
**(888-989-4985 participant code 49664)**)

#### **ACP 2011 Goals:**

*(from ACP Statewide Planning Meeting, Feb. 23, 2011)*

- Streamline committee structure
- Promote and Participate in USCC Operator's Training Course (15-30 people) UC Riverside (and possibly Northern California in the Fall?)
- Promote "Compost Best Management Practices Report" from Calrecycle & Dr. David Crohn
- ICAW (International Compost Awareness Week) State Implementation (see "Next Steps")
- Package and Market Compost Use Index
  - o Make Tool – "Ziegenbein Friendly"
  - o Relationship to STA & CUP (Consumer Use Program)
  - o Relationship to CDFA new compost registration and labeling rules
  - o Market Tool
- Ag Market Development (connection with ICAW)
  - o ID hurdles
  - o Evaluate cost/benefit messages
  - o ID messages for different audiences
    - Farm Advisors
    - Farmers
- Regulatory Monitoring and Response on:
  - o AB 856 – CDFA stay abreast and provide input (testing methods)
  - o PR 1133.1 & PR 1133.3, PR 4566
  - o LA Water Board – WDR for landfills
  - o State Water Board – Revised Industrial Discharge Permit (compost/chip & grind?)
  - o Santa Ana Water Board – "regulated recycling" (metals?)
- Continue Developing "Sustainable Landscape Cluster/Programs/Tools"
  - o Inventory of Resources – Working together... getting info out there
  - o Program Development
  - o Message to regulators
  - o Fund and Market the Program (Team with Caltrans, Water Agencies and Calrecycle)

### 3.5 Annual Report Documents Posted on ACP's Website

The documents referred to in this annual report are posted, in alphabetical order, on the "ACP Initiatives & Results/ACP Document/2010 Annual Report Documents/Document Library" page of ACP's website ([www.healthysoil.org](http://www.healthysoil.org)). However, these documents were referenced in the following order (chronological, non-alphabetical) "ACP Actions & Results: 2009-2010" table in Appendix 3.3, and/or by topic in the body of this Annual Report:

1. Green Building Compost Initiatives 070209
2. MOChAProposal62609
3. ACP CIWMB SD 8.3 Ltr 081909
4. ACP Senator Boxer Letter 9-11-09
5. ACP Senator Feinstein Letter 9-11-09
6. R4566 PP for 0914 09 Site Visit
7. Organics Ind Dynamics & Opportunities 0909
8. GHG Tool, ACP Comments 100609
9. Ocean Friendly Garden Program Strategy 101509
10. Landscape EXPO - Noble-ACP 110509
11. ACP\_Newsletter\_Feb\_2010
12. CalRecycle SD8.3 ACP 030310.pdf
13. Compost to Improve Water Quality-Paper DN Draft 043010
14. ACP Compost Protocol Comment Ltr to CAR 060710
15. AgCompost-Project Report Brief 072610
16. SLCI Overview 080910
17. ACP CIWMB SD 8.3 Ltr 081909
18. ACP Newsletter Aug 2010
19. BE A PART OF THE LIVING BREATHING DIRT TEST 0810
20. 1133.3\_Comment\_letter\_090610
21. ACP AB737 Support Ltr 091310
22. ACP USCC State Chapter Proposal 9.29.10
23. ACP USCC State Relations Committee Letter 9.29.10
24. Compost Awareness Week 2011
25. Air Workshop WriteUp Final 120210
26. ACP\_USCC Chapter Press Release