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COMPOST PRODUCER ACTIONS

Association of Compost Producers Member Meeting

Wednesday, June 23rd 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, June 21st, 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 June 2010

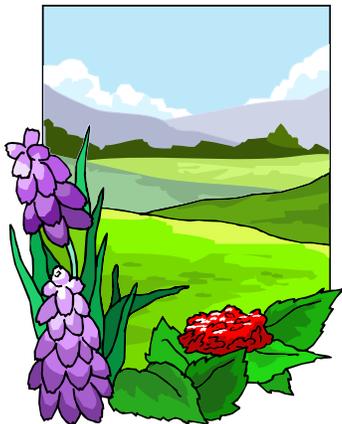
The ACP Next Steps, are outlined each month and posted on our website, at the top of the ACP documents page: <http://www.healthysoil.org/acpinitiativesresults/acpdocuments.html>

The projects that we engage in include:

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

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

Sustainable Landscape Cooperative



IMPORTANT WEBSITES TO VIEW

Sustainable Landscapes

www.greengardensgroup.com

<http://www.rmwater.com/clients/sdirwmp/home.html>

<http://sites.google.com/site/ofgsandiego/program-timeline>

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

Carbon Credits

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

ACP Website

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

ACP Executive Director, attended the first “Ocean Friendly Garden” Garden Assistance Program (GAP) in San Diego, June 6, 2010, promoted and sponsored by Surfrider Foundation, and their contractors (especially “G3”). Along with >20 volunteers, coordinated by the professional contractor, G3, we dug up the volunteer’s front yard and installed the basics of a bioswale, in the form of a dry creek bed. We now are in direct efforts toward continued development and packaging of Surfrider’s “Ocean Friendly Gardens” initiative into a “Sustainable Landscape Cooperative (SLC)” process, continues. Specifically offering the 5 point program as part as a function of the SLC, to submit on the “call for projects” the the San Diego IRWM (Integrated Resource &

Water Management) . The five point program, explained in more detail on the OFG Collaborative website, consists of the 5 integrated elements of:

Partnership development

Identify locations for demonstration sites

Develop education and implementation methods

Develop marketing / PR and outreach strategy and implementation plan

Establish metrics system for program design and evaluation

The goal is to create a “cooperative” of the various for-profit and non-profit organizations and professionals who have a stake in developing sustainable landscapes (a list of over 40 local organizations are on the site and to 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 with the recent call for projects, in order to get this launched in earnest this year.

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



Carbon Credits for Compost Production

ACP, submitted comments on the final draft of the “Organic Waste Composting Protocol,” produced by the CAR working Group (Climate Action Reserve) by the deadline for public comment, June 7.

Thornton Schaaf, of Carbon Solutions Group, an ACP member who Chairs our internal ACP Carbon Credits Working Group (CCWG) as well as represents ACP on the CAR Compost Protocol Working Group, attended the recent Public Workshop addressing this protocol in LA, on May 27, 2010. Thornton and the CCWG drafted the comments

letter which was finalized and submitted. It can be seen posted on the ACP website. In the “ACP Comment Letter Library” as – “ACP Compost Protocol Comment Ltr to CAR 060710”.

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

Agricultural Compost Working Group

At the Biocycle Conference, on April 13, 2010, the Agricultural Composting Working Group met with the Calrecycle Organics Team (Brenda Smyth, Gerald “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 Principle 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 ex-

panding Ag markets for compost, including:

- o compost use index (includes online specifications for specific crops),
- o 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 only a 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. If you would like to be on this working group, please contact Dan Noble at: (619-303-3694; OR dnoble@inquiryinternational.com).

COMPOST LEGISLATION

SCAPCD Rule

On June 8, 2010, the “Working Group for the Proposed Rule (PR) 1133.3 – Emission Reductions from Greenwaste Composting held its first meeting at AQMD Headquarters and with conference phone. The agenda was:

Welcome and Introduction

Background

Greenwaste Composting Industry Survey

Best Management Practices

Controlling Composting Parameters

Handling Greenwaste Stockpiles

Recordkeeping and Reporting

Emission Factors

Data and Input Needs

Schedule

Closing

ACP Member, Paul Ryan, of P.

Ryan & Associates, is a member of that working group, and will be following the progress of their work and recommendations moving forward. Stay tuned for reports and intended recommendations on how best ACP members should weigh in on this development moving forward. If you have any questions or want to participate more directly with this work, please contact Dan Noble, ACP – ED, 619-992-8389, Or

COMPOST NEWS/EVENTS

USGBC IE Chapter: Coachella Valley Branch Course



The Seven Sins of Greenwashing

Join us on Thursday, June 24th, 2010 at 6PM for a LIVE WEBINAR on:

GREENWASHING

Green-wash (gren'wosh', -wosh')

-verb: the act of misleading consumers regarding the environmental practices of a company or the environmental benefits of a product or service.

Acts of Greenwashing are rampant! Many products have entered the US market with promises and pledges about the eco-friendliness, environmental safety and the “green” attributes of items that in fact bear no such qualities. Recently, in the US and Canada over 2,200 products claimed to be green, but after extensive review, only 25 products were found to be “sin-free”.

This course will highlight this deception and provide the attendee with tools, insight and knowledge to become more aware of the lies that are being propagated.

The Seven Sins of Greenwashing

1. Sin of the Hidden Trade-off
2. Sin of No Proof
3. Sin of Vagueness
4. Sin of Irrelevance

5. Sin of Lesser of Two Evils

6. Sin of Fibbing

7. Sin of Worshipping False Labels

Products in our everyday life are being sold as “green”. Children’s toys and baby products, cosmetics, and cleaning products are three of the most common categories in which green claims—and Greenwashing—occur. This course is presented by Ambient Energy.



USGBC Meetings– North & Southern CA June & July

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)

06.23.10 - "Decentralization Of The Grid", June Chapter Membership Meeting

06.24.10 - "Greenwashing", CV Branch Offers CEU's

06.28.10 - "LEED Gold Certified Building Tour", July Chapter Membership Meeting

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

6.24.10 - Living Building Challenge is a certification program that covers all buildings at all scales

6.24.10 - Where Does LEED Fit ... A Presentation of Research and Provocative Panel Discussion Featuring Officials from Cities Across Orange County

7.16-10 - GA Exam Test Prep Workshop

7.29.10 - Refining Your Toolbox: How To Do A Green Home Remodel

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

6.21.10 - 6:00pm Building a Green San Diego Together

6.23.10 - 12:00pm» Membership Committee Mtg 4:00pm» Green Homes Committee Mtg

7.21.10 - 5:30pm» GREENMEET - Summer Social!

USGBC-Los Angeles (www.usgbcla.org)

6.25.10 - Dwell on Design, 8:00am, Green Home Retrofitting and Remodeling Seminar 11:30am, Long Beach Branch of the USGBC-LA Presents Lunch Presentation on "Net-Zero Energy Buildings"

6.26.10 - Dwell on Design

6.27.10 - Dwell on Design

6.28.10 - 6:30pm, Member Circle Event

6.30.10 - 9:00am, Sustainability, Energy Efficiency & Historic Preservation

9:00am, Harvesting the Rain: Decentralized Stormwater Management

12:00pm, USGBC-LA Seminar | Existing Building Subcommittee

5:30pm, Network with Emerging Professionals of USGBC-LA

7:00pm, Green & Sustainable Building Certificate Program

7.13.10 - 7:15am, The Changing Landscape of Sustainable Development

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

East Bay

6.17.10 - Commissioning, Energy & Atmosphere, Indoor Air Quality and YOU

6.23.10 - Building a Net-Zero Home: Advantages, Misconceptions, and Challenges

7.14.10 - Workshop: LEED Green Associate Exam Prep

8.19.10 - Workshop: LEED AP Building Design & Construction Exam Prep

San Francisco

6.23.10 - Workshop: LEED Green Associate Exam Prep

6.24.10 -The Competitive Edge, Part 3: Communicating the Value of Green Building Using the Principles of Real Estate Finance
6.24.10 - The Competitive Edge, Part 3: Communicating the Value of Green Building Using the Principles of Real Estate Finance

7.21.10 - Romania & World Green Building Councils Present: Central & Eastern Europe's Rapidly Growing Green Construction Market

7.26.10 -Retrofitting Existing Buildings for Energy Efficiency and Demand Response

7.29.10 - 2nd Annual Make The Connection Mixer

9.16.10 - Living Building Challenge Road Show

Sacramento

7.8.10 - Construction and Demolition Waste - Strategies for Improvement

7.15.10 - Integrated Project Delivery, LEAN Construction, & BIM

7.29.10 - Workshop: LEED Green Associate Exam Prep

Silicon Valley

6.18.10 - Hope Blooms at Sunflower Gardens!

7.13.10 - New Cool Lighting Technology

8.12.10 - Workshop: LEED Green Associate Exam Prep

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 coordina-

tion among air, water, and resource recovery agencies, to promote those projects with the greatest overall environmental and social benefits. We are holding the symposium in downtown Sacramento this year to encourage dialog with legislators, agency leaders, and others involved in environmental decision-making.

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**

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>

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!



IMPORTANT WEBSITES TO VIEW

USCC/ACP Training
<http://www.compostingcouncil.org/education/training.php>

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

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

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

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 Marketplace 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!**

“COMPOST OVERS”

Researchers Find Pathogens in Compost

BY ALEXA NEMETH | MAY 22, 2010

The practice of composting has proved to be an important alternative to landfills for recycling waste organic matter. At least 22 states in the U.S. now have restrictions or bans on the disposal of yard trimmings in landfills.

Analysis of recycled organic matter composts produced a wide range of fecal coliform results for all regions. In Washington, 23 percent of samples exceeded the EPA 503 limit. Only one sample was positive for Salmonella. Although the difference was not significant, composts listing manure were generally lower in fecal coliform count than those not listing manure. Fifty-five percent of samples of bulk compost products exceeded the EPA limit.

The range of fecal coliforms in California was similar to those in Washington and Oregon, with only 20 percent of samples exceeding the EPA 503 limit. One facility in a noted vegetable-production area produced compost with a very high fecal coliform level. No Salmonella was detected in any sample.

The researchers detected measurable E. coli O157:H7 in samples from three facilities. These facilities were in the large facility group and were situated within important vegetable-growing regions. The sample with the highest E. coli O157:H7 count was retained for 3 weeks at five degrees Celsius, and was re-tested. It was still positive for E. coli O157:H7.

"I can say that I am distressed to have found E. coli O157:H7 in market-ready compost batches from different facilities.," said Will Brinton, one of the researchers who conducted the study. "This finding is incongruous with the image of compost as a soil-building, crop-enhancing agent."

A large number of compost samples examined in this study possessed fecal bacteria levels that exceeded the EPA 503 rule.

According to Brinton, "It would be guesswork to discern the cause or estimate the risk when E. coli O157 is present in composts. Our study sample period coincided unfortunately with the 2006 Spinach E. coli incidents in California. We have no evidence there is an association but the possibility exists."

For the Full article see: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2010/05/researchers-find-pathogens-in-compost/>



In America today you can murder land for private profit. You can leave the corpse for all to see, and nobody calls the cops.

**~Paul Brooks,
The Pursuit of Wilderness, 1971**



Enhancing the Compost and Composter Brand

Speaking of quality compost(!), ACP had a special guest out last month's meeting, John Ruetten, President of Resource Trends, and a specialist of recycling resource and utility branding (he is founder and Senior Advisor to the "Utility Branding Network", www.utilitybranding.net). After an overview presentation of the importance of product and enterprise branding in the compost world, ACP members discussed the branding issues relative to both compost, California composters and ACP members specifically. After the meeting, John and Dan Noble compared notes and findings from the meeting, and put them in an outline format for ACP members further consideration and possible actions. The outline of the presentation and discussion findings and compost branding issues are:

Objective ACP Compost Members

Expanding Markets
Stable, Rising Prices

plants are not being grown

Be careful about advocating for compost when "not necessary"

Method: Investing in Market Assets

Positive Perception of the Composting Process and Compost Products
Appropriate Branding
More Direct Investment in Brand and Customer Development
Product Quality and Consistency (Facilities)
Regulation that Allow Compost to Provide its Benefits

Retail Landscape

List and Categorize brands in the region
Need more brands or just more investment in current brands
Major problems in the market?

Clarity on ACP's Category of Focus/Value

Why compost? Benefits?
What materials that should be composted aren't being composted today
Philosophy on process and product consistency
Process control
Feedstock management and standards – Including food waste
Addressing problematic product quality issues

Commercial Landscape

Need more brands?
Need to replicate the IERCA case study?
Market problems and needed investment?

Non-Food Agricultural

Playing in this market?
Need more brands and investment?

Food Agricultural

Does it make sense to address this at all in the near term?

Market Definitions

Reaching Out to "Non-Composters"

Is this just "Chip and Grind?"
Proper uses, product positioning, and pricing
How does ACP help them win and preserve higher value markets?

Erosion Control, Soil Protection

Need clear statement on use of compost when

ACP will look to incorporate these findings and questions into our organization's and members strategies and tactics moving forward in the specific markets. If you have any questions or want to participate more directly with this work, please contact Dan Noble, ACP – ED, 619-992-8389, dnoble@inquiryinternational.com.

ASSOCIATION OF COMPOST PRODUCERS

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dnoble@inquiryinternational.com

<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