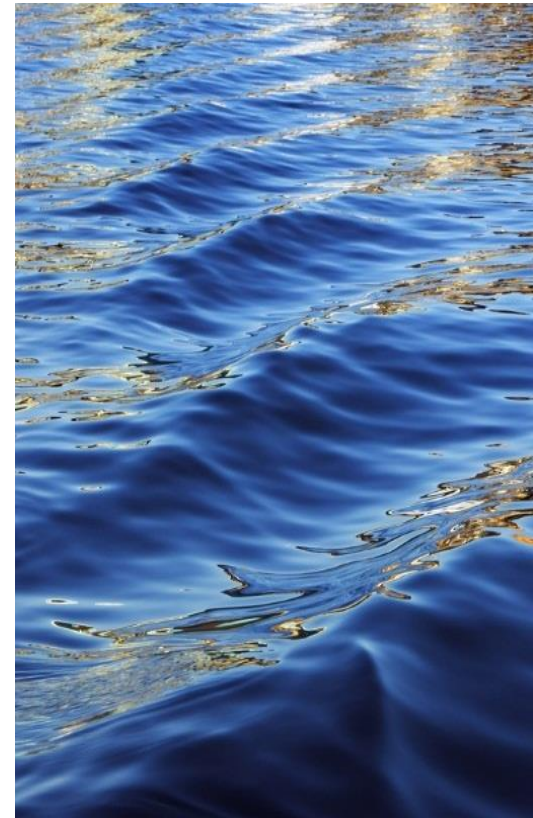


# Compost! Nature's Way to Grow.

Leanne  
Spaulding

US Composting Council  
Director of Membership

December 12 2013



# Organics Management In the US

- One of the fastest growing segments of the recycling stream
- Over 4,000 composting facilities in the US
- Many more collection programs
- Most handle yard debris
- But, on-farm, biosolids and food scraps, too
- Windrow, Static Pile, In-vessel, Anaerobic Digestion



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# US Composting Council

- Purpose
  - Bringing people together to share information and advocate for the advancement of the composting industry.
- Trade Association incorporated in 1990
- Around 750 members
  - Majority are company/organization memberships
  - Represent compost manufacturers, suppliers, consultants, policy makers, composting supporters



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# Support and Expand the Industry

Compost  
Market  
Development

Standard  
Setting

Advocacy

Education

Strong Organization



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# USCC Compost Market Development Programs



# Million Tomato Compost Campaign Status

- Branding developed – Compost: Nature’s Way to Grow!
- Highlighted on Good Morning America in May
- 88 STA Facilities participating
- 223 Community Garden requests
- 139 STA compost donations
- 2,888 cubic yards reported donated
- ‘Harvest’ phase underway across most of US
  - Tomato counter & slide show of tomato plants now on buy- [compost.com](http://compost.com)



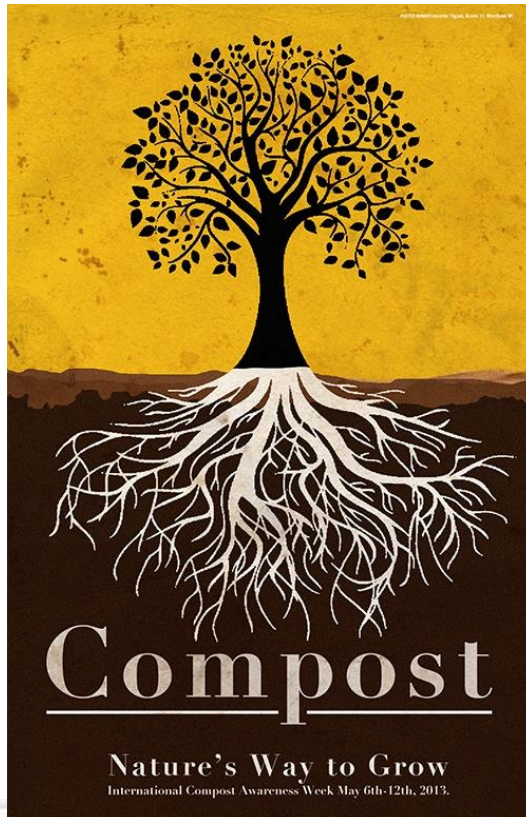
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# International Compost Awareness Week

## May 5-9 2014



- Poster contest started 9/20 and ends 11/30
- This year's theme: *"Compost!... The solution to sustainable soil and water."*
- *We're looking for sponsors!*



# Compost Market Development

- Outreach through partnerships and exhibits:
  - Garden Writers Conference
  - American Society of Landscape Architects
  - American Public Works Association
  - International Erosion Control Assoc
- Webinar for the PA Recycling Markets Center
- Working to develop model ordinance with specs for use of compost in soil restoration

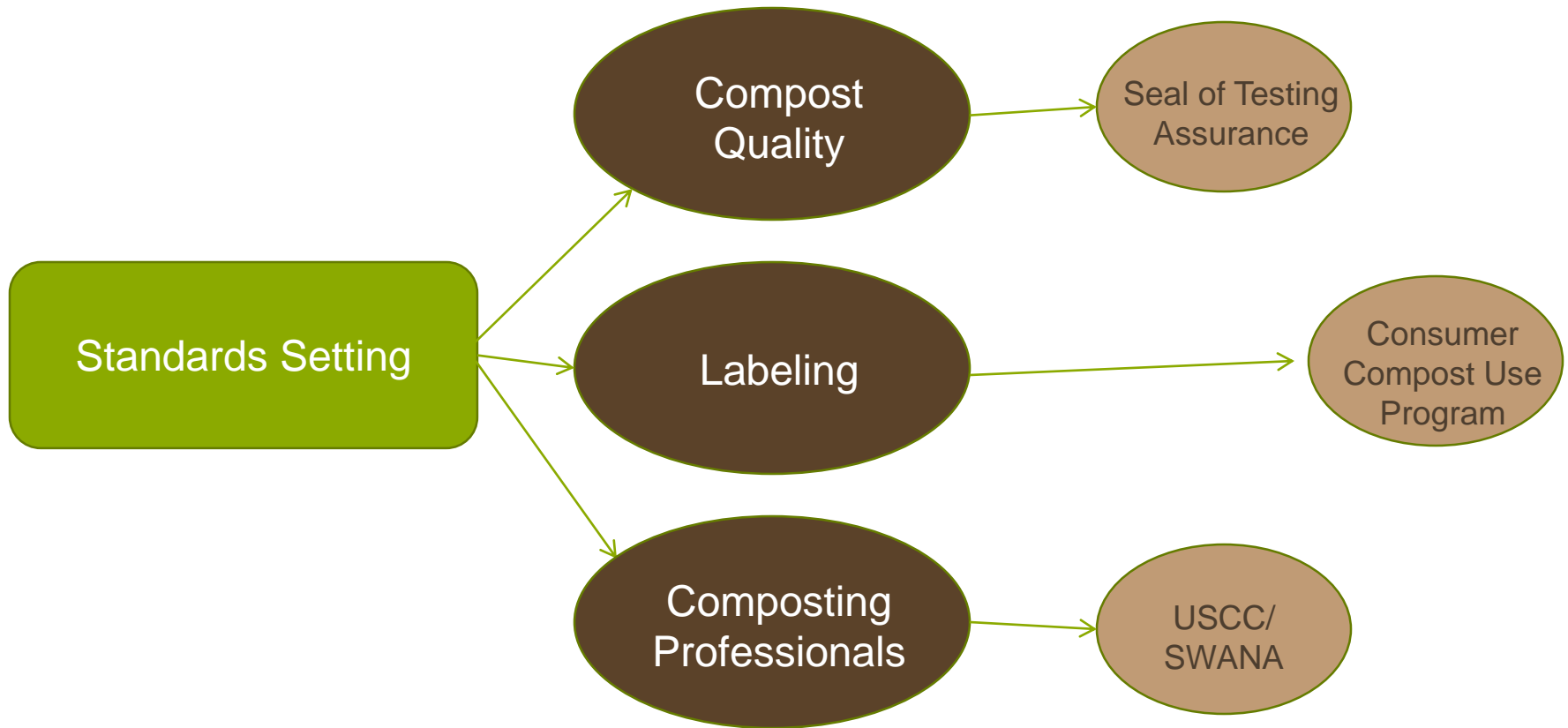


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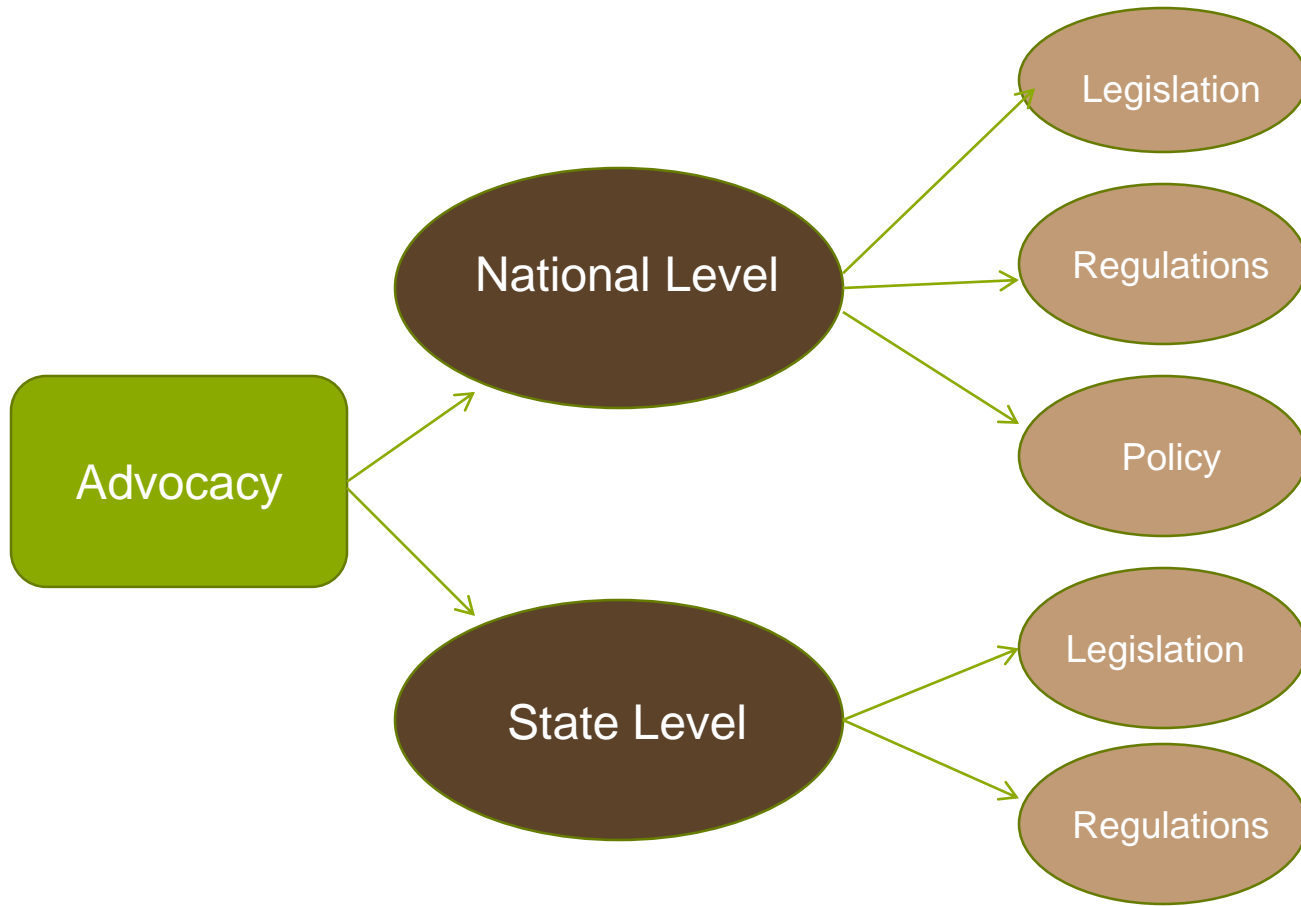
# USCC Standards Setting Programs



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# USCC Advocacy Programs



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# Advocacy Program National Level Activities

- Climate Action Reserve comments submitted
- Food Safety Modernization Act submitted
- EPA:
  - Renewable Portfolio Standard rules comments submitted
  - Developing plan to address issue of Persistent Herbicides in upcoming re-registration process
- Compostable Plastics:
  - Grant for toolkit, labeling guidelines, model legislation, field testing protocols



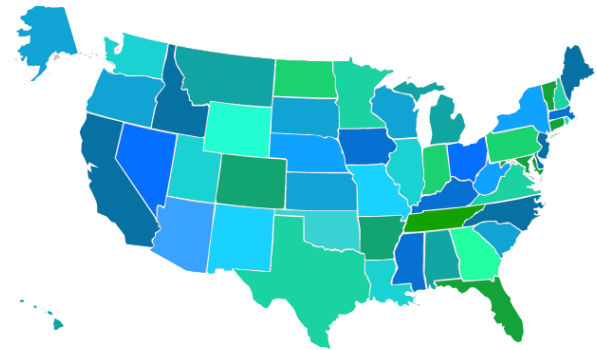
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# Advocacy Program

## State Level Activities

- Strategic Initiatives
  - Model Rules: Completed and being used in GA & MD regulation development
  - Best Management Practice guidance in preliminary development stage
- State Compost Regulation portal now on the USCC website



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# Advocacy Program

## State Level Activities

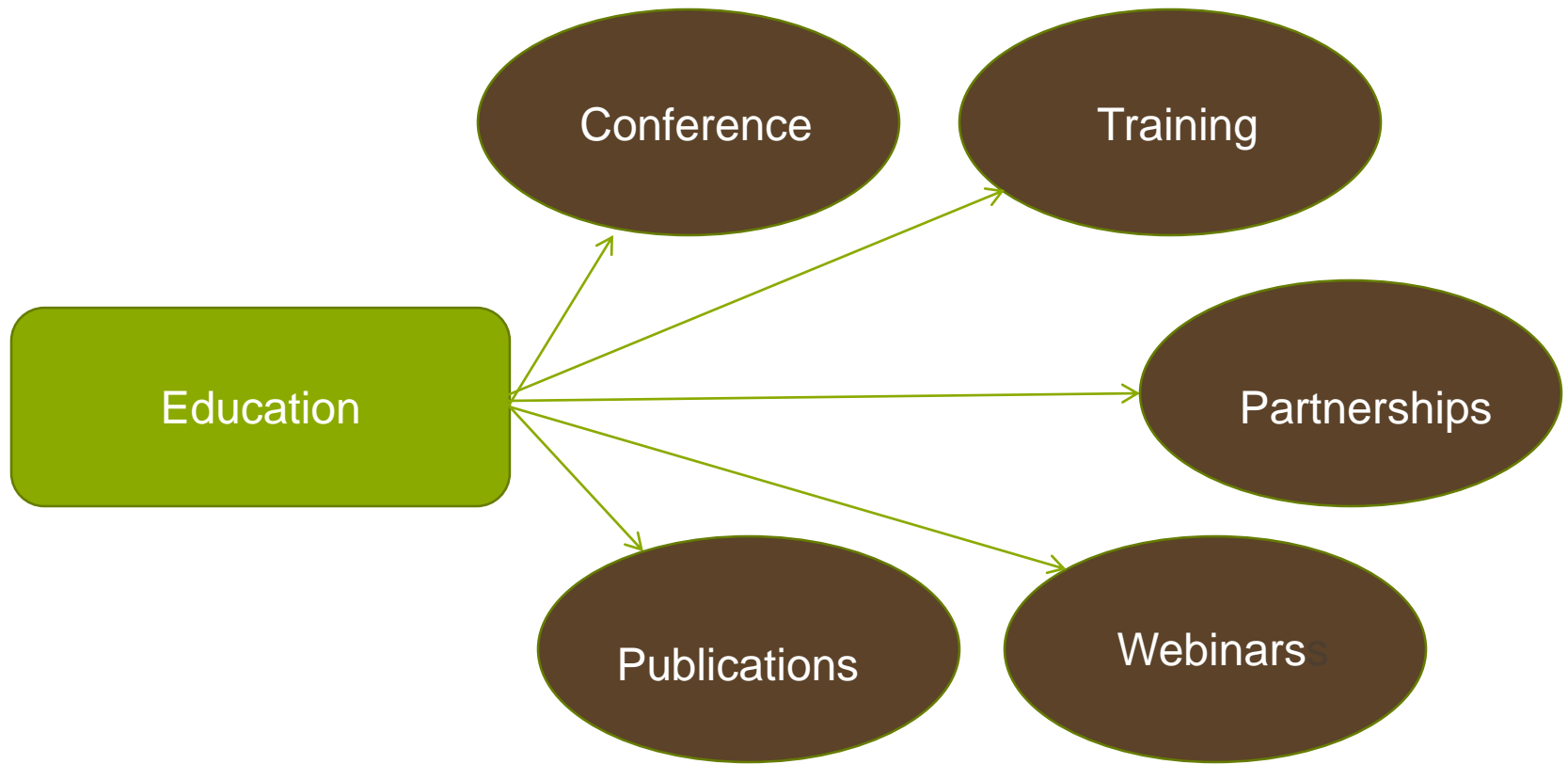
- Comments submitted in CA, OR, IA, CT
- Michigan
  - Bill introduced to repeal existing ban
  - USCC contributed matching funds to support group developing strategy
- Massachusetts
  - Draft Regs mandates commercial food scraps diversion
  - FOOD Collaboration with ABC, Mass Recycles
  - Testified at hearings in August



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# USCC Education Programs



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# Annual Conference

- Oakland Jan 26-29, 2014
- Progress:
  - Exhibitor Prospectus completed
  - Speakers selected
  - Onsite visit conducted
  - Event registration set up in Cvent
- In October will:
  - Finalize workshops
  - Initiate Demo exhibit registrations
  - Begin brochure design



**oakland2014**

 USCC

**USCC 22nd  
Annual Conference  
& Tradeshow  
Compost: Nature's  
Way to Grow!**

**26–29 January 2014  
Oakland Marriott City Center  
Oakland, CA**

Join us at the world's largest conference and exhibition for the organics management industry.

Hear industry leaders discuss meeting today's challenges in composting, compost use and renewable energy from organics.

Visit our tradeshow featuring over 300 exhibitors from every part of the industry.

Choose from more than 80 speakers across 3 days of workshops & technical sessions that cover organics management from separation & collection through marketing & use.

See "live" demonstrations of the latest equipment offerings.

Enjoy preconference hours of local facilities and attractions.

More info & registration at [www.compostingcouncil.org](http://www.compostingcouncil.org) | T. 301.857.2735

# Training Program Progress

- Compost Operator Training Course
  - NC held its course Sept 16-20, 2013
    - 19 students participated
  - MD course will be held Sept 30-Oct 4, 2013
    - 36 students – Sold out!!!
  - CA course will be held in March 2014
- Compost Technician Training
  - Focused on operations staff
  - Scheduling to start for the Winter and Spring
- Compost U
  - Developing program for University Campuses on all aspects of developing a composting program (collection – marketing of compost)



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# Partnerships

- American Biogas Council & MassRecycle
  - F.O.O.D initiative working well
  - Prepared testimony for support of regulations
- Biodegradable Plastics Institute
  - Supporting BPI compostable plastic labeling program
- BioCycle Magazine
  - USCC's Official Magazine
  - Signed a media agreement for 2014
  - Submitted article for October issue
- Keep America Beautiful
  - Supported their National Planting Day – Sept. 7



# Partnership

- International Erosion Control Association
  - MOU proposed
- Assoc of American Plant & Food Control Officials
  - Attend their meetings
  - Able to counter food safety Powerpoint presentation that attacked compost
- Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA)
  - Had a booth at WASTECON Sept 2013
  - Interested in having us develop a track next year
- Texas Recycling Association
  - Attended Texas Composting Camp



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# Composting Council Research and Education Foundation

- Green Roof Study
  - Projected has been developed
  - Looking for donations in \$5,000 increments to complete study in stages
- Food Scrap Implementation Tool Kit
  - Near completion
- Compostable Plastics Tool Kit
  - Grant received, RFP out for contractor



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# Leanne Spaulding

US Composting Council  
Director of Membership

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