US Composting Council NZWBC

Frank Franciosi-Executive Director
• Who & What Are We?
• The US Composting Council (USCC) advances compost manufacturing and promotes compost use to enhance soils and provide economic and environmental benefits for our members and society.

Compost: Nature’s Way To Grow!
Vision Statement
We believe that the recycling of organic materials is central to achieving healthy soils, clean water and a sustainable society.
Role of the USCC
Areas of Engagement

• **Education**
  • Annual Conference Program
  • Composter Training Program
  • Certification

• **Market Development**
  • Standards & Practices
  • Seal of Testing Assurance
  • Consumer Use Programs

• **Advocacy**
  • State Policy Support
  • National Issues

• **Membership**
  • Communication
  • Organizational Management
  • State Chapters
Educational Activities

- Compost Operations Training Course- 7th Year
  - Over 1,000 students from 23 states and three countries
  - 2016 In CA, NY, NC and AZ
  - 2016 Certified Compost Operation Manager (CCOM)

- 2015 Expanding to Food Scraps on a Farm
- Specifying compost-CA
- Composting with Forced Air—CA
- Webinar—The role for Compostable Plastics in diversion
Tools for Composting
Model Rules Template for State Regulations

✅ [Website Link]
✅ State Regulations by State Map
✅ Model Rules Template
Tools for Composting

Nature’s Way to Grow!
Tools for Composting
More Online Resources

✓ A Guide to Workplace Composting
✓ Compostable Plastics Toolkit
✓ Curb-to-Compost Toolkit
✓ Fact Sheets & Free Reports
Benefits of Compost

- Compost supplies valuable organic matter and nutrients to soil
- Compost improves soil structure and porosity, ensuring a healthier plant root environment
- Compost increase the water holding capacity of soil, reducing watering needs
- Compost stabilizes pH and improves the soil’s ability to hold nutrients
- Compost can help in binding and degrading some pollutants
- Compost increases beneficial soil organisms
- Compost stores soil carbon
Introducing Certified Compost®
Community Compost vs. Compost Manufacturing
Community Composting

- Decentralized
- Low carbon footprint
- Small scale in volume compared to Compost Manufacturing
- Permitting can limit volume & feedstocks
- Lower capital costs
- Can be an entrepreneurial opportunity
- Can be an incubator to Compost Manufacturing

Compost Pedallers - Austin, TX
Community Composting Benefits

• Small closed looped
• It provides a neighborhood level local operation-
• The compost produced can be used to benefit the local community gardens and landscapes
• Encourages people to get involved in the production and use of compost
Compost Manufacturing

• Centralized
• Larger footprint
• More mechanized
• Higher capital investment costs
• Stricter permitting requirements
• Higher volume processed
• Better product QA & QC
• Trained operators
Compost Manufacturing Benefits

• Can process large volumes
• Provides a source for local jobs
• The compost produced can be of higher quality - STA Certified
• Can be public, private or a partnership
• Processed operated by trained personnel
• State permitted for environment, health & safety issues

Lee County, FL
Creating Demand for Infrastructure

Compost Feedstocks
• Yard trimmings landfill bans – eliminate use as LF daily cover
• Source Separated Organics landfill bans
• More private public partnerships
• Generator incentives-tax breaks-lower fees
• State grants for collection and separation

Compost Products
• Model Ordinances for Soil Restoration
• Stormwater BMP’s
• Green Infrastructure (USGBC) LEED Certification
• DOT (use of STA Certified Compost)
• University research
• Recycling is Most Scalable:

By investing in recycling infrastructure, training, and policy, 9.5 million tons of food scraps – nearly three-quarters of the total Roadmap potential – can be diverted annually from landfills through anaerobic digestion and composting, reducing an estimated 4.8 million tons in greenhouse gases while creating over 11,000 new jobs.
Barriers to Increasing Composting Infrastructure

• Consumer behavior - throw away society
• State Regulations - Permitting
• Economics $$$
• Training and Educational Programs
• Public Acceptance - NIMBY
• Zoning & siting
• Political will
• Collection
• Supply & demand of compost product
• Contamination of feedstocks
Contamination
USCC Increasing Infrastructure Goals

- Identify and embrace all sectors that have a stake in environmentally sound and fiscally responsible management of organic residuals.

- Participate in coalitions of influential groups to maximize the influence of the profession on public policy matters.

- Collaborate with non-profits, government agencies, industries and research institutions with an emphasis on resolving organics management and compost use issues that impact the industry.
Call for abstracts - May 2016