Chapter Opportunities

Don’t Miss the Chapter Training at COMPOST2021! You can attend even if you are not coming to the conference!!
Zoom link: Linda Norris-Waldt is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

**USCC Chapter Training Session, COMPOST2021 Virtual Events and Webinars: Engage Your Chapter for Profit and Success**

Tues, Jan 26, 2021  2:30-3:30 PM EASTERN TIME ZOOM: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9227217690

Carolyn Thompson,  
Training Systems Inc.  
Goal Setting & Platform/Monetization

Becky Migas,  
Women in Sustainability Marketing & Preparation Logistics

Ed Rigsbee, CAE  
Rigsbee Research  
Best Practices in Virtual Presentations

**Topic:** Chapter Training at COMPOST2021!
**Time:** Jan 26, 2021 02:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting  
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9227217690

Meeting ID: 922 721 7690
One tap mobile
+13017158592,,9227217690# US (Washington D.C)
+13126266799,,9227217690# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location
  +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)
  +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
  +1 646 876 9923 US (New York)
Chapter Town Hall Meeting at COMPOST2021—Open to All conference registrants: CAC will be moderating a report-out and Breakout Networking for Chapter members on Tuesday, Jan 26, 5-6 pm at COMPOST2021. Look for the Chapter Town Hall on your schedule to access the live meeting!!

**Templates:** We have begun building a Templates page with Bylaws (a generic template and samples from other chapters) being the first item. Next up: An event flyer template. Find it here: [https://www.compostingcouncil.org/page/chaptertemplates](https://www.compostingcouncil.org/page/chaptertemplates)

**Chapter Advisory Committee**—Megan Jackson, Jairo Gonzalez, Ken Bannister, Kate Sullivan, Linda Norris-Waldt and Jennifer Trent

In January, the CAC welcomed Jenny Trent, USCC board member, as the new Board chair/liaison of CAC.

Additionally, we completed requirements for new chapter admission. These are going forward to the USCC Board of Directors in February for approval, and will guide the process for the three new chapters admitted during 2021.

Using their experience and what they have heard from the rest of you, the CAC established a minimum number of points (85) applying chapters must have to move forward. The “tier one” points will include items like: having a board appointed; having a 501C structure or documented fiscal backer; having a minimum of five USCC members in the state; having identified sponsors and other requirements that will help the chapter be successful. Other things can earn points such as holding events and legislative/regulatory advocacy; member recruitment plans and established committees.

**CAC will be moderating a report-out and Breakout Networking for Chapter members on Tuesday, Jan 26, 5-6 pm at COMPOST2020. Look for the Chapter Town Hall on your schedule to access the live meeting!!**
CHAPTER EDUCATION COMMITTEE—Ginny Black (MNCC), Shawn Bruckman (COCC)
For the first time, Chapters will have a training session at the annual conference! Our topic? WEBINARS & SOCIAL MEDIA: ENGAGE YOUR CHAPTER FOR PROFIT & SUCCESS! See details at the top of this email!

COMMITTEES and PROGRAMS NEWS

*Young Professionals (Gowri Sundaram, staff member):
MENTORING PROGRAM: USCC members who agreed to be mentors have started adding the PDH to their certifications. Thanks to the chapter members who have been mentors! We couldn’t do this program without you!

The Annual Finale Mentoring meeting will be in the first week of February. At the conference - How chapters can get involved with YPS:
Emerging Composter competition needs you to VOTE!! Chapters can promote this – ask people to take time to watch the competitors videos and vote!
YP social hour - (which has no age restriction) It would be great to have chapter leaders show up, where we can chat about how they can help YPs and the program!

LEAC/Advocacy/Regulations- Neil Edgar, Chair, Linda Norris-Waldt, staff
Please be sure your chapter participates in LEAC. Even if YOU can’t make it, please send someone involved in your Chapters’ Advocacy to represent your state. We need to hear from you! The calls are on the second Monday of each month, 2 pm Eastern. Email lnorriswaldt@compostingcouncil.org to be on the invite list.

CCREF-ICAW, Beth Simone, Wayne Howard, Staff
ICAW Posters will Soon be Printed
Beth Simone, from ICAW, is getting ready to print the new ICAW posters.  If your chapter would like to receive extra posters to use during the week of ICAW, May 2 – 8, and you haven’t already told her the number of posters you would like to receive, please let her know within the next two weeks.  She can be reached at bethsimone@compostfoundation.org.  Also, there will be an ICAW Coordinator training on February 22nd at 1pm (ET).  This is a great opportunity to learn about what other volunteer coordinators have done in their states or communities and to share ideas for ICAW 2021.  If you would like to be invited to attend this training, let Beth know and she will send you a meeting invite.
The Composting Council Research & Education Foundation will now be the Compost Research & Education Foundation

Starting January 1st, the Composting Council Research & Education Foundation (CCREF) is now known as the Compost Research & Education Foundation (CREF). The Foundation has made this change for two reasons. The first is to make it easier for people to understand that CREF is its own organization and not part of the US Composting Council (USCC). Although the two groups work together often, CREF is its own nonprofit and is run by a dedicated Board of Trustees. The second reason is because CREF's work encompasses all aspects of compost - from the compost industry to home composting, it was felt moving from Composting Council in the name to just Compost was more expansive.

STATE NEWS:

ASSOCIATION OF COMPOST PRODUCERS/CALIFORNIA COMPOST COUNCIL, Dan Noble, exec. director

ACP

New Board members elected: Tom Shearer and Kathy Kellogg Johnson were reelected to the board of the California chapter, and the Board created a new seventh board seat, which was won by Cindy Liles. See the full board at https://healthysoil.org/Contact

• California is also working with CREF on setting up a virtual Compost Training.

COLORADO COMPOSTING COUNCIL-Bob Yost, President

• The Chapter is proud to have two organics recycling chapter leaders now on the Colorado Recycling Association Board: David Fridland of EcoProducts, who is vice president of CRA and Monique DiGiorgia of Table to Farm Compost who is treasurer of CRA. Way to get organics at the recycling/waste diversion table!

• Colorado is working with CREF on setting up a virtual Compost Training.

IOWA COMPOSTING COUNCIL-Jenny Trent, Director

The new Iowa Chapter had a call for board members. Results: Jenny Trent, Director; Jeff Phillips, Chair; Abe Sandquist, vice chair; Lea Hensel, secretary!

ILLINOIS John Lardner, Liaison

The Illinois chapter is now called the Illinois Composting Council and has been working on compost use and compostable packaging education.

MD-DC Committee-Beth Leamond, contact.

• Maryland-DC Chapter’s Steering Committee has gone “back to basics”-working on core events and organization to determine best ways to move forward. During 2021 the group is working on revamping its contact list, setting up some type of in-person or virtual networking, completing a white paper on composting in MD., and supporting organics diversion legislation through advocacy.

MICHIGAN CHAPTER-Amy Freeman, Kerrin O’Brien, MOC contacts
The State of Michigan has undertaken a new initiative to develop and support a circular economy where a robust recycled materials supply chain feeds Michigan manufacturers. NextCycle Michigan, [https://www.nextcyclemichigan.com/](https://www.nextcyclemichigan.com/) provides a new, high quality, and investable approach to development aimed at improving the recovery of materials and creating a circular economy within the state. The program utilizes Innovation Challenges to identify and incubate ideas that grow Michigan’s recycled materials supply chain and end markets. NextCycle Michigan is supported through state funds along with private and non-profit partnership funds identified through the Renew Partnership Portal.

Recycling can provide the material inputs for manufacturing in Michigan – creating a robust, local circular economy. Michigan needs to build resilience and capacity to support material recovery that powers the recycling supply chain. The initiative has six tracks, one of them features food, liquids, and organic wastes (FLOWS). The Michigan Recycling Coalition and Organics Council is a partner in the initiative that will prove to be an important framework within which ideas are transformed into shovel ready projects. Time to start your engines!

**MINNESOTA COMPOSTING COUNCIL** - Ginny Black, president

The Minnesota Composting Council held a December webinar that attracted more than 130 registrants. It was supported by USCC, and was extremely successful! USCC is interested in working with other chapters on webinars this winter and spring to stay engaged with your state compost community—Email Linda if you are interested.

MNCC is seeking sponsors for a bill expanding compostable packaging labelling legislation, as well as other legislative activities. See their attached legislative brief!

**NEBRASKA Chapter**- Megan Jackson, liaison

Nebraska is working with CREF to hold a Compost Operations Training Course in the summer.

**NEW JERSEY CHAPTER**

The NJ Composting Council has started a Foundation for fundraising purposes. You can also find recordings of their Summit for purchase on their
NORTH CAROLINA COMPOSTING COUNCIL- **Julie Moore**, liaison
The NC Chapter held our annual Strategic Meeting on Jan 5th. We have a new Board member Robert Satterfield of Atlas Organic.

Gary Gittere is transitioning the reins of Chapter President to Muriel Williman, Senior Assistant Solid Waste Manager at City of Durham. Good luck Muriel!

**OHIO CHAPTER- OHIO ORGANICS COUNCIL**— **Jason Ziss**, President

**TENNESSEE CHAPTER** – **Clay Ezell**, President.

**VIRGINIA COMPOSTING COUNCIL**: **Ken Bannister**, president.