



March 2019

NEXT CALL: **Tuesday, April 23, 2 pm**

Membership News

***Quarterly Lists:** All chapters (charter and committees) should be receiving quarterly lists by March 31.

***New Database:** The USCC's new database is going on line in the NEXT WEEK! Watch for an email about how to update your account.

***USCC Dues:** USCC dues are going up 3% across the board to keep up with rising costs. The last time our dues went up was 2017. Watch for the email with more information.

***Chapter News:** The State of Nebraska is officially a new charter chapter, fiscally sponsored by the Nebraska Recycling Council, a longtime USCC member. Please say hello to Julie Diegel, their Executive Director, and the kickoff committee of Julie, Andy Harpenau of Soil Dynamics, Ben Rice of Prairieland Gold, Jessica Placek of Crete Core Ingredients, and NRC board liaison, Gene Hanlon.

DUAL MEMBERSHIP Pilot Program: In mid-year we hope to have a chapter to pilot a co-dues collection platform through our new Membership Database, Your Membership. Julie Diegel and Jairo Gonzales have volunteered to be on a 3 month subgroup to help study the best format for the pilot program, which may be expanded to other interested chapters in future years.

April Chapter Call: Brian Fleury, chair of the Strategic Alliances Committee, would like to talk to chapter leaders about the committees' new projects, which include working more closely inside the organization as well as with partner organizations. We encourage you to invite another member of your board, either to attend this call with you, or as a substitute so you can share information about USCC.

COMPOST USE/STA

*Hilary Nichols, Market Development Coordinator and STA Manager, recently represented USCC at the Pennsylvania Recycling Markets Centers' Organics Management Summit about the STA Certified Compost program.

LEAC/Advocacy/Regulations

*Please be sure your chapter is participating. 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 next call is Monday, March 11 at 2 pm Eastern. Email cary.oshins@compostingcouncil.org to be on the invite list.

You will also receive an email separately about the Oregon DEQ Life Cycle Analysis of compostables, a position being taken by compost producers in Oregon, and a coordinated response. Be on the lookout and please send this ASAP to your Chapter advocacy committee and leadership as Chapter feedback and consideration of signon is desired.

CERTIFICATION NEWS:

If you are having content/information related talks at your Chapter events, please talk with Cary Oshins to see if your attendees can get PDHS for participating. It can help encourage more people to come to your events.

STATE NEWS:

ASSOCIATION OF COMPOST PRODUCERS/CALIFORNIA COMPOST COUNCIL

NEW ACP Marketing Plan!

ACP has two new marketing plans that were discussed at their all-member in person meeting. One focused on marketing to the general public and public leaders and



agencies, and the other focused on supporting composter members marketing to both state agencies and local jurisdictions. The purpose of these plans, including action steps, is to outline and implement a process that will increase compost product quality, sales and income for ACP's members. In addition, ACP is taking a new regional approach to membership engagement with *both* ACP leadership and other colleague members in their own area, as

well as linking local and state government compost prospects and buyers to support your building sustainable local markets.

ACP Meeting Tulare Lake Compost

2019 Board of Directors:

- Jeff Ziegenbein - President - *Inland Empire Regional Composting Authority*
- Kathy Kellogg Johnson - Vice President - *Kellogg Garden Products*
- Bob Engel - Secretary/Treasurer - *Engel & Gray, Inc. Regional Compost Facility*
- Craig Kolodge - Filtrex - Director - *Filtrexx International*
- Tom Shearer - Director - *Soil and Compost Consulting*
- Chris Seney - Director - *Republic Services*
- Dan Noble - Executive Director

COLORADO COMPOSTING COUNCIL:

The chapter is sponsoring supporting a Stakeholders Workshop on Contamination on April 9th being hosted/coordinated by Recycle Colorado.

We will be holding a work session at the Recycle Colorado annual Summit, being held in Pueblo this June. Empowering Regulatory Leaders with the Knowledge of What Organics Recycling Entails

We have initiated a formalized membership campaign and retained a contractor to drive it.

ILLINOIS COMMITTEE:

Illinois (Illinois Food Scrap Coalition) held a member appreciation night in late January at the Hopkat restaurant in Chicago. Although we were in the midst of the polar vortex, 38 people attended .Two local organizations were recognized by Region V of EPA as recipients of an award for their Food Recovery Challenge. They are Bright Beat for their food rescue, donation and composting programs at the Electric Forest music festival in Michigan and Savor for their food rescue and diversion to composting program at McCormick Place in Chicago.



The Illinois Board of Directors at the January event.

MD-DC Committee:

No report

MICHIGAN CHAPTER:

The Michigan Organics Council is working to wrap up a strategic planning session to guide future work of the Council to advance organics management goals in Michigan. With significant new funding available in the state and regulatory changes on the horizon, Michigan's organics industry is working to position itself to assure that it benefits from the developments.

The MOC's parent organization, the Michigan Recycling Coalition will host its 37th Annual Conference in Ann Arbor on May 14th-16th which will feature three organics specific educational sessions and a session on PFAs in Michigan landfills and biosolids. The full conference program will be available in the next couple of weeks.

MINNESOTA COMPOSTING COUNCIL

See the Minnesota Composting Council's Legislative Policy Document [here](#).

NEBRASKA Chapter: Welcome!

NEW JERSEY COMPOSTING COUNCIL

New Jersey has held another recent member meeting and is hard at work on legislative initiatives:

New Jersey is considering legislation to prioritize green stormwater infrastructure in design, construction, and repair of public highways (https://www.njleg.state.nj.us/2018/Bills/S2000/1768_11.PD). The NJ Composting Council is preparing to propose amendments to this legislation which would highlight the importance of compost in such applications. Specifically, we are currently planning to propose adding the following bold language to the definition of "green stormwater infrastructure methods."

"Green stormwater infrastructure methods" shall mean management practices that reduce stormwater runoff by allowing stormwater to be treated by vegetation or soils or to be stored and reused, and shall include but not be limited to pervious pavement, bio-retention basins, and grass swales. **To the extent practicable as determined by the Commissioner of Transportation, green stormwater infrastructure methods shall employ sustainable materials, including compost.**

NORTH CAROLINA COMPOSTING COUNCIL:

The Board of Directors is proud to announce a new Board member, Kate Sullivan who is our Chair of Communication and Marketing.

The NCCC conducted their February Board Meeting at the New Hanover County facility in conjunction with the Coastal Compost Council

Coastal Carolina Composting (CCC) is hosting an educational event this month called "What Goes Where?"

CCC won an award from Carolina Recycling Association for their "Huckleberry" food waste collection and in-vessel composting program.

NCCC participated in the NC Nursery and Landscape Assoc's Green & Growin' show with a booth for education about composting and compost use.

VIRGINIA COMPOSTING COUNCIL:

The Virginia Composting Council held a member meeting at Vasen Brewery in Richmond.



The Council has become an official partner of the [Virginia Conservation Council](#), VCN is committed to building a powerful, diverse, and highly-coordinated conservation movement focused on protecting our Commonwealth's natural resources.

