



September 2019

NEXT CHAPTER CALL: **Tuesday, November 5, 2 pm**

**TOPIC: Young Professionals & Chapters**

## USCC NEWS

### Membership News

#### \*Chapter News:

**\*Ohio Chapter:** The State of Ohio, as you heard on the summer call, is officially a new charter chapter. Please welcome their leadership team of Jason Ziss of Kurtz Bros.; Bart Morr, Paradise Landscaping, and Angel Arroyo-Rodriguez, Ohio EPA.

**\*Web Page Service:** On the summer Chapter Call, chapters heard about a menu of services that will be available through USCC. The first of these to launch is a Chapter Web page, with a page launch price of \$350. See more details of cost and [application here](#). Event management services will be unveiled later this year.

## COMMITTEES and PROGRAMS

### COMPOST USE/STA

\*Hilary Nichols, Market Development Coordinator and STA Manager

([Hnichols@compostingcouncil.org](mailto:Hnichols@compostingcouncil.org))

--The MDC has been working on a new tagline and branding press release- "STA Certified Compost"; a Plan for webinars; and will be represented at the International Erosion Control Asso. With two talks; and is working with ICAW (see below) on 2020 ICAW theme. Another Joe Lamp'l video is in process. An MDC member also wrote a blog post, about Directions For Use, see

[www.compostingcouncil.org/soilbuildersblog](http://www.compostingcouncil.org/soilbuildersblog)

--75% of renewals are done for the STA program this year.

### MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The committee began this summer on an in-depth tour/study of benefits for three of our largest member groups: compost manufacturers, equipment manufacturers/suppliers, and municipalities, with CMs first and the others coming in October/November. We also heard from a provider of insurance and other benefits to help us learn about new benefits we might offer.

### MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM

**\*Quarterly Lists:** All chapters (charter and committees) should be receiving quarterly lists of members in your state from the summer member renewal period by the end of this week.

**\*Discussion List:** The USCCs former Compost Discussion List-Serv has transitioned to a more modern Compost Facility Discussion Group, for members only, at Basic level and above. Non-members can pay a monthly subscription of \$24/month; we gave past List-Serv users the ability to subscribe for free through October 15. We will give all chapters free access to 3 members of your leadership team. *Email Linda for the link and more details!*

**\*Young Professionals:** Our new Young Professionals Team is assembling. We'll be sending out an eblast that we would appreciate if you distribute it among your group. Additionally, our YPS are interested in coordinating with Chapters to hold events. If interested, email Linda. (This will also be the topic of the November chapter call).

### **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 today at 2 pm Eastern. Email [cary.oshins@compostingcouncil.org](mailto:cary.oshins@compostingcouncil.org) to be on the invite list.

\*See the New Jersey's chapters' big win-which was brought to the LEAC and supported.

\*The Zoning task force continues its work under the leadership of Marcus Zbinden of Minnesota.

\*PH subcommittee is planning conference session. Frank and Dr Fred Michel met with EPA in DC; watch for a feedback campaign coming this month.

### **CERTIFICATION NEWS:**

#### Certification Credits

If your chapter is holding a meeting with educational content (eg, a featured speaker) you can have that approved to provide Professional Development Hours for area Certified Compost Operations Managers (CCOMs) and Certified Compost Professionals (CCPs).

For examples, go to <https://certificationsuscc.org/Get-Recertified/Certification-Maintenance-and-Renewal#PDH>

For more information or if you have questions, contact Cary Oshins, Director Certification, [director@certificationsUSCC.org](mailto:director@certificationsUSCC.org), 301-897-2715 x1521

### **TARGET ORGANICS COMMITTEE- Hilary Nichols, staff**

This committee, focused on developing municipal composting capacity to plug infrastructure gaps, has been working to develop a second set of surveys for the municipal audiences; and is near finalizing a TOC logo. The survey should be ready to deploy in October 2019 and chapters will be counted on to help get the word out.

### **CCREF-Training**

The Foundation due to demand, has increased the annual number of COTCs this year to five, and is in the process of revising the fees and withdrawal policies due to waitlists. They are beginning a COTC advisory committee.

### **CCREF-ICAW:**

The ICAW 2020 Poster Contest has started and is accepting design entries until Nov. 1st. Anyone age ten and up can enter using the theme Soil Loves

Compost. <https://www.compostfoundation.org/ICAW/ICAW-Poster-Contest>

### **CCREF-PEER REVIEW**

The CCREF Trustees recently made the commitment to have all new research papers, when it is relevant, to be sent out to be peer reviewed. This new process will increase the scientific rigor of the research and move it to a higher standard, with the goal of strengthening the information offered to the industry because it will have the endorsement of science on its side. The recently completed Soluble Salts literature review is currently out for peer review and another research project on air emissions will be completed this fall and sent out for review at that time.

**COMPOSTCONFERENCE:** Registration is open for the national conference in Charleston, SC next January.

**Chapter Training:** The training survey (found here) did not show overwhelming support for the topic of volunteer management, and also showed preference for a *session-oriented* and INEXPENSIVE training. **If 2 chapter volunteers** would work with Linda on this project on choosing the

right topic, USCC will work to find a sponsor. Please contact Linda ASAP. We need to get this started in September in order to pull it off! [Lnorriswaldt@compostingcouncil.org](mailto:Lnorriswaldt@compostingcouncil.org).

## **STATE NEWS:**

### **ASSOCIATION OF COMPOST PRODUCERS/CALIFORNIA COMPOST COUNCIL**

Training-The ACP is working with the Composting Council Research and Education Foundation to host the Monterey, CA COTC, gathering sponsors and helping with promotion. The Chapter is also holding a membership drive in conjunction with an October program training and focusing on municipal members, as well as holding a training workshop on Oct. 3 for Municipal members.

ACP has a group working on a Contamination Toolkit, [see the outline here](#).

### **COLORADO COMPOSTING COUNCIL:**

The COCC had a membership campaign that is still bringing in final results and interest in the chapter, and the membership database was completely updated. The chapter is also very actively working on contamination tool kit using the Washington document as a guideline as well as legislation to create market and use in Agriculture, aligning with the Healthy Soils Initiative that is underway by the Colorado Department of Ag.

### **ILLINOIS COMMITTEE:**

1. The IFSC was featured in the August issue of BioCycle Magazine in an article "Food Scrap Composting Grows in Illinois". Illinois now has 47 municipal food scrap collection programs.

2. The president of the Illinois Committee was interviewed by Frank Avila, a local Water Reclamation District Commissioner, during a podcast he produces.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rwdP\\_tXWcp8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rwdP_tXWcp8). She discusses food scrap diversion and the importance of using compost.

3. The Illinois Department of Transportation has selected two pilot projects for use of compost in road construction projects. The first is at the intersection of US-20 and Harmony Road near Woodstock, Illinois and the other at I-394 and Sauk Trail Road near Sauk Village, Illinois.

4. The Illinois Committee will hold a Fall Forum "Get the Dirt on Compost" in St. Charles, on November 6, from 1-3pm.

### **MD-DC Committee:**

The Maryland-DC Compost Council is working on upgrading its Committee status to Charter Chapter and investigating potential partnerships with organizations that might be fiscal sponsors. The group also continues to monitor potential legislation and discussion following the closure of the HB171 study in which the Chapter and ILSR were key participants.

### **MICHIGAN CHAPTER:**

The Michigan Chapter is focusing on making progress on the five priority areas identified earlier this year: Regulatory and Policy, Market & End Use Development, Education, Organics Infrastructure, and Feed People & Work the Hierarchy. The Council is supporting the work of the Michigan Recycling Coalition as it represents the industry in on-going discussions around changes to current solid waste laws. It's expected that legislation to update Michigan's Part 115 will be introduced later this year which will increase oversight and regulation of the composting industry. Recently won recycling funding should benefit organics managers in FY 2019-2020. The Michigan Chapter has identified an Action Team that has begun to explore the development of a campaign aimed at showing end use markets such as the Department of Transportation and its contractors, landscapers, and organic farms the value of compost as a soil amendment.

## **MINNESOTA COMPOSTING COUNCIL**

No report.

### **NEBRASKA Chapter:**

A total of 71 people attended two Chapter kickoff events in June; our Chapter Committee is growing and we are beginning to learn of more composting operations in the state; NRC added a "Compost Corner" section to our newsletter that will have content added quarterly; we are planning to host a Compost Operations Training Course in Lincoln at the University of Nebraska the last week of July 2020 and will be writing grant applications to offset part of the tuition for Nebraska participants; we have begun working on the grant-funded Feedlot Composting project that includes building an analysis tool that municipalities, feedlot owners and compost professionals can use to determine whether a business model that combines feedlot manure and municipal yard and wood waste would be viable in their area. It will be an open-source, cloud-based resource.

## **NEW JERSEY COMPOSTING COUNCIL**

Advocacy Victory: The New Jersey legislature passed a food waste recycling mandate in June 2019 which still permitted the disposal of food waste in landfills and incinerators. However, following a strong response from the USCC, NJ Composting Council, and other groups, Governor Phil Murphy vetoed the legislation and directed the legislature to remove the provisions allowing the disposal of food waste in landfills and incinerators. The NJ Composting Council will engage with the New Jersey legislature as it resumes its efforts to pass a food waste recycling mandate.

## **NORTH CAROLINA COMPOSTING COUNCIL:**

\*Sustainable Spirits attendance is being helped greatly by Facebook ads which are increasing attendance.

\*NCCC members are attending events in Raleigh/Durham, and a Food Waste/Sustainable Ag summit in Asheville (I think-I also have Durham)

And the chapter had a table at the Eno River Festival., and is running the Raleigh COTC **this week.**

## **OHIO CHAPTER-OHIO ORGANICS COUNCIL**

\*no report

## **VIRGINIA COMPOSTING COUNCIL:**

\*Virginia chapter held an inperson meeting at Draper Aden offices, where the chapters goals were reviewed.

\*The outreach committee is going to begin working on an ICAW proclamation at the Staet level.

\*VCC is looking into producing some marketing literature about the chapter, towards a goal of a 10-20% increase in members.

\* November meeting will be held at the McGill Composting Facility in Waverly VA.

## **INTERESTING READING of the quarter:**

This one is about national associations helping Chapters perform well by assisting with volunteer development:

<https://associationsnow.com/2018/08/membership-memo-chapters-peak-performance/>