



August 2018

mm NEXT CALL: **stay tuned for an invite—it will be either Monday 8/13 or Tuesday 8/14!**

Membership News

***Quarterly Lists:** All chapters should have received their quarterly member list from USCC the last week of July.

***Recruitment & Education Push for Colleges and Universities:** Watch for a College Composting web page to be up on the USCC site by Labor Day; the Board has approved a special allowance for Bronze University members to add **4** students to their accounts free; and PR surrounding our presence at the [AASHE Conference](#) in Pittsburgh on Oct 1-3 will be forthcoming. We will be reaching out to chapters this fall to help us bring in university members in your state—both for you and us!

***Chapter News:** The State of New Jersey is officially a new chapter! Welcome to this group to Jairo Gonzales, who is their spokesperson as they get organized. We are also discussing with Ohio, Iowa, Texas and Georgia! MD-DC Committee is reviewing its committee status as well.

MEMBER DRIVE: With interest from several chapters, we are going to work on a fall member drive in our chapter states. Stay tuned; we will likely offer a 10% discount for people in your states to join USCC. We'll be sending customized eblasts to each state, so if you want more supporters in your state (the term we ask you to call your member) we will include a paragraph about that and a link to your Signup/Join page if you have one or an email address for them to contact. Hopefully this will happen in September or October at the latest! Thank you for sharing that in your channels as well when it happens—new members not only benefit us, they benefit Chapter Chapters as well in additional Chapter reimbursements!

July Chapter Call Continued!!! *We are growing so much, we weren't able to get to our discussion on Motivating Volunteer Chapter Leaders. We are in the process of rescheduling that right now for the 3rd week of August. **We will let all know when it is rescheduled in case you would like to join.***

COMPOST USE/STA

***Perennial Plants Asso: Hilary Nichols,** our new STA Manager and Market Development Committee Liaison, recently represented USCC at the Raleigh, NC national conference of this organization talking compost use. GoHilary!

***STA:** FYI, all STA participants are now being asked to fill out an online form and provide a copy of their permit for our new recordkeeping process. It is new to STA folks and has

been a chore for some, but it helps us to make our data collection process much more professional and credible for specifiers who often ask for STA verification.

LEAC/Advocacy/Regulations

*Please be sure your chapter is participating. The next call is Monday, Aug 13 at 2 pm Eastern. Email cary.oshins@compostingcouncil.org to be on the invite list.

*Infrastructure Development: The first **infrastructure survey** from states is in, and data is being used to work on potential changes to the Model Rule. Stay tuned!

STATE NEWS:

ASSOCIATION OF COMPOST PRODUCERS/CALIFORNIA COMPOST COUNCIL

California now has 3 part time staff; Dan Noble, Kathy Lynch (lobbyist) and Jonelle Tanahill, who is working on membership/industry relations activities. Website: www.healthysoil.org/

California is working on the possibility of a conference to "tag on" to the USCC Compost training in California next March. They try to hold an event in conjunction with BioCycle when they are in CA for their conference, which they did this year. They are participating in a landscape expo in the fall; and a bioResources symposium, and are planning a membership drive.

Their lobbying this year, by 15 of their members, reached 50% of the states senators and 30 of the delegates.

- **SB 1383 - Short Lived Climate Reduction**, mainly landfill diversion, has a number of spots that still need cleaning up. We talked about this at length during the June member meeting, and we're still looking to get the final wording changes in and additional costs of operation for these regulations! Please look for a brief set of questions from Dan, so we can gather info from you and communicate directly to CalRecycle costs to composters of these regulations. If you have other thoughts, please let Dan know ASAP (619-992-8389, danwyldernoble@gmail.com).
- **AB 901 - New organic reporting requirements** - We're in the short stocks of providing detailed language for 901. If any of you have any additional thoughts about these new, possibly onerous reporting requirements, please let me know so we can get any final wording changes in there.
- **Developing a Sustainable Organics Recovery Sector** - Presentations, handouts and notes are now presented for this June 25, 2018 event and process with the Bay Area AQMD. All materials from the event have been uploaded to [BAAQMD's conference webpage](#) under the heading "Developing a Sustainable Organics Recovery Sector." They're moving toward new District compost emissions regulations and are looking for feedback from composters in the Bay Area District.

COLORADO COMPOSTING COUNCIL:

This group is working on a new website! They had a successful session at the Colorado Recycling Summit and are using the energy to have a followup Membership Drive.

ILLINOIS COMPOSTING COUNCIL COMMITTEE:



The group had a strategic planning session recently and during the upcoming year will focus on : tracking recently enacted [house Bill 4790](#) to encourage composters to pursue IDOT construction contracting opportunities and identify construction sites for two demonstration projects using compost; develop statewide guidelines with composters and stakeholders for what can be composted everywhere to address contamination; furthering the reach and impact of the

[white paper on agricultural use](#); reach out to communities, such as those in Lake County, Illinois, who divert food scrap organics and close the loop by examining procurement procedures that encourage use of compost.

MICHIGAN COMPOSTING COUNCIL COMMITTEE

The [COTC being held the last week of July](#) sold out and had a record number of sponsors, Amy Freeman rounded them up. She said equipment providers were especially good contacts, and people who hosted tours. The Michigan Organics Council (USCC chapter) is looking at the food waste hierarchy.

MD-DC COMPOSTING COUNCIL COMMITTEE:

This group has a seat at the table for [Maryland's Infrastructure Task force](#) and is working to guide infrastructure expansion; the committees report to the legislature will wrap up late this year. Many of their members are working on DMV region educational projects, also around backyard composting and vermicomposting.

MINNESOTA COMPOSTING COUNCIL

The MNCC held its 1-day compost operator training on July 25th to meet the continuing education requirements in MN compost rules (new facility employees must have training within 12 months, and others have to have a 1 day refresher every other year). It's a popular program with 60 people in 2017 and 55 registered in 2018. They are continuing the [Plate to Garden fundraiser](#); and are contemplating hiring a lobbyist (perhaps sharing with Michigan chapter?) for the next legislative session, which is Jan-May 2019.

They are working on a followup to the every-other-year economic survey of the state industry.

NORTH CAROLINA COMPOSTING COUNCIL:



The NCCC held its annual meeting in June, and gave an appreciation award to USCC Executive Director Frank Franciosi, one of NCCCs founders. They exhibited at the [Water Symposium at NC State](#), and held a Sustainable Landscaping event at [JC Raulston Arboretum](#). They also held Sustainable Spirits networking last week.

NEW JERSEY:

They have formed a steering committee and are working hard on engaging the state to make it easier to establish a compost facility in NJ, one of the most expensive permit states in the country. Stay tuned!

VIRGINIA:

They are working on webinars that will be in the form of Q & A sessions on Skype or Zoom, advertised as "Ask A Composter" for citizens. They are also considering some one-day trainings; and are holding another [Sustainable Spirits event](#) in Richmond, in August.

