



**March 2018**

Next Quarterly Call: April 23 2018 2-3 pm

**\*760 members**

**TOPIC: Fundraising for Your Chapter**

#### **Membership Committee**

- The Committee is currently reviewing a plan for adjusting all members annual due dates to JULY 1, including a communication and proration plan. This will also align with the July due date for STA participants, and its called the One Stop Renewal project.
- New Chair is Greg Gelewski of OCRRA, also VP of the USCC board. Members include Heidi Ringhofer, Lora Hinchcliff, Ryan Cooper, Ben Fischler, Michele Bogden, Mike Whitt, Lorrie Loder-Rossiter, and Bob Yost. (Linda Norris-Waldt, staff Greg Gelewski, Chair.

#### **Membership Program**

- Preparing communications for the (above) One Stop Renewal project.
- Beginning to collect photos for the FIRST ANNUAL USCC CALENDAR!!! (February was Members with Products). March focus is: Compost Facilities at Sunrise (we think of spring as the time of rising early to plant etc.!).
- All members should have received their ICAW posters by now!

#### **Market Development Committee:**

The Market Development Committee is developing the messaging for the Joe Lamp'l (Growing a Greener World) for 2018-19.

The new Marketing partnership with Growing a Greener World will include another video in the application series and 10 short videos designed for use on social media. (If you haven't seen it yet [view this video of Joe in Atlanta with Scott Jenkins.](#))

The content will focus on the use of Certified Compost to build healthy soil.

*Bob Engel, chair, Chuck Duprey, vice-chair*

*Staff: Meet Hilary Nichols*

#### **Strategic Alliance Committee:**

\* The Strategic Planning Committee is continuing to progress on its work on infrastructure through building a bank of resources and steps to help municipalities around the County to integrate language addressing compost facilities into their Solid Waste Management plans. Anyone interested in assisting with this project is encouraged to contact Susan Thoman or Frank Franciosi, executive director.

\*A survey is being developed to send out to all member municipalities to learn about their solid waste planning/composting activities.

*Susan Thoman, Chair*

#### **Legislative and Environmental Affairs Committee:**

\*CPTF is finalizing model labelling legislation update, and will begin working to seek advocates to bring it to state policymakers (only CA and MD have adopted so far). -Rhodes Yepsen

\*MD-Howard County on-farm composting bill is being re-introduced; infrastructure task force is beginning

\*MN- Legislation requiring all haulers in MN/St Paul to offer residential organics collection, (seven metro counties) is being brought forward again

\*CA – continued work by CalRecycle on new regulations for 2020

*Cary Oshins, Staff, , CoChair Neil Edgar, CoChair Marcus Zbinden,*

#### **Composting Council Research and Education Foundation**

Now is the time to start planning events and activities for ICAW, May 6 - 12. For ideas on what you can do in your state or communities, go to the ICAW website page: <http://www.compostfoundation.org/icaw-get-involved-events> to see upcoming events or enter your plans to share with others. If you need help with anything related to ICAW, contact Beth Simone

*Staff: Beth Simone; Chair: Ginny Black*

#### **Chapter News:**

## **CHAPTER NEWS**

### **California:**

They are transitioning their website to a new platform that will make online event registration and promotion simpler including a web-based calendar; mobile app for easy updates, automated renewals, member only content area, membership directories, blog section. This will greatly simplify the application process for members and members and supporters can pay online (from their computer or mobile device) for membership fees, registration fees, and donations. They are in the process of reviewing our member benefits and will be sending out a survey this month. There is a new chapter Policy Advisory Working Group that gathered to review bills, and an ACP Permit Streamlining Work Group chaired by Bret Hoyt, Sustainable Generation (Gore® Covers), Cindy Liles, Clements Environmental. The Chapter is also planning

**ACP Legislator's Day - May 2, 2018.**

### **Colorado**

Is continuing to work with CDOT on changing the rules to increase the amount of compost used in their products, it won't turn into legislation this session. But they are finding new opportunities for discussion.

### **MD-DC: No report**

### **Illinois**

1. A **Municipal ordinance webinar** is scheduled for March 16<sup>th</sup> in collaboration with the Illinois Composting Committee, led by the Illinois Food Scrap Coalition and Seven Generations Ahead. The focus is to educate and inform municipality staff on food scrap recycling and compost use. The webinar will cover best practices, urban farming, suggestions in ordinances, starting your own drop-off program, and relevant ordinances that could be passed by a municipality. The webinar will be recorded and the power point will be shared.



2. On February 14<sup>th</sup>, a **Compost Forum** in Wheaton, Illinois brought together over 100 attendees from park districts, compost facilities, golf courses, municipalities, universities, waste haulers, non-profits, gardeners and more. Participants took a deep dive into the science of how compost improves soil quality from Vytas Pabedinskas, a local soil scientist, and then heard a series of case studies from golf courses, park districts, and landscape designers. After a brief break, attendees came back to discuss food scrap composting integration to various applications and had the opportunity to network. The seminar was sponsored by DuPage County, Seven Generations Ahead and School and Community Assistance for Recycling and Composting Education (SCARCE).

#### **Michigan:**

The Michigan Chapter, represented by the Michigan Organics Council, continues to discuss changes to Michigan solid waste law that will increase oversight and support for composting facilities. The Governor has proposed an increase in the landfill tipping fee surcharge to cover the costs of a variety of sustainable materials management initiatives covered by the proposed changes. A bill for the policy changes, however, has not yet been introduced.

The chapter, through its partnership with USCC/CCREF, is promoting the CCREF Compost Operations Training at MSU July 30-August 3.

The chapter will host its second quarter meeting at the Forgotten Harvest a food rescue organizing in the Detroit area in June.

#### **Minnesota:**

MNCC is opposing a bill put forward by a group of landfill operators trying to get a tax break for facilities such as dirty MRFS taking in organics and pulling them out of MSW and using for daily cover; even though its not saleable they would get a tax break under the bill; supporting the Governors bonding bill that has \$5mil for the construction of compost facilities or transfer stations that facilitate organics collection/transfer to a compost facility; and opposing a bill that would deny local governments the ability to regulate "auxiliary products" be used when participating in an organics collection program. See [HR3606 here](#).

On January 17<sup>th</sup>, the MNCC held a work shop for businesses that were interested in implementing organics collection in their business. The presenters were business that had done exactly that. It was a terrific success, attended by 45 people and earned the chapter new contacts who are not members and sponsors of their events.

We are now planning a second 1-day compost operator training for July 25<sup>th</sup>. This is part of a grant we have with the State of Minnesota to develop one training's for compost operators as required by Minnesota Rules.

#### **North Carolina:**

The NC Composting Council elected two new board members in February; Gary Bilbro currently with EcoSafe Zero Waste and Carl Sigel working on Becoming the Good Soil, Bearing the Fruit That Will Last project with At Church or the Nativity. Gary and Carl join Glen Roberts, runs Natural GREEN Lawns and was elected in December.



#### **Virginia:**

On March 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, Godfrey Clinton and Gordon Briggs represented the Virginia Compost Council at the Newport News One City Marathon Health and Wellness Expo. They shared the benefits of compost use and manufacturing and spread the word about the VCC being reactivated.”

#### **Young Professionals:**

- Will be having a meeting of all interested leadership team and committee members April 11.
- YPS : In March/April launching the next round of MENTOR/MENTEE applications, April/May beginning to accept YP Scholarships.
- The first REGIONAL Young Professionals event is occurring at the end of March at the New York recycling associations Organics Summit!

***Chapters: Every month on the 10<sup>th</sup> I'll drop a quick email for 3 bullets about your chapter, if you care to post anything. The bulletin will come out around the 18<sup>th</sup> of the month (after LEAC, SAC, MDC, Membership Committees and Board mtgs which all take place that week.) Feel free to forward this to your members.***