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# US Composting Council

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## US Composting Council: 2013 Issues & Agenda

Sustainable Food Packaging  
Washington DC  
December 12, 2012

Michael Virga  
Executive Director  
US Composting Council





“Earth knows no desolation. She smells regeneration in the moist breath of decay”.

- George Meredith

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# Outline

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- USCC Mission & Vision
  
- Current Issues & USCC Activity
  - Critical Issues
  - Market Development
  - Strategic Alliances
  - CCREF
  - Conference

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## Mission Statement

The US Composting Council (USCC) advances composting and promotes compost use to enhance soils and provide economic and environmental benefits for our members and society.

## Vision Statement

We believe that the recycling of organic materials is central to achieving healthy soils, clean water and a sustainable society.

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# Critical Issues

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- Persistent Herbicides
- NAICS
- Model Rules

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# Market Development

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- Trade shows
- Seal of Testing Assurance (STA)
- Consumer Compost Use Program (CCUP)
- National Communications Campaign

# IF IT ISN'T STA COMPOST... WHAT IS IT?



US Composting Council  
Seal of Testing Assurance

What are you specifying and purchasing for your landscape plantings?

## STA COMPOST:

- Improves landscape establishment
- Improves customer satisfaction
- Makes specifying and purchasing compost easy
- Assures proper use and application

## STA PARTICIPANTS ARE QUALITY COMPOST PRODUCERS THAT:

- Participate in a national program
- Test products on a prescribed schedule
- Comply with all state and federal regulation
- Follow uniform compost analysis requirements



Developed through EPA funding  
Department of Agriculture

# STRIVE for 5%

SOIL ORGANIC MATTER

 **USE COMPOST**

**BULK OR BAGGED**  
**USE COMPOST & RAISE SOIL ORGANIC MATTER TO 5%**

COMPOST BUILDS HEALTHY SOIL -  
THE FOUNDATION OF A STRONG  
VIBRANT LANDSCAPE!

BUY COMPOST AT A GARDEN OR  
LANDSCAPE SUPPLY CENTER NEAR YOU &  
STRIVE FOR 5% ORGANIC MATTER

 **US Composting Council**  
compostingcouncil.org

US Composting Council's Compost CUP  
Consumer Use Program



### lawn



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### trees & shrubs



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### flower & vegetable GARDENS



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Seal of Testing Assurance



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## COMPOST AND LEED/SITES:

*A Natural Connection*

### USE COMPOST FOR CREDITS IN:

#### Materials and Resources

- COMPOST is a 100% Recycled Product
- COMPOST is produced locally
- COMPOST is a rapidly renewable resource

#### Water Efficiency

- COMPOST Reduces Landscape Water Demands
- Use COMPOST in Biofiltration and Constructed Wetlands

#### Sustainable Sites & COMPOST

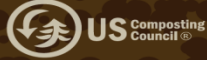
- Pollution Prevention
- Habitat Protection & Restoration
- Site Water Runoff Reduction and Quality Improvement
- Heat Island Effect; both Roof and Non-Roof



US Composting Council®

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





US Composting  
Council®

**Coming in 2013!**

**COMPOST:  
NATURE'S WAY TO GROW**



US Composting  
Council®

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# Strategic Alliances

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- National Restaurant Association (NRA)
- American Biogas Council (ABC)
- Keep America Beautiful (KAB)
- Biocycle

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# Composting Council Research & Education Foundation

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- Non-Profit (c) 3 charitable
- Research & Education Projects
- Two Cents for Compost Program

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**“Composting is the next wave of environmentalism”**

Mathew McKenna  
President & CEO  
Keep America Beautiful



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# USCC 21st Annual Conference & Tradeshow

January 28–31  
Buena Vista Palace  
Hotel & Spa  
Lake Buena Vista  
Orlando, FL

Make plans to attend the largest conference & exhibition in North America for the composting, wood waste & organics recycling industry.

Outstanding conference program featuring educational & technical presentations, “live” equipment demonstrations, training courses & workshops, over 100 exhibitors, networking, social events & more!

For more information, contact us at **631.737.4931**  
or visit our site [www.compostingcouncil.org](http://www.compostingcouncil.org)



# Orlando 2013



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