



# US Composting Council NZWBC

Frank Franciosi-Executive Director





**US** Composting  
Council



**Composting  
Council®**

**Research &  
Education Foundation**

# Established 1990

- **Who & What Are We?**
- The US Composting Council (USCC) advances compost manufacturing and promotes compost use to enhance soils and provide economic and environmental benefits for our members and society.

## Compost: Nature's Way To Grow!

**Nature's Way to Grow!**



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## **Vision Statement**

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



# Role of the USCC

## Areas of Engagement

- **Education**
  - Annual Conference Program
  - Composter Training Program
  - Certification
- **Market Development**
  - Standards & Practices
  - Seal of Testing Assurance
  - Consumer Use Programs
- **Advocacy**
  - State Policy Support
  - National Issues
- **Membership**
  - Communication
  - Organizational Management
  - State Chapters

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# Educational Activities

- Compost Operations Training Course- 7<sup>th</sup> Year
  - Over 1,000 students from 23 states and three countries
  - 2016 In CA, NY, NC and AZ
  - 2016 Certified Compost Operation Manager (CCOM)
- 2015 Expanding to Food Scraps on a Farm
- Specifying compost-CA
- Composting with Forced Air—CA
- Webinar—The role for Compostable Plastics in diversion





## Tools for Composting Model Rules Template for State Regulations

- ✓ [www.compostingcouncil.org](http://www.compostingcouncil.org)
- ✓ [State Regulations by State Map](#)
- ✓ [Model Rules Template](#)

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# Tools for Composting

## A GUIDE TO WORKPLACE COMPOSTING



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KEEP AMERICA  
BEAUTIFUL



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# Tools for Composting

## More Online Resources

- ✓ [A Guide to Workplace Composting](#)
- ✓ [Compostable Plastics Toolkit](#)
- ✓ [Curb-to-Compost Toolkit](#)
- ✓ [Fact Sheets & Free Reports](#)



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# Benefits of Compost

- **Compost** supplies valuable organic matter and nutrients to soil
- **Compost** improves soil structure and porosity, ensuring a healthier plant root environment
- **Compost** increase the water holding capacity of soil, reducing watering needs
- **Compost** stabilizes pH and improves the soil's ability to hold nutrients
- **Compost** can help in binding and degrading some pollutants
- **Compost** increases beneficial soil organisms
- **Compost** stores soil carbon

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# Introducing Certified Compost®



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# Community Compost vs. Compost Manufacturing



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# Community Composting

- Decentralized
- Low carbon footprint
- Small scale in volume compared to Compost Manufacturing
- Permitting can limit volume & feedstocks
- Lower capital costs
- Can be an entrepreneurial opportunity
- Can be an incubator to Compost Manufacturing



Compost Pedallers-Austin, TX

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# Community Composting Benefits

- Small closed looped
- It provides a neighborhood level local operation-
- The compost produced can be used to benefit the local community gardens and landscapes
- Encourages people to get involved in the production and use of compost



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# Compost Manufacturing

- Centralized
- Larger footprint
- More mechanized
- Higher capital investment costs
- Stricter permitting requirements
- Higher volume processed
- Better product QA & QC
- Trained operators



OCCRA, NY-O<sub>2</sub> Compost System

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# Compost Manufacturing Benefits

- Can process large volumes
- Provides a source for local jobs
- The compost produced can be of higher quality-STA Certified
- Can be public, private or a partnership
- Processed operated by trained personnel
- State permitted for environment, health & safety issues



Lee County, FL

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# Creating Demand for Infrastructure

## Compost Feedstocks

- Yard trimmings landfill bans – eliminate use as LF daily cover
- Source Separated Organics landfill bans
- More private public partnerships
- Generator incentives-tax breaks-lower fees
- State grants for collection and separation

## Compost Products

- Model Ordinances for Soil Restoration
- Stormwater BMP's
- Green Infrastructure ( USGBC ) LEED Certification
- DOT ( use of STA Certified Compost )
- University research



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# Food Scrap Composting

- **Recycling is Most Scalable:**

By investing in recycling infrastructure, training, and policy, 9.5 million tons of food scraps – nearly three-quarters of the total *Roadmap* potential – can be diverted annually from landfills through anaerobic digestion and **composting**, reducing an estimated 4.8 million tons in greenhouse gases while creating over 11,000 new jobs.



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# Barriers to Increasing Composting Infrastructure

- Consumer behavior- throw away society
- State Regulations-Permitting
- Economics \$\$\$
- Training and Educational Programs
- Public Acceptance-NIMBY
- Zoning & siting
- Political will
- Collection
- Supply & demand of compost product
- Contamination of feedstocks



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# Contamination



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# USCC Increasing Infrastructure Goals

- Identify and embrace all sectors that have a stake in environmentally sound and fiscally responsible management of organic residuals.
- Participate in coalitions of influential groups to maximize the influence of the profession on public policy matters
- Collaborate with non-profits, government agencies, industries and research institutions with an emphasis on resolving organics management and compost use issues that impact the industry



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# Call for abstracts-May 2016



**US Composting Council**  
*Celebrating 25 Years*



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