



US Composting Council

Cary Oshins
Director of Education and
Annual Conference



US Composting Council

- Purpose
 - Bringing people together to share information and advocate for the advancement of organics management and the compost manufacturing industry.
- Trade Association incorporated in 1990
- Around 800 members
 - Majority are company/organization memberships
 - Represent compost manufacturers, suppliers, consultants, policy makers, composting supporters



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Organics Management In the US

- One of the fastest growing segments of the recycling stream
- Over 3,500 composting facilities in the US
- Many more collection programs
- Most handle yard debris



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Drivers for Increasing Organics Management

- Waste Reduction
 - Zero/Food Waste Initiatives
 - Changes in the Economy
- Climate Change
 - Organics out of Landfills
 - Compost use, sequestration
- Energy Concerns
- Business opportunities



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We Can Expect Less of This



And More of This



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Major areas of activity

- Advocacy
- Education and Training
- Market Development
- Member support
- Annual Conference



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Advocacy Issues

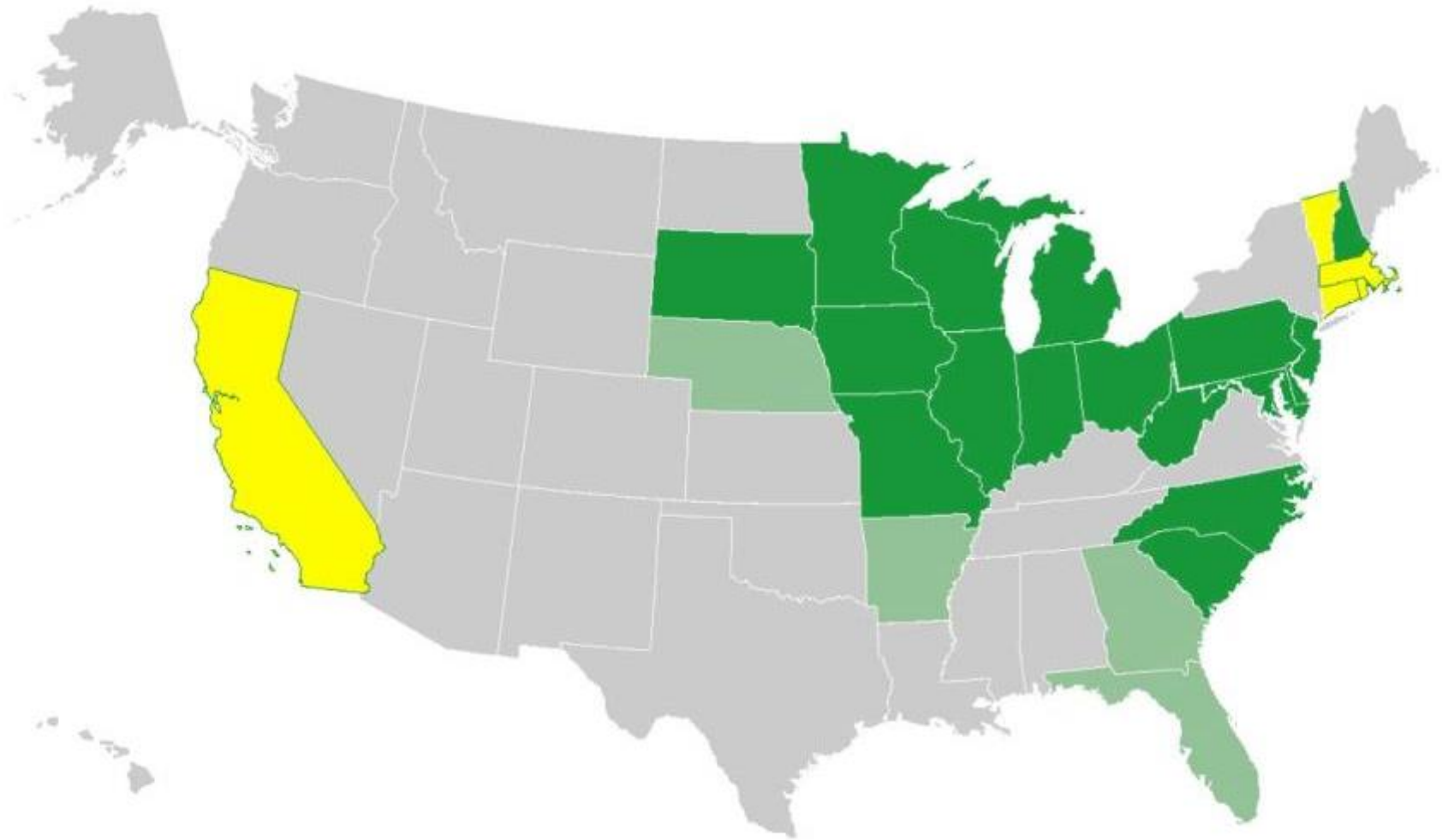
- State (and local) level
 - Landfill bans
 - Diversion mandates
 - Use policies
- National level
 - Food Safety Modernization Act
 - Climate Change
 - Persistent Herbicides (TF)
 - Compostable Plastics (TF)



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States with Organics Legislation



Education and Training

➤ Place-based

- 5-day operations training
- 1/2 to 2-day on wide variety of topics

➤ E-learning

- Webinars

➤ Professional Certification

- Grant from 11th Hour Foundation to plan and launch in 2016

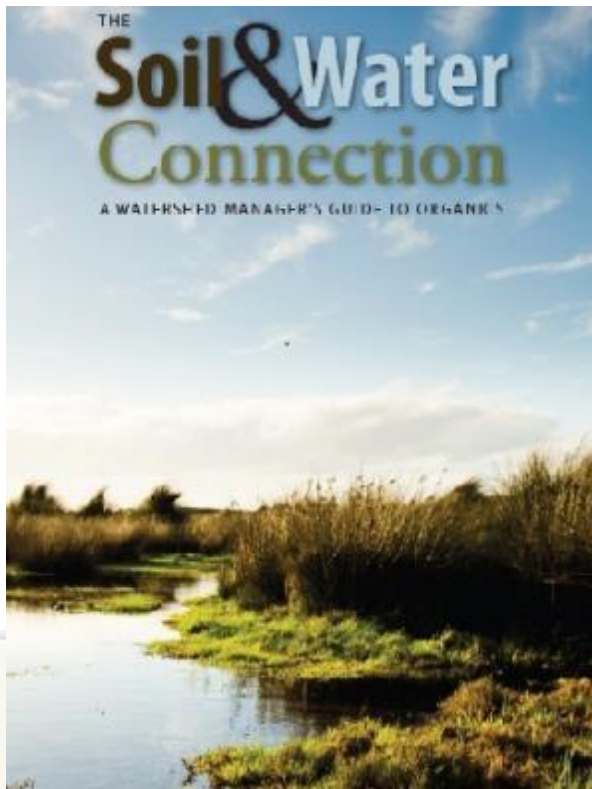


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Educational Materials

- Resource pages on website
 - Factsheets, reports, advocacy
 - publications



Market Development

- Seal of Testing Assurance
 - Labeling and disclosure program
 - Over 200 companies and 300 products
 - Over 5 million tons of compost
 - Included in many DOT specifications
- Consumer Compost Use Program
- Prosumer educational materials
- Growing a Greener World with Joe Lampl



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Seal of Testing Assurance

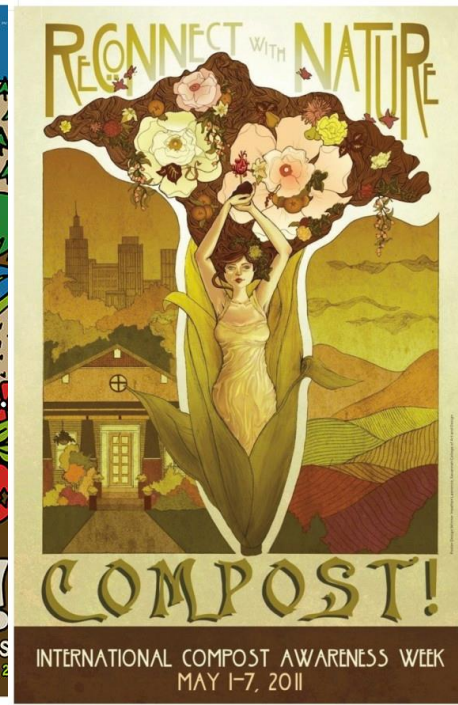
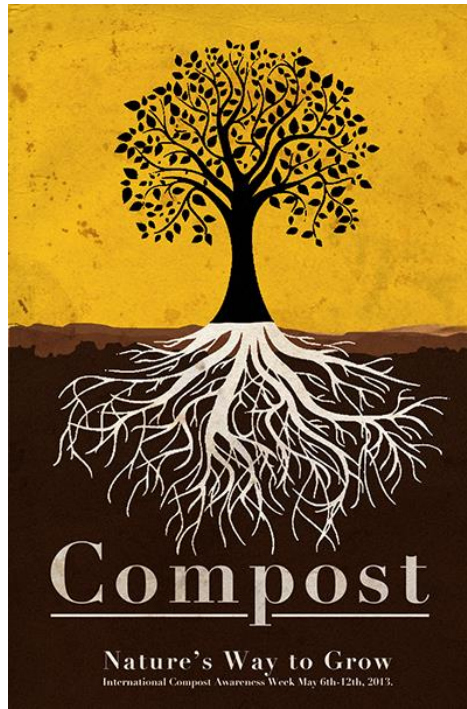


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International Compost Awareness Week

- First full week of May
- Opportunity to promote composting and compost use at all levels
- Annual Poster Contest



Annual Conference (Jan 20-23 in Austin, TX)

- 800-1000 total attendees
- Trade show with over 100 exhibitors
- 38 workshops, technical and plenary sessions
- Receptions, networking
- Equipment Show and Demonstrations



Composting Council Research & Education Foundation (CCREF)

- Purpose
 - Advance composting technologies, practices, and beneficial uses that support resource conservation and economic and environmental sustainability
- 501(c)3 non-profit providing charitable tax benefits to those that donate to its research and projects.



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Composting Council Research and Education Foundation

- International Year of Soil official partner
- Young Investigator and Sustainable student scholarships
- Curb to Compost Tool Kit
 - Online information about incorporating food scraps into an existing yard debris program
- Compostable Plastics Tool Kit
 - Online information about compostable plastics



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Thanks!

