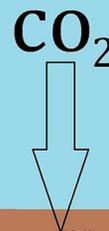
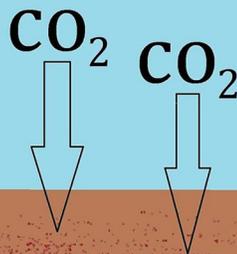
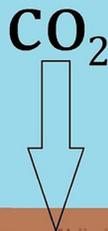




CALIFORNIA COMPOST COALITION



INTERNATIONAL COMPOST AWARENESS WEEK

MAY 3-9, 2020

Commitment to Combat Climate Change

International Compost Awareness Week is the largest and most comprehensive outreach initiative of the composting industry. This year, it is being held May 3 – 9. The United States Composting Council's Research and Education Foundation supports initiatives that enhance the stature and practices of the composting industry by supporting scientific research, educating practitioners and the public to advance environmentally and cost-effective sustainable organics recycling.

Although this year we cannot schedule group events, we are still able to celebrate what composting stands for in many different ways. These accomplishments need to be recognized. The release of a series of initiatives that presents the numerous benefits of compost use having just occurred:

- In January 2020, Lawrence Livermore Labs released a report, "Getting to Neutral – Options for Negative Carbon Emissions in California", which featured natural solutions with compost and biochar being sequestered in the soils are considered carbon negative, among the most cost-effective solutions.
- On April 17, 2020, the Climate Action Reserve released the draft Soil Enrichment Protocol Version 1.0 for public review. The protocol provides guidance to account for, report, and verify GHG emission reductions associated with projects that enhance soil carbon sequestration on agricultural lands.
- On April 27, 2020 – The California Department of Food and Agriculture announced a stakeholder workshop on the development of a soil organic carbon map for California.
- On April 23, 2020, CARB held a hearing on the AB 32 Scoping Plan Update schedule, which will incorporate the Draft California 2030 Natural and Working Lands Climate Change Implementation Plan, preparation starting in early 2021, with adoption in late 2022. The plan could increase compost use on irrigated cropland by 7.5 million tons per year when implemented.

The California Compost Coalition has been pushing this policy agenda from the top down for years, integrating compost use into the carbon world by devising metrics and doing the math. The momentum will continue with an organic harmonic convergence coming by July 2020 with the SB 1383 Progress Report being presented to the new Recycling Commission.

CCC was an early supporter of all of the major climate legislation, including AB 32 and SB 1383, to reduce methane by 40% in 2030, as well as AB 341, which established the State's 75% waste diversion goal. We view our business as twofold: reducing methane from landfills coupled with building healthy soils from organic waste diverted from landfills. We are [Making a Commitment to Combat Climate Change](#), as highlighted in the attached circular, distributed this spring. Our members include the most forward-thinking, innovative operators in the organics processing industry, who fully understand the need to uphold water, air, and land protection standards.

CCC supports California staying on course with its climate change and environmental policy leadership to provide long-term resiliency and position California for a strong economic recovery. California's recycling and composting industry can drive significant investment and job growth, creating 125,000 new green jobs on the pathway to reaching the 75% statewide recycling goal while concurrently reducing between 20 and 30 million metric tons of greenhouse gases.

Celebrating the 25th Anniversary this year, the goals remain strong to increase public awareness on the many benefits of compost use, especially making the connection to combat climate change and reduce methane emissions from landfills while building healthy soils. Dirt could save the earth, and make us more resilient with a commitment to compost.

Time Out

The California Legislature voted to suspend its 2020 session for nearly a month in response to the coronavirus outbreak that has infected thousands of Californians. Lawmakers on March 16, 2020 voted unanimously to recess from March 20 until April 13, which was further extended. The State Senate announced that it will not return before mid-May, but the Assembly will have May 4th with them upon return. There has not yet been a formal announcement about changing deadlines for committee hearings, although the Legislature will have to extend several deadlines for policy and fiscal committee hearings. When the Legislature reconvenes, there will be a renewed focus at the Capitol on key issues around COVID-19, where each legislator may be limited to just a handful of other bills.

Thanks to the rainy day fund of \$18 billion left over by Governor Brown, the devastating financial impact of COVID-19 has been somewhat buffered. Even with an expectation of huge expenses to California, the Governor's proposed Climate Budget, with a \$4.75 Climate Resilience Bond measure, may still have life. A letter from twenty legislators to the Governor's economic recovery task force is asking them to prioritize clean energy and climate funding and to move forward with the Climate Resilience Bond to focus recovery funding on renewable and zero carbon energy and other climate related investments.

However, Cap-and-Trade revenue may be at risk and the CalRecycle B-list may not get funded next year. The proposed ballot Initiative that takes aim at the single-use plastics industry has been delayed to 2022.

Biggest Bang

CalRecycle awarded six grants on March 12, 2020, totaling \$15.8 million for the Organics Grant Program. This competitive grant program was vastly oversubscribed as \$80 million in funding was requested from the 31 eligible applications that were received. The remaining passing applications, reflecting the B-list, could be funded if \$34 million in additional funds are allocated to this program next year. The Governor budgeted just \$15 million for the next fiscal year with a large group of stakeholders asking for \$100 million; this money could be swept away to pay for COVID-19 relief in the upcoming May Revise Budget.

A big congratulations to Northern Recycling for being awarded \$3 million for a covered compost project at the Yolo County Central Landfill, and to EDCO for being awarded \$3 million for an anaerobic digestion facility in Escondido. Napa Recycling is on the top of the list to be awarded \$1.5 million for composting equipment at their City facility next year.

It was a record year for California Climate Investments, as listed in the [2020 Annual Report](#), with nearly \$2 billion in projects implemented, including more than \$1 billion to benefit priority populations. CalRecycle continues to lead the way with one of the most cost-effective programs at just \$44/ton of GHG reduced for the Organic Grants with 83% of the money located within priority populations. CalRecycle loans are the most cost-effective at \$4 to \$11 per ton. Electrification of heavy duty fleets varies from \$250 to \$3,000 per ton. The biggest bang for the buck on deep carbon reductions now is investment in our industry.

[AB 1567 \(Aguilar-Curry\)](#)

TOPIC: This bill, on or before December 31, 2021, would require the Strategic Growth Council, in consultation with stakeholders and relevant permitting agencies, to prepare and submit to the Legislature a Report. The Strategic Growth Council would recommend a coordinated strategy for reducing emissions associated with organic waste across sectors. This "Scoping Plan" will be data-informed and require interagency input. The end result should reduce conflict among state policies intended to reduce net air and climate pollution.

Some current policies conflict and create unintended consequences contrary to our air and climate goals. Unless these conflicts are alleviated, beneficial reuse markets will not be able to provide viable alternatives to polluting at a scale necessary to achieve our climate and air goals.

(a) Each year, California generates millions of tons of organic waste, from thinned forest fuel and agricultural waste to urban food waste and landscape prunings that are landfilled, burned in piles and wildfires, or left to rot.; (b) Organic waste is the state's largest source of methane and black carbon emissions, which are two of the most damaging climate pollutants and also harm respiratory and cardiovascular health; (c) Meeting the state's air quality and climate goals requires quickly increasing the beneficial reuse of organic waste to produce organic soil amendments, low-carbon wood products, materials for water purification and conservation, renewable and low-carbon energy, and more; (d) Converting organic waste for beneficial reuse will provide economic and environmental cobenefits in local communities throughout the state; (e) The state lacks a coordinated strategy and funding plan to maximize the beneficial reuse of the state's organic waste resources, which is essential to meet existing mandates for landfill diversion, wildfire reduction, and improved soil health, climate, and air quality.

STATUS: In Senate. To Rules Committee for assignment on Jan. 28 (Ayes 78. Noes 0 from the Assembly on Jan 27).

Working Lands

Soil Carbon in Working Lands is topical as we celebrate International Compost Awareness Week.

[CDFA announced stakeholder workshops on May 5 and 6](#) about the development of a soil organic carbon map for California. The Climate Action Reserve released the [draft Soil Enrichment Protocol Version 1.0](#) for public review with comments due by May 18, 2020. The voluntary protocol provides guidance to account for, report, and verify GHG emission reductions associated with projects that enhance soil carbon sequestration on agricultural lands through the adoption of sustainable agricultural land management activities. And in January 2020, Lawrence Livermore Lab released the report, "[Getting to Neutral – Options for Negative Carbon Emissions in California](#)", which featured natural solutions where compost and biochar are sequestered in the soils, which was noted as the most cost-effective solution at just \$11 per metric ton.

The [January 2019 Draft California 2030 Natural and Working Lands Climate Change Implementation Plan](#) will be rolled into the next update of the AB 32 Scoping Plan that will start in early 2021 and be adopted in late 2022. CDFCA included CCC metrics to double down on compost and mulch use by 2030 and made compost application a priority. Where the preliminary draft Plan did not include compost use on irrigated cropland at all, now compost application is being targeted, adding 31,000 to 62,000 acres each year to 2030, and mulching over cropland also increasing at 10,400 to 20,800 acres per year, increasing compost use by 7.5 million tons per year.

BAAQMD

The BAAQMD is suspending their formal rule development process for two rules targeting organic recovery operations: Draft Rule 13-2: Organic Material Handling Operations; and Draft Rule 13-3: Composting Operations. The Air District recognizes that the COVID-19 Pandemic has taken an incredible toll on not only the health and well-being of the residents of the Bay Area and the planet, but also on the economy and our ability to fully engage with our external stakeholders, including affected industry, community representatives, and others.

While the formal rule development process (public workshops, request for comment, and public hearings on draft regulatory language) has been placed on hold, the Air District will continue stakeholder engagement to the extent feasible through the formation of an Organic Recovery Technical Working Group. Although the Organic Recovery Technical Working Group is still in the planning stages, BAAQMD anticipates it will be composed of Air District staff members, representatives from this industrial sector (e.g., organic material handling facilities and industrial composting operations), industry associations, other governmental agencies (e.g., CalRecycle and local enforcement agencies), and community representative and advocates. The purpose of the Technical Working Group is to establish a forum for collaboration with stakeholders on technical issues, such as best management practices, data gathering and monitoring methods, and potential emissions controls. Stakeholder input and feedback gathered from these discussions will be invaluable to the Air District as we move forward in our efforts to ensure emissions from these sectors are well understood and methods for emission reductions are fully evaluated. *From Robert Cave; Senior Air Quality Specialist, at BAAQMD*

AB 32 Scoping Plan

At the April 23, 2020 CARB meeting, staff presented update on the Implementation of the [2017 Scoping Plan](#) and set the tone for the next year, as CARB pivots to carbon neutrality by 2045. Compost use on working lands and RNG will be showcased.

[SB 1383 Regulations](#)

CalRecycle has released a revised draft of the SB 1383 regulatory text relied upon for the rulemaking for a 30-day public review and comment period.

Please note, CalRecycle is only required to respond to comments on the regulatory text that are directed at the changes that are in purple in this fourth draft. The official notice including the identified list of documents relied upon and full text of the regulation including the newly proposed changes clearly indicated is available on the [SB 1383 Rulemaking](#) website. This comment period will run from **April 20, 2020 – May 20, 2020**. Comments must be submitted by 5:00 PM on **May 20, 2020**.

CalRecycle updated the SB 1383 rulemaking package making minor changes to the final regulatory text and made available for review various source documents relied upon for the rulemaking in response to review by the Office of Administrative Law (OAL). The items identified by OAL that have been addressed by CalRecycle in the regulatory text are primarily to improve clarity of the regulatory language to ensure that the meaning of the regulations will be more easily understood by those persons directly affected by them.

As CalRecycle moves into the next phase of implementation following completion of the regulations, CalRecycle will present a draft analysis, required by SB 1383, by July 1, 2020. Since this analysis will show that significant progress has not been made, incentives and funding should to be identified, as well as any additional requirements.

The regulations may be adopted by July, when the Recycling Commission convenes. Additionally, after final adoption of the regulations CalRecycle will release a series of implementation tools, including a model ordinance, model franchise agreement, model procurement policy, and model food recovery agreement. These tools will be available to help the regulated community prepare for implementation in advance of the January 1, 2022 effective date of the regulations.

Commitment to Combat Climate Change

The California Compost Coalition

is a registered Lobbying Coalition with the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC), created in 2002 by a group of compost operators in response to demands for increased recycling of organic materials & production of clean compost, bioenergy, anaerobic digestion, renewable natural gas, and biochar.

CCC Facility Members

Agromin
American Refuse
Atlas Disposal
BLT Enterprises - Fremont
Burrtec Waste Industries
Caglia Environmental
California Waste Recovery Systems
California Wood Recycling
Clover Flat Compost
Cold Canyon Compost
GreenWaste Recovery
Marin Sanitary Service
Monterey Regional WMD
Mt. Diablo Resource Recovery
Napa Recycling Compost
Northern Recycling Compost
Peña's Disposal Service
Pleasanton Garbage Service
Quackenbush Mt. Compost
Recology Blossom Valley Organics
Recology Feather River Organics
Recology Jepson Prairie Organics
Soiland Co, Inc.
Sonoma Compost
Tracy Material Recovery Compost
Upper Valley Recycling
Vision Recycling
Zanker Road Resource Management
Z-Best Compost Facility
Zero Waste Energy, LLC
Zero Waste Energy Development

CCC Technology Members

CleanFleets.net
Engineered Compost Systems
Filtrexx
Phoenix Energy
ReFuel Energy Partners
Synergy BurCell Technologies
Trillium CNG
Yorke Engineering

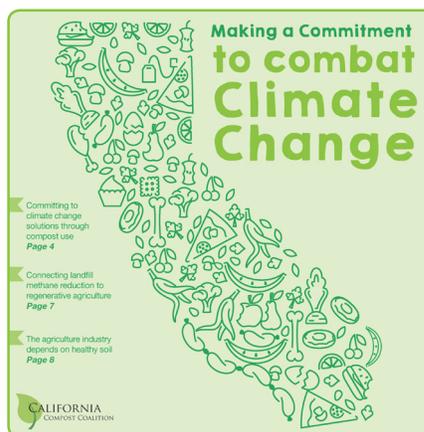
CCC Governmental Affairs

Justin Malan, EcoConsult
Neil Edgar, Edgar & Associates, Inc.
Evan Edgar, Edgar & Associates, Inc.
Sean Edgar, Clean Fleets Advocates

We have a story to tell in 2020! After three decades of composting starting in the early AB 939 landfill diversion days, composting morphed from being a recycling activity to a greenhouse gas reduction strategy, reducing the amount of organic waste being buried and a short-lived climate pollutant (methane) while building healthy soils. Technologies evolved from the long windrows of the nineties to covered compost of today, and with the addition of food waste, anaerobic digestion emerged as a means of producing renewable energy and low carbon fuels. Sequestering carbon into the soil is now being lauded by many studies, showing that this carbon negative activity is the means to achieve carbon neutrality by 2045 in one of the most cost-effective programs. Composting and anaerobic digestion are central pieces to community-scale circular economy plans.

The members of the California Compost Coalition stepped up and turned towards the News & Review Publications to produce an 8-page circular for distribution. They specialize in writing stories about people that help readers connect emotionally with the work being done, and they know how to take a complex story about 'organics' and make it easy to understand in terms of climate change mitigation with compelling articles, impactful photos and award-winning design. Attached is "[Making a Commitment to Combat Climate Change](#)", which was released in March to move into the spring season (and Earth Day) with a vigorous message.

Copies were passed out at the Capitol during our February 25, 2020 Annual Lobby Day. Over 65,000 copies were stacked into the local weekly during the month of March, and 56,800 copies were inserted into the Sacramento Bee, a day after selter-in-place Executive Order was issued. The strategy then and now is to present the Compost and Climate Connection, seek additional incentives in the Governor's Climate Resiliency Bond and cap-and-trade allocations, as well as advocating for key legislation.



With this digital release, we will continue to celebrate our story during International Compost Awareness Week and be poised for the return of the Legislature to Sacramento. We will be supporting AB 1567 (Aguiar-Curry) in developing an Organic Waste

Scoping Plan across all sectors and push for more financial incentives to implement SB 1383. With our commitment to combat climate change, we submitted a letter to Cal-EPA supporting their [Statement on Compliance with Regulatory Requirements](#), pushing back against broad, CA Chamber of Commerce-led regulatory roll-back. We recognize that California's recycling and composting industry can drive significant investment and growth, where 125,000 new green jobs could be created on the pathway to reaching the 75% statewide recycling rate while concurrently reducing between 20 to 30 million metric tons of greenhouse gas. As the Governor plans to re-open California, we plan to open composting and anaerobic digestion facilities.