



US Composting
Council®

MNCC 2023 Annual Meeting

THURSDAY JANUARY 11, 2024

Virtual

mncompostingcouncil.org

Mission



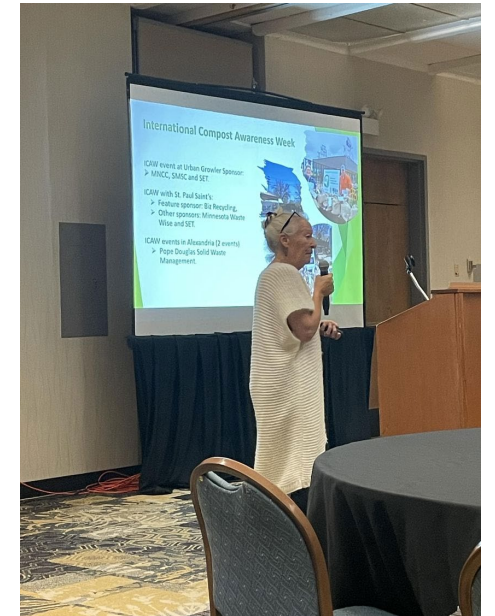
MNCC is dedicated to the development, expansion and promotion of the composting industry based upon sound science, principles of sustainability, and economic viability.

The organization achieves its mission by:

- Encouraging and guiding research
- Promoting best management practices
- Establishing standards
- Educating professionals and the public
- Enhancing product quality and markets



- Board updates
- Financial overview
- Kevin Tritz Memorial Fund overview
- Committee updates
- Supporting MN Biochar Initiative
- How can MNCC help you AND the composting community?
- Special acknowledgements
- Thank you to members and sponsors



Agenda



Board changes

Leaving the Board

- Chuck Joswiak – SET / Bioenergy Devco

Joining the Board

- Jake Duame – Specialized Environmental Technologies (SET), a WM Company

Returning

- Tim Lundell – Western Lake Superior Sanitary District
- Dustin Montey – SMSC
- Nathan Reinbold – Pope Douglas Solid Waste Management

2024 Officers and Board Members



Officers:

- Ginny Black – Chair
- Marcus Zbinden – Carver County, Vice-Chair
- Nick Vetsch – SCS Engineers, Secretary
- Kellie Kish – City of Minneapolis, Treasurer

Board Members:

- Kris Coperine – NatureWorks
- Jake Duame – SET
- Kala Fisher – City of St. Louis Park
- Jon Klapperich – Minnesota Waste Wise
- Tim Lundell - WLSSD
- Dustin Montey – SMSC
- Nathan Reinbold – Pope Douglas Solid Waste
- John Springman – Ramsey County

2024 Development Director and GreenCorps member

- Development Director – Mary Cich
 - Memberships
 - Sponsorships
 - Events
- GreenCorps member – Zach McCarty
 - Plate to Garden
 - International Compost Awareness Week
 - Education and communications



Established for research and education projects to support and expand the composting industry in Minnesota.

Donations received in 2023: \$15,295

Total in memorial fund: \$35,816

Projects are approved by MNCC and the Tritz Family

MNCC Past research projects:

- Phosphorus & Compost whitepaper
- Stakeholder for MPCA Stormwater Manual Updates
- 2014, 2018, 2022 Economic Impact of Composting in MN
- CREF Scholarship fund for college students performing composting research
- Sponsoring CREF International Compost Awareness Week
- Compost / Composting Markets white paper



Kevin Tritz Memorial Golf Tournament Sponsors

Presenting Sponsors



Specialized
Environmental
Technologies



Happy Hour Sponsors



KOMPTECH
AMERICAS

Hole Sponsors



KEVIN TRITZ
Gang



Committee updates



- Legislative Committee
- Compost Site Operations
- Grants
- Events & Sponsorship
- Communications Committee

All MNCC members are welcome to participate in committees.



Legislative Committee

Co-chairs: Kellie Kish & Kris Coperine

Committee members:

- Ginny Black
- Tim Farnan
- Kala Fisher
- Laurie Hanson
- Lynn Hoffman
- Dustin Montey
- Lucy Mullany
- Nathan Reinbold
- Crystal McNally
- Katie Stelzner
- Shannon Pinc

Legislative Committee



2023 Activities

- Adoption of Compostable Product Labeling Bill
 - Testified at two committee hearings
- Comments to MPCA
 - Metro Solid Waste Management Plan
 - Organics Recycling Grant Funding
- Supported USCC and COMPOST Act efforts





Legislative Committee

2024 Priorities

- EPR for PPP
 - 2 board members have been participating in PWE's stakeholder group to develop language
- Develop educational materials, in partnership with MPCA, to promote the compostable product labeling law
 - Jan 1, 2025 – all products labeled compostable must meet ASTM standards
 - Jan 1, 2026 – all products labeled compostable must be certified by 3rd party
- Begin work with Compost Site Operations Committee per QA / QC white paper recommendations



Compost Site Operations Committee

Co-Chairs: Chuck Joswiak & Ginny Black

Committee members:

- Dustin Montey
- Tim Lundell
- Kellie Kish
- Dan Krivit
- Nathan Reinbold
- John Springman
- Nick Vetsch

Compost Site Operations Committee

2023 Activities

- Quality Assurance / Quality Control White Paper
 - Discussion w/ MPCA, MnDOT, MDA, DNR, etc. to understand current uses of 'compost' and 'composting' in statutes, policies, procedures. White Paper summarizes and provides recommendations for standardization.
 - 2023 Compost Site Operator Training

2024 Priorities

- Finalize QA / QC White Paper
- Begin working with Legislative Committee to implement recommendations

2023 Compost Site Operator Training

- 3 days
- 24 hours of training
- 24 students (MN, WI & MI)
- 19 of instructors
- SSOM composting facility permit requires 5 hours of training every year and 24 when first getting started



Thank you to sponsors!



Membership Committee



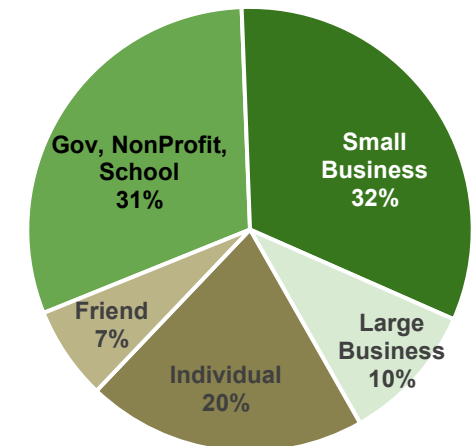
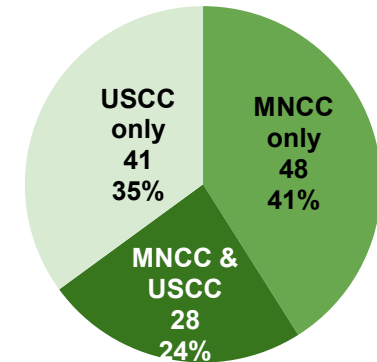
Chair: Jon Klapperich

Committee Members: Ginny Black, Kala Fisher, Kellie Kish, and Mary Cich

- 124 members
- Some 2023 members have yet to renew their membership
- Renew today and support the composting industry!

2024 Priorities

- Retain and expand membership
- State of organics recycling meetings with networking opportunities





Grants Committee

Chair: Nick Vetsch

Committee Members: Jon Klapperich, John Springman, Marcus Zbinden, Kala Fisher, Sonya Betker, Tim Farnan and Kellie Kish

2023 Activities

- Applied for MPCA Market Development Grant (just barely missed)
- Applied for and was awarded USEPA Recycling Education and Outreach (REO) Grant
- Submitted comments to MPCA for 2024 grants (Organics, Food Waste Reduction, Recycling Market Development, etc.)

2024 Priorities

- USEPA REO Grant implementation
- Apply for MPCA Market Development Grant

Project title: **Organics Recycling Toolkit: Increasing Participation & Decreasing Contamination**

Grant award amount: **\$934,947**

3-year grant

Toolkit pieces:

- Templates for brochures, mailers, bill inserts, newsletters, social media, educational tags
- BMP documents for communications; education and outreach; model contract language for communities, haulers and compost sites; cart tagging; contamination evaluations; starting organics drop-off sites
- Library of photos, videos of MN Composting facility operations

USEPA REO
Grant

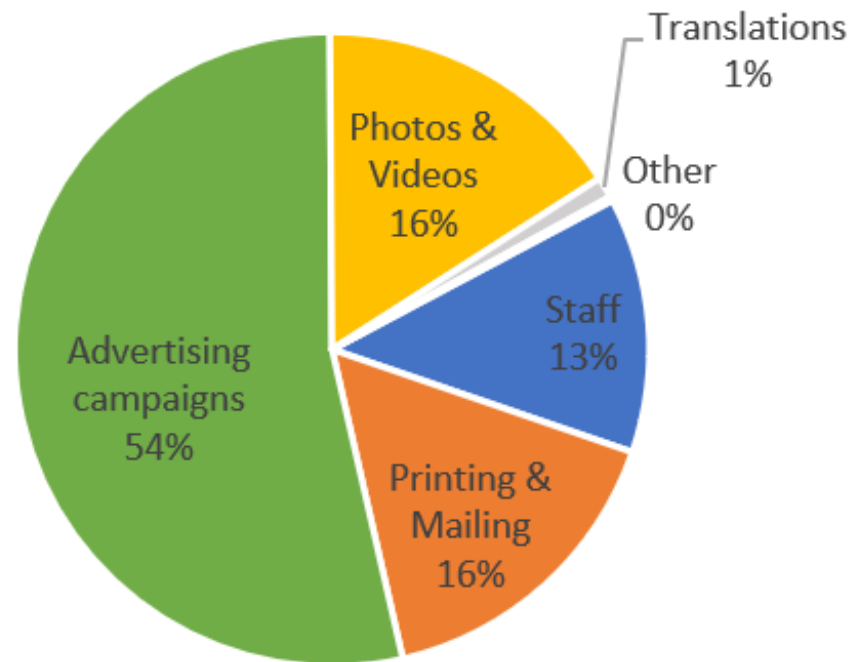
Project title: **Organics Recycling Toolkit: Increasing Participation & Decreasing Contamination**

Use developed pieces in at least 3 communities around Minnesota.

Hold workshops to share / promote toolkit pieces and outcomes of advertising campaigns in selected communities.

Letters of support from:

- Grant County
- Otter Tail County
- Stevens County
- Pope Douglas Solid Waste
- Stearns County
- WLSSD
- Scott County
- Stantec
- MN Waste Wise
- MPCA



USEPA REO
Grant (cont.)

Events & Sponsorship Committee

Chair: Mary Cich

Committee Members:

- Ginny Black
- Sonya Betker
- Kellie Kish
- Jon Klapperich
- Zach McCarty
- John Springman
- Marcus Zbinden





Events & Sponsorship Committee

2023 Activities

March	Biochar webinar
May	ICAW Events – Urban Growler, St. Paul Saint's Plate to Garden Events kick-off for the year
June	First Minnesota Biochar Summit
July	3 day Compost Operator Training
August	Kevin Tritz Memorial Fund Golf Tournament
Sept.	BPI first ever Annual Summit in Minneapolis
Dec.	Business Recycling Workshop



2024 Priorities

- USEPA Recycling and Outreach Education grant implementation
- Organics Style Guide updates
- Member updates / networking meetings



Plate to Garden Events

2023 Activities

- 23 events
- > 190 cubic yards of compost



2024 Priorities

- Finalize toolkit
 - How to document
 - Promotional materials: press release, flyers, social, etc.
- Goal of 30 events

Sponsors





Time to Renew your MNCC Membership!

[Renew Membership](#)

[Join MNCC Today](#)

If you'd like an invoice for membership, email us at compostmn@gmail.com

AMAZING NEWS!!!



United States
Environmental Protection
Agency

**Recycling Education
and Outreach Grant**

MNCC is proud to announce that we have been awarded a USEPA Recycling Education and Outreach (REO) Grant!!



Minnesota Composting Council

September 22 · 🌐

Tour at Pope Douglas (County) Solid Waste's regional Glacial Ridge Compost Facility as part of the fall MN (SWAA) Solid Waste Administrators Association conference held at Arrowwood in Alexandria. ♻️



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Communications Committee

Co-Chairs: Mary Cich and Ginny Black

Committee Members:

- Kala Fisher
- Kellie Kish
- Jon Klapperich
- Zach McCarty
- Nathan Reinbold



Communications Committee

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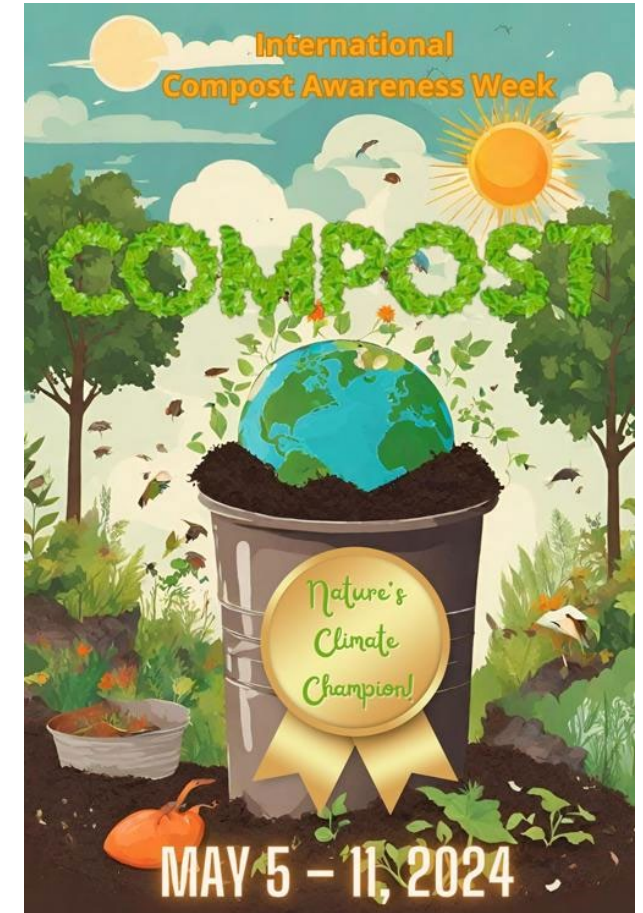
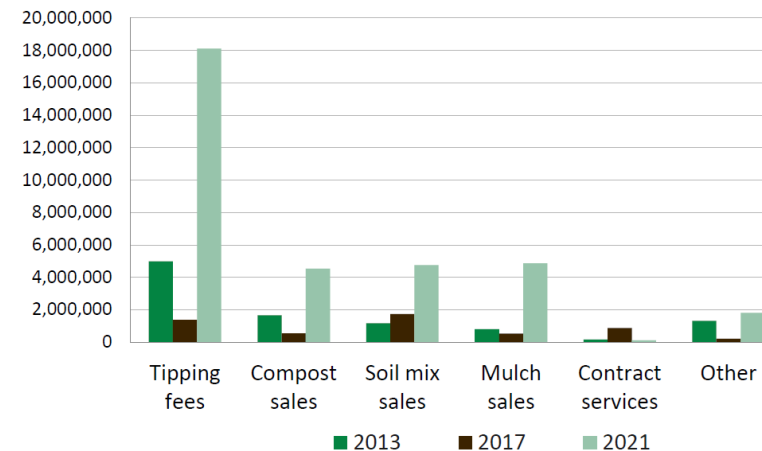
2023 Activities:

- Finalized 2022 Economic Impact of Composting Industry in Minnesota
- Sponsored CREF's "What is Soil" video development
- Significant increase in social media presence (thank you Nathan!)
- Email newsletters, website maintenance

2024 Priorities:

- ICAW Educational campaign
 - Zach McCarty
- USEPA Grant

Figure 8. Source of Revenue (\$)



MNCC and Minnesota Biochar Initiative (MNBI):

- MNCC potential Legal / Fiscal entity for MNBI
- MNCC was fiscal agent for 2023 MN Biochar Summit in June
 - Over 100 attendees at UMN, special presentations from Mayor Jacob Frey and other Minneapolis leaders
- Have biochar web page on MNCC site to share CharTalk information with composting community
- Determined best for MNBI to form separate 501-c-3 organization
 - MNBI incorporated August 2023
 - MNCC continuing to provide fiscal agency until federal 501-c-3 received
- MNCC and MNBI will formalize MOU in 2024

Supporting the Minnesota Biochar Initiative



Special Thank Yous

Al Friedges – Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community

- Best wishes on your retirement!



Chuck Joswiak – SET of MN / Bioenergy DevCo

- Thank you for serving on the board and active participating in so many committees!



- Legislation?
- Research?
- Education / Outreach?

How can the
MNCC help you
AND the
composting
industry?

Thank you!

Industry updates

- Program Updates:
 - Dakota County - John Exner
 - Anoka County - Kathryn Jordan
 - Greater MN Grant updates - Gwen Jenkins
 - Ramsey County - Michael Reed
 - Creekside Soils - Cassandra Meuffels
- Processor Updates:
 - SMSC / Dakota Prairie - hauling - Dustin Montey
 - SET - Jake Duame
 - Glacial Ridge and partnering Counties - Nathan Reinbold