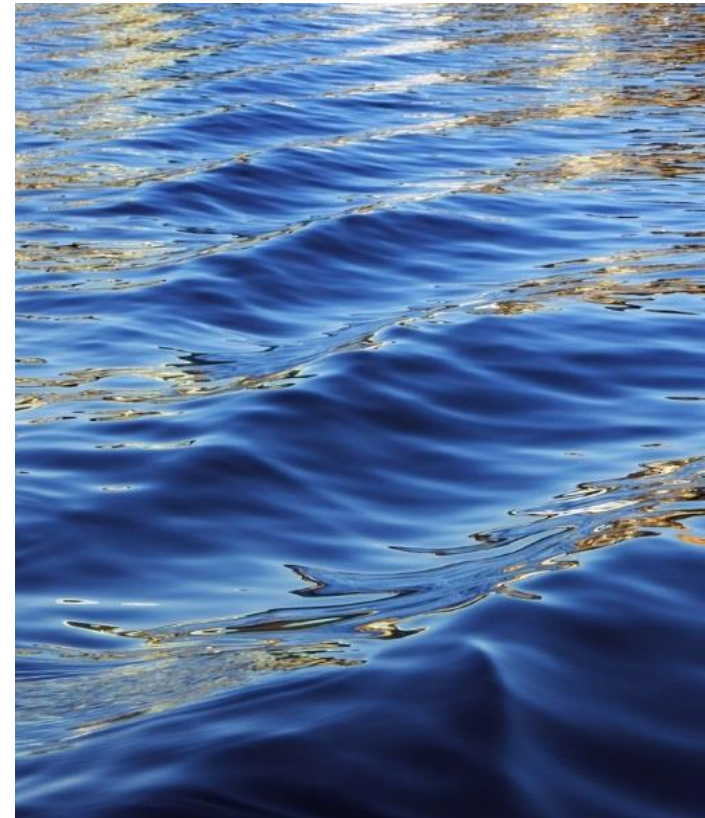




Compost Standards

MNDot Workshop 10/13/22



Setting the Stage for Standards:

- 22 years of selling the story of compost and compost products
- Confusion from general public and end users
- Messaging of local State agencies about issues with compost & wood
- Same questions or negative perceptions over and over year after year
- Competition to move products against others that are supposedly “composted”
- Lack of enforcement and standards

Ultimately we want to:

- Benefit the Environment, reduce and recycle waste creating a resource
- Developing end markets for “finished” products

What could the MNCC do about it?



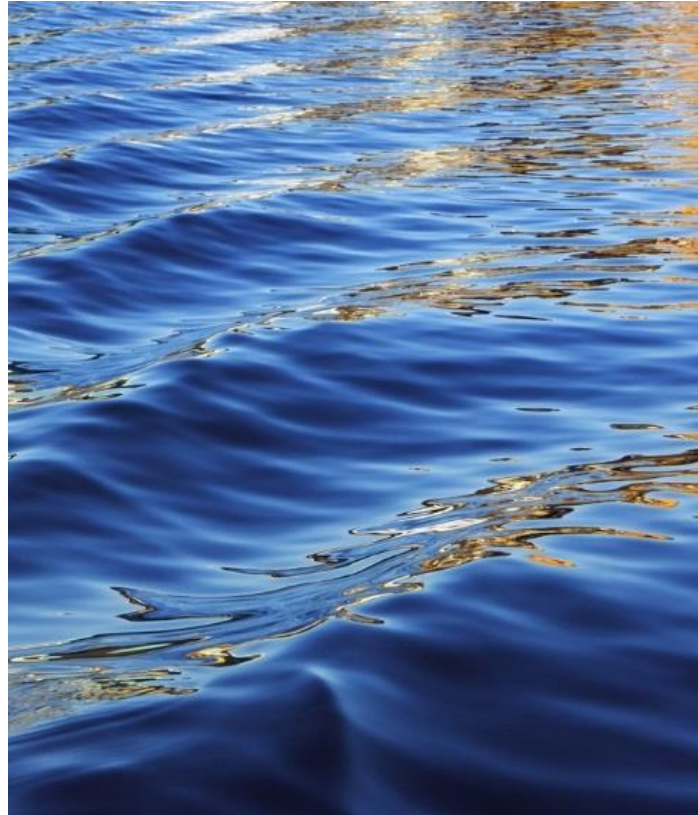
- Compost operators committee was adopted
- Discussions about BMP's, permitting, contaminants, invasive species & noxious weeds
- Dig into different end use & purchasing opportunities with State agencies
- Realization that MNCC wasn't focusing on all composting types
 - Food Derived feedstocks
 - Yard derived/plant based feedstocks
 - Compostable products
 - Manure based feedstocks
 - Bio-solids
 - Anaerobic Digestion
 - Animal mortalities
 - Vermicomposting
 - Human composting!!
- Put together information on how compost is used, specified and enforced in MN





White Paper Development

Standardizing Compost by Defining Properties,
Products, Feedstocks & Systems.



Objectives:

- Start a provocative discussion about reasons we need to assure quality compost.
- Gather information for all possible end markets of any composted materials to help drive compost usage.
- Find local specifications and regulations for compost already in use.
- Engage with State agencies to learn current compost policies and share information.
- Define the term “compost” at the State level along with other industry terminology.
- Eliminate confusion for consumers to make purchasing easier.
- Set consistent parameters for beneficial products sold to end consumers .
 - Types of Feedstocks
 - Quality control processes
 - Testing parameters
 - Usage for different applications
 - Types of facilities

This year to date:

- Met with the Minnesota Department of Ag a couple times
- Got an overview of the compost information completed for the MN Stormwater Manual
- Listened to how permitting of facilities is done by the MPCA
- Had a number of meetings with the MN Department of Transportation
- Discussed opportunities for certifications with MCIA
- Set up this workshop to introduce some of the systems in place
- Started working on report about the many differences in rules about compost and possible recommendations agencies could adopt to benefit composting

Start by defining compost in MN!



- *Compost – is the product manufactured through the controlled aerobic, biological decomposition of biodegradable materials. The product has undergone mesophilic and thermophilic temperatures, which significantly reduces the viability of pathogens and weed seeds, and stabilizes the carbon such that it is beneficial to plant growth. Compost is typically used as a soil amendment, but may also contribute plant nutrients.*

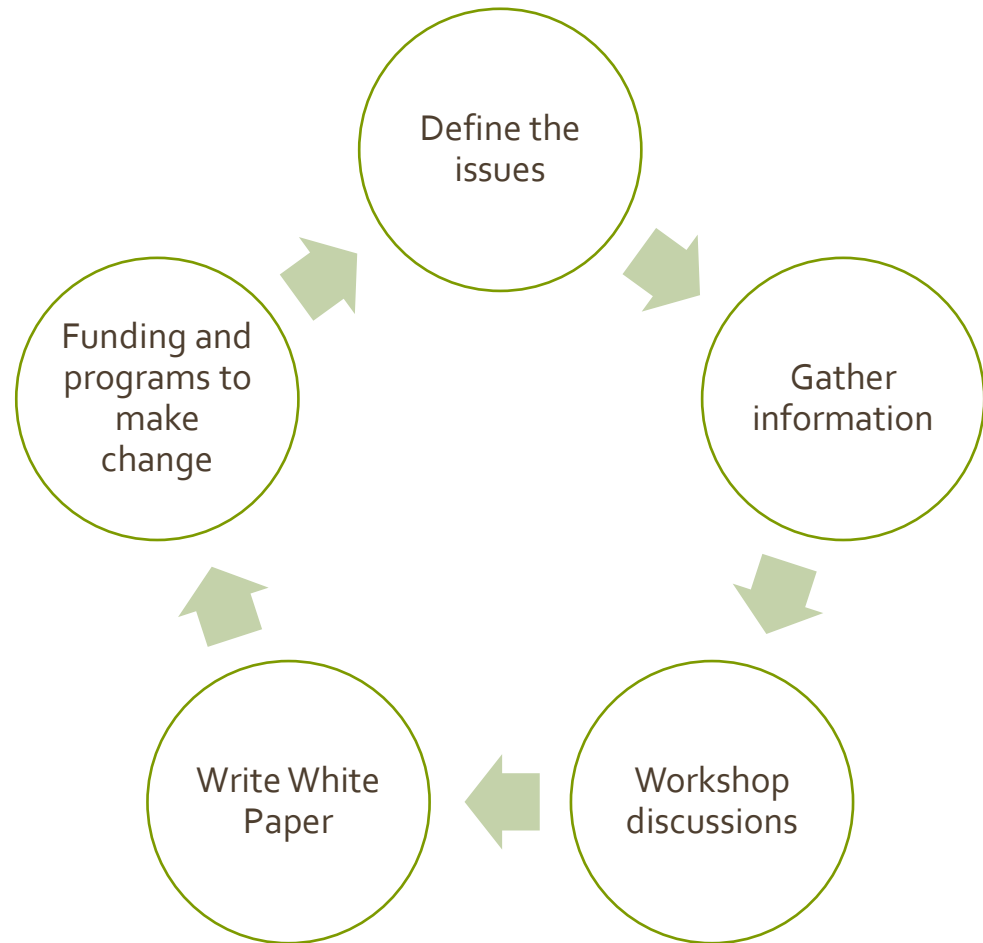
*USCC Definition created in conjunction with AAPFCO
(American Association of Plant and Food Control Officials)*



WE WANT YOUR INPUT!!!

- Issues others have encountered
- Other important agencies or groups
- Share and discuss with all parties
- Finish White Paper in 2022
- Work on recommendations to adapt programs across the State
- Have another workshop in Spring of 2023

Join the MNCC today and help grow the industry!





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