



2023 Work Plan

Priority Issues	
Issue	Action
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Agricultural Market Development 2. Compost Infrastructure Development 3. Incentive Funding 4. Government Entity Market Development 5. Essential Public Services Determination 6. Biomass Industry/Woody Waste Management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Enhance viability of existing and new agricultural markets through continued funding to Healthy Soils Program, expanded funding for academic research (based upon a gap analysis of current efforts) and development of agricultural use workshop program across regional and crop-specific sectors. 2. Expand scope and urgency of current infrastructure process, developing State Compost Infrastructure Task Force (or similar entity) to address funding, market development, and permit streamlining. Task Force would broaden inclusive process to add local governments, other state agencies, industry, and other stakeholders in an effort to find more immediate solutions to meeting SB 1383 goals and implementation of Natural and Working Lands strategy. 3. Identify and advocate for increased funding to finance research, demonstration projects and academic studies, infrastructure and market development beyond GGRF, including increased tipping fees, generator fees, or other mechanisms. 4. Enforcement and expansion of existing state agency compost procurement mandates to include local governments, other state agencies, and broader organic materials categories. 5. Work with stakeholders to establish definition of newly-mandated organic materials landfill-diversion facilities as “essential public services”. 6. Develop and promote biomass industry support legislation and/or additional policy options for woody waste management.



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<i>Administrative Issues</i>	
Issue	Action
1. Coalition Building 2. Website Maintenance 3. Social Media Presence	1. Industry outreach to broaden coalition and increase funding. 2. Maintain website to strengthen brand and further develop member communications. 3. Increase social media activities to build awareness of key activities and positions on issues.
<i>California Department of Resources, Recycling, and Recovery Issues</i>	
Issue	Action
1. Policy Implementation a) SB 1383 Regulations and subsequent legislative clean up efforts	a) Participate in continuing stakeholder processes to assure additional organics diversion opportunities are maximized. Monitor and participate in potential rulemaking efforts to effect landfill phaseout of organics under SB 1383.
2. Regulatory Implementation a) AB 901/SB 343 Regulations Update, AB 1201 Regulations, SB 54 Regulations	a) Participate in development of regulatory language for RDRS system changes and compostable packaging standards
3. Studies a) Infrastructure Survey b) Compost Use and Emissions Studies c) Agricultural Use Studies d) Agricultural Use Workshops	a) Promote development of new survey. Review, comment, and participate in stakeholder process. b) Work with regulatory agencies to enhance completion and awareness of ongoing academic work regarding emissions impacts and GHG benefits of composting and compost use. c) Work to promote development of funding for studies and demonstration projects to clarify research gaps identified by CDFA Science Advisor under Healthy Soils Initiative process. d) Promote CalRecycle participation/funding for, and work with stakeholders, to develop regional, crop specific workshops for compost use.



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Other Local, Regional, State, and Federal Issues

Agency/Issue	Action
1. California Legislature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Monitor, analyze, and advocate on relevant legislation. b) Continue engagement of legislative lobbyist on priority issues. c) Develop and promote compost market development legislation. d) Develop and promote biomass industry support legislation and/or additional policy options for woody waste management. e) Maximize organics processing industry access to Greenhouse Gas Reduction Funds in specific legislation and Budget process. f) Develop legislative champions.
2. Organics Processing Infrastructure Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Work with broad-based stakeholder group, including CalRecycle, local governments, public and private collectors and processors, environmental organizations, etc. to secure incentive funding and other mechanisms which stimulate the development of organics processing infrastructure. b) Explore development of an Organics Processing Task Force to lead a broad-based group of stakeholders with a focus on near-term implementation, including market development, siting and permitting, financing and incentives, and regional issues. c) Encourage cross-agency coordination
3. Biomass Industry Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Work with coalition of stakeholders to assure continued and increased viability of biomass energy facilities as an essential outlet for low-grade woody residuals generated by members and other urban, agricultural, and forestry participants.
4. Regional Air Districts and CAPCOA a) BAAQMD – Compost permit modification/fees b) SCAQMD – Rule 1133.1/1133.3 Revision c) CAPCOA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Work with Districts and stakeholders to clarify regulatory implementation process, increase understanding of impacts on facility operations and expansions b) Monitor and participate in potential rule revision process as working group member. c) Work with CAPCOA on statewide composting emissions regulation.



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<p>5. SWRCB and Regional Water Boards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) General WDRs for Composting b) Salinity – CV-SALTS and Irrigated Lands Program c) Interagency Task Force on Nitrate in Groundwater 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Monitor Regional Boards implementation of statewide general orders or waivers for composting to clarify facility permitting and operating requirements. b) Central Valley RWQCB-led collaborative basin planning effort aimed at developing and implementing a comprehensive salinity and nitrate management program will limit facility impacts on groundwater and runoff, may impact application of compost. c) Monitor task force activities; participate in regulatory efforts to frame compost as a solution, rather than contributor, to problem.
<p>6. California Department of Food & Agriculture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Invasive Pests/Quarantines b) Persistent Pesticides/Herbicides/NOP 5016 c) Food Safety d) Compostable Plastics e) Organic Input Materials f) Healthy Soils Initiative g) Agriculture Use Research Gaps h) Agricultural Use Workshops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Monitor regulatory status of Sudden Oak Death (SODS) and Light Brown Apple Moth (LBAM), and Asian Citrus Psyllid (ACP) quarantines. Participate in process to assure workable treatment and transportation options to allow intrastate movement of green waste to facilities outside of quarantine zone. b) Monitor aminopyralid, bifenthrin, and clopyralid use and contamination incidents. Monitor Scott's/Ortho aminocyclopyrachlor registration process with EPA and DPR. Coordinate USCC action with EPA, or by DPR, and regulatory policy or legislative solution, including maintaining organic status under NOP. c) Monitor status of the Leafy Greens Marketing Agreement and Food Safety Modernization Act; ongoing pressure on growers to apply (Hazardous Assessment at Critical Control Points (HACCP) principles, or similar contamination control measures, which require composter guidelines for operations and recordkeeping. Continue coordination with USCC. d) Increasing numbers of food scrap diversion programs and events have promoted the use of compostable plastics, made from synthetic substances not approved under the National Organic Program guidelines and a potential contaminant to compost sold for use as an organic input. Work with USCC subcommittees and industry groups seeking solutions to allowance of use of compostable plastics in organic inputs. e) Encourage CDFA marketing and outreach efforts to build brand recognition for Registered Organic Input Material program. Monitor and engage on CDFA Inspection policy and procedure for OIM compliance and enforcement.



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> f) Engage with CDFA, legislators, and other stakeholders to facilitate development of healthy soils policies and programs which strengthen recognition of compost and biochar benefits to soil building in agriculture and urban landscapes, including agricultural use incentive programs. g) Work to develop studies and demonstration projects to clarify research gaps identified by CDFA Science Advisor under Healthy Soils Initiative process. h) Work with stakeholders to develop regional, crop specific workshops for compost use.
<p>7. California Air Resources Board</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Engage in Scoping Plan Update implementation process to assure circular organic resources economy approach is achieved. Particular focus on Natural and Working Lands strategy to apply compost in irrigated croplands and rangelands. b) Provide input into heavy duty vehicle fueling regulatory efforts to assure future development of anaerobic digestion-to-renewable fuels continue to be prioritized.
<p>6. State Treasurer</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Monitor regulatory processes to continue and/or expand sales and use tax exemption for organics processing infrastructure and equipment.
<p>7. US Composting Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Board Member and Legislative and Environmental Affairs Committee Chair b) Annual Conference c) ACP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Work on development of national policy advocacy by USCC, potential federal regulations, funding and actions that may have statewide impacts, and model regulations for other states based on California policymaking. b) Attend Annual Conference for education and awareness of latest trends, technology, and regulatory issues facing industry. c) Coordinate with Association of Compost Producers policy team.
<p>8. State/National Industry coordination</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) US EPA Region 9 b) CORC c) Certification and specifications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Work with stakeholders to engage EPA staff to help resolve cross-media impacts that are stifling compost industry growth, including new source review, that fail to recognize overall benefits of composting to environment.



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">b) Policy liaison and Chair for California Organics Recycling Council; participate in annual retreat, monthly meetings and periodic workshops – planning and attendance.c) Track OMRI, STA, BMPs, Caltrans and municipal specifications, etc.