

Compost Use Best Management Practices Webinar Agenda

January 19th – 20th, 2022



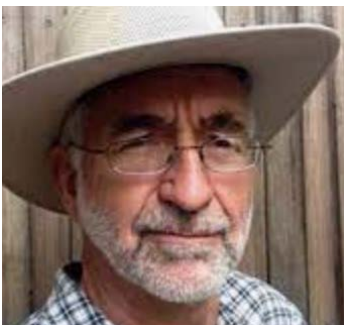
Day 1: Wednesday, January 19th | 9:00AM - 12:00PM

9:00AM – 10:00AM | Benefits of Compost Use:

Discussion on how compost is made, the benefits it provides, the characteristics and uses of soil amendments and how compost applications impact soil.



Dr. David Crohn earned his doctorate in 1992 from Cornell University in the Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering. For the next 29 years, he was a Cooperative Extension Specialist in the Department of Environmental Sciences at the University of California, Riverside where his research emphasized the beneficial use of municipal and agricultural residues as soil amendments and fertilizers. Dr. Crohn retired from the University in July 2021. He is past Chair and current Vice-Chair of the Board of Riverside Public Utilities.



Dr. Vic Claassen completed graduate work in soil science at Univ of California, Davis in 1992 and then held a research position in the Department of Land, Air and Water Resources. He specializes in rapid site evaluation of drastically disturbed sites (all topsoil and biological activity removed) and development of constructable treatments to regenerate required soil functions. The critical functions that typically need to be corrected are infiltration to reduce runoff and adequate rooting to store winter moisture for summer growth. Soil organics are often a missing component of drastically disturbed sites and composts are a common amendment material. Projects have involved federal, state, and local governments and services for private landowners.

10:00AM – 11:00AM | Compost Use for Roadsides and Compost Specifications:
Discussion on BMPs for compost use for roadside infrastructure projects, compost specifications, and the US Composting Council STA program.



Zach Tanner is a landscape architect at the California Department of Transportation and has over 15 years working in both the private and public sectors. Throughout his career Zach has helped advocate for climate adapted design solutions and sustainable landscape design initiatives. His areas of interest and expertise are ecologically driven planting designs, promoting sound horticultural practices and developing water efficient landscapes.



Mike Ferrara was raised in Albuquerque, New Mexico. He graduated from Utah State University in 1989 with a Bachelors in Business Administration and a Masters in Landscape Architecture. After College, he worked six years in various private sector Landscape Architecture firms in the San Diego area. He started his career with Caltrans in San Diego in 1992. In 2000, was promoted to Branch Chief in Headquarters Contract Office in Sacramento. In 2014, he transferred to HQ Landscape Architecture Program as the "Standards Senior" in Jack Broadbent's Office. He has extensive experience with the development, advertising, bidding, and awarding of Caltrans construction contracts, as well as, expertise in specification development.



Hilary Nichols has 20 years of experience in the horticulture industry. Hilary is the Market Development Coordinator for the US Composting Council, where she manages the Seal of Testing Assurance (STA) Certified Compost labelling program and the Compost Analysis Proficiency (CAP) lab program. Hilary works with USCC committees to market compost use, design a national compost product search engine, and improve compost parameter test methods and lab proficiency testing. Prior to the USCC, she's served as senior horticulturist at the Atlanta Botanical Garden, written for Fine Gardening Magazine, and a leader in both the National and Georgia Perennial Plant Association. Hilary holds a BS in Horticultural Science from NC State University.

11:00AM – 12:00PM | Compost Use for Conservation and Water Quality:

Discussion on the use of compost BMPs in stormwater management and how compost application impacts forest land.



Dr. Britt Faucette directs research/technical programs for Filtrex International in organics recycling/storm water management industries. He earned his Ph.D. from the University of Georgia where he researched BMPs in soil erosion/stormwater management applications; served as a state specialist in stormwater management/organics recycling/pollution prevention programs in the Department of Biological/Agricultural Engineering; and as adjunct professor in the School of Environmental Design. Britt serves on multiple technical committees with ASTM, and is a Board Trustee for the Compost Research and Education Foundation. He has authored 3 books and numerous peer reviewed publications on organics in stormwater management.



Dr. Sally Brown is a Research Professor at the University of Washington. Her work focuses on the benefits of composts and other organic residuals. She also is a regular columnist for Biocycle Connect.

Day 2: Thursday, January 20th | 9:00AM - 12:00PM

9:00AM – 10:00AM | Compost Use for Agriculture:

Discussion of experiences using compost in agricultural settings and how to ensure positive outcomes.



Cary Roulet owns a Horse Ranch in Plymouth, California, with 107 acres of rolling hills rangeland. He is in his second year of compost application as part of the California Department of Food and Agriculture Healthy Soils Program with one year remaining. His objectives for applying compost were to retain water, strengthen soil bio-diversity and limit invasive species. He has extensive equipment experience through his profession and is an advocate of compost application.



Judith Redmond, Judith has been a farmer at Full Belly Farm since 1989 and an advocate for sustainable agriculture and family farming before that. Full Belly is a certified organic, multigenerational farm where cooking, eating, growing and selling fruits, nuts, flowers and vegetables take place year-round. Judith serves on several advisory boards, including the national Organic Farmers Association; the CDFA Science Advisory Panel; as a Commissioner on the Capay Valley Fire Protection District and on the Advisory Board of California Climate and Agriculture Network. Pre-Covid, Full Belly was home to many educational programs for kids and adults as well as events and activities for the community like the Hoes Down Harvest Festival, all of which are close to Judith's heart!



Dr. Miguel Garcia is the Sustainable Ag Program Manager for the Napa Resource Conservation District. He provides on-farm technical assistance and planning related to soil health, nutrient management, soil erosion prevention, carbon sequestration, and irrigation management. He also designs educational programs in Spanish aiming at providing vineyard farm workers with valuable information on various topics related to sustainable agriculture. Miguel is a certified crop adviser and has a PhD in Environmental Sciences and a B.S. in Chemistry from UC Riverside.

10:00AM – 11:00AM | Compost Use in the City:

Discussion on BMPs for municipalities to procure and use compost to support a variety of goals such as soil restoration, stormwater management and erosion control.



Peter Schultze-Allen, CPSWQ, QSP/QSD, ReScape QP, LEED AP, Master Composter

Peter Schultze-Allen is a Senior Scientist at EOA Inc., Peter has extensive experience in the fields of green stormwater infrastructure, litter reduction, zero waste, climate action, complete and green streets, regenerative landscaping, and urban forestry practices. He previously managed the environmental programs for the City of Emeryville from 2002 to 2013 including the implementation of the City's award-winning dense, urban and Bay-Friendly GSI program. Since joining EOA in 2013, he has been providing technical assistance and program support to municipal staff around the Bay Area. He became one of the first Master Composters in the US in 1990 and ran his vermicompost company, Community Composters, from 1989-1996 in Berkeley and Kiel, Germany



David Franklin is a nationwide presenter and award-winning landscape professional with over 40 years of experience in the Green Industry, including 25 years in construction site erosion control and industrial stormwater quality sectors. He has worked on stormwater issues as a consultant, specifier, contractor, sampling technician and inspector on projects including vineyards, mines & quarries, river restoration, freeway & railroad, and home construction as well as industrial facilities for petroleum transportation, waste transfer stations, marinas and national laboratories.

11:00AM – 12:00PM | Compost Use for Urban Landscapes:

Discussion on how to incorporate compost into urban landscape planning, meeting State requirements, case studies and the benefits compost application provides.



Sarah Gronquist, Secretary - ReScape Board of Directors, Landscape Architect, California Sustainable Design

Sarah Gronquist is particularly interested in places where people live, whether the site is a private residential garden exquisitely tailored to the owners, or a multi-unit housing development that creates space for an entire community to grow. Recently Sarah has been passing her experience on to the next generation of landscape architects through intensive review courses for LARE candidates preparing for the licensure exam. A strong sense of personal responsibility, plus a pragmatic, solutions-oriented approach to project management are hallmarks of Sarah's professional style.



Cielo Sichi, ReScape Lead Instructor, ReScape Board of Directors

Cielo Sichi is the owner of and Principal Landscape Architect of Landfour Landscape Architecture. He has been professionally designing and building landscapes with a focus on sustainability since 2003. He has extensive experience with landscapes of all sizes and types, including single and multifamily residential, commercial, institutional and recreational projects. Cielo holds a BS in Environmental Horticultural Science from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. Cielo is ReScape Lead Instructor, and Chair of the Horticulture Department at American River College where he teaches the landscape and irrigation design and construction courses.