

# Illinois Food Scrap Coalition



COMPOSTING CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS  
FORUM

MONDAY, OCTOBER 6<sup>TH</sup>, 2014  
LCCC N.O. NELSON CAMPUS, EDWARDSVILLE



# Welcome - Agenda



- **Welcome Address**

- *Nate Keener*, Director of Sustainability at Lewis and Clark Community College (LCCC)

- **Presentation: Food Scrap Composting Across the Country**

- *Jen Nelson*, Seven Generations Ahead

- **Presentation: Policies and Infrastructure**

- *Julie Schilf*, Environmental Protection Agency

- **Presentation: Case Study: *St. Louis Composting Venture into Composting in IL***

- *Sara Ryan*, St. Louis Composting

- **Q and A Session**

15 minute break

- **Breakout tables/discussion around challenges and solutions**

- Participants are encouraged to discuss challenges in terms of solutions that address policy, infrastructure, and programs where capital needs to be invested for the following areas:
  - ✦ Education/Training/Communication
  - ✦ End Product (Quality and Markets)
  - ✦ Compost Facility Infrastructure
  - ✦ Hauler Infrastructure
  - ✦ Permitting
  - ✦ Policy and Economics
  - ✦ Agriculture

# Composting at Lewis and Clark



- Earth Week Pilot Project – April, 2014
- Full Implementation – May, 2014
- IFSC Silver Partner – June, 2014



# Why? Environmental Decision or Economic?



- **Absolutely Environmental**

- Our commitment to a sustainable campus is outlined in our Climate Action Plan, the primary goal of which is to achieve campus carbon neutrality.
- However, waste reduction is also a focus
- Zero Waste (ok, personal mission)



# What did it take to gain momentum?



- Simple: Finding a system that was straightforward



# Partner – Always Green Recycling



- **Cliff Roberts**
  - N.O. Nelson Recycling
  - Godfrey Campus Composting
  - St. Pat's Recycling
  - Green Speaker Series
  - Event Composting Today



# Lessons Learned



- **Education was key**
  - Almost constant – changing student body
  - Staff, students, and faculty, but also custodial crew
- **Overcoming preconceptions**
  - Smell
  - Health
- **Selling to stakeholders**
  - More work or less work?
    - ✦ Staff, students, and faculty, but also custodial crew