2018 Annual Report

2018 Board Members and Executive Officers

Josh Connell – Lakeshore Recycling Services
Jim Cowhey - Organix Recycling
Gary Cuneen - SGA
Lisa Disbrow - Waste Management (2)
Jennifer Jarland - Kane Co - Chair
Jeannine Kannegiesser - Northern Illinois Food Bank - Secretary
Stephanie Katsaros - BrightBeat

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Sara Koziatek - St. Louis Composting - Vice Chair
John Lardner - JPL Environmental Engineering
Kay McKeen - SCARCE
Charlie Murphy – Midwest Compost
Jen Nelson - SGA
Dean Olson - Will
Dave VanVooren - SWANCC - Treasurer
Walter Willis - SWALCO

2018 Accomplishments

• IEPA Permitted Composter Facility MAP created by the Market Development Committee
• Analysis of the Barriers and Opportunities for the Use of Compost in Agriculture white paper completed.
• Green Partner level added to We Compost program
• HB 4790 passed in both the house and senate and is before the governor - Legislation increases the use of compost in transportation projects at the state and helps create a market for the use of compost in Illinois. Any state agency that undertakes a landscaping project requiring the use of new or offsite soil for landscape-related use and that is located within 10 miles of any IEPA permitted compost facility shall request a separate bid for compost amended soil as part of that project.
• Public Act 100-0094 (SB 1456): allows two more landscape waste transfer stations to accept food scraps without going through local siting, under a 2-year demonstration permit with the IEPA (which can be renewed).
• HB 2606 Requires a food donation policy for every state agency.
• Letter to IDOT and CDB offering support for pilot projects carried out under HB 4790
• “Building Illinois’ Local Food Shed Through Advancing Food Scrap Composting” renewed for its 3rd year. Funding for this work was provided by Food:Land:Opportunity, a collaboration between Kinship Foundation and The Chicago Community Trust and funded through the Searle Funds at The Chicago Community Trust. This project focused on the following key project components:
  o Infrastructure and Institutions: Work has been done with Chicago Public Schools, universities, hospitals, and other institutions through webinars, waste audits, consultations, trainings, and the white paper.
  o Policy and Education: This piece was done in collaboration with the Illinois Environmental Council. It included meeting with legislatures, sharing information on composting, creating a waste factsheet for policymakers, webinars for municipalities, and a compost one-pager for compost collection events.
  o Collaborative Projects: This component organized project teams from the November 2017 summit to develop policies, projects, and initiatives across silos.
• We Compost logo trademarked in 2018
• We Compost Program:
  o Added 7 Gold and 4 Silver, 2 Green Partners, as well as 6 municipalities in 2018
  o The current total of 172 Partners (up from 153 in 2017)
  o Green Partner level added to We Compost program
• Residential Curbside Composting Programs in Illinois
  o 30 residential curbside composting programs (up from 25 in 2017)