Summer Greetings,

We hope you enjoy our July newsletter which includes updates from our IFSCC committees and valued membership. We look forward to seeing everyone again next month, August 7th at Noon, when we will learn from Mark Teegen, owner of Teegen Compost, an IFSCC member organization. We are already scheduling Speaker Spotlights for monthly meetings in 2024. Contact me if you're interested in presenting about your experiences with compost and advancing diversion and composting of all organics in Illinois.

Compost on!

Amy Bartucci
IFSCC Administrative Coordinator

IFSCC Sustaining Platinum Member: SAVOR

SAVOR...Chicago
at McCormick Place
Catering • Concessions • Special Events

Platinum Member, and learned about their organics recycling program and so much more. After more than eight years with the food service company responsible for providing food and beverage service at McCormick Place, Doug Bradley, SAVOR VP Culinary, reflects on how SAVOR has approached sustainability in their day to day food operations. These measures include diverting overproduced food, as well as food preparation trim, from McCormick Place to various food rescue organizations. More on our blog HERE.

Letter from IFSCC's New Board Chairman,
John Lardner
Welcome to the newly elected board and to current members of the Illinois Food Scrap & Composting Coalition! I look forward to working with all of you as the newly elected Chairman and want to thank Walt Willis for his past service as outgoing Chairman.

This will be the first full year of IFSCC under the fiscal sponsorship of Ecologistics, a non-profit organization that will assist us with tracking our memberships, income, and expenses. Also this past year, IFSCC formalized its fiscal sponsorship with the US Composting Council as a full affiliate state chapter. These are important relationships for the organization to grow and achieve its goals.

This coming year the board will hold a strategic planning session. We look forward to input from all members to assist with setting new goals and strategies for diverting food scrap into productive use, and to keep all organics out of landfills. As the recent compost summit held at the University of Illinois Chicago this past May indicated, there is widespread interest from many organizations to create a culture of composting. I expect IFSCC members to play a strong role as we work together to create a sustainable future for Illinois.

John Lardner, PE
IFSCC Chairman

---

IFSCC Committees in Action

Coalition call to action! Inch by inch, row by row: The **IFSCC Communications Committee** continues to use the following question as a guiding principle for our work: **How might we equitably strengthen the composting community and support organizations and individuals to expand access to and awareness of composting, and distribution of IFSCC resources?**

The IFSCC Communications Committee aims to help advance this important priority in partnership with IFSCC staff, fellow committee members, the IFSCC Board of Directors, our entire membership and partner organizations. If this call to action speaks to YOU and you're willing to join us, please attend committee meetings on the 2nd Mondays of the month at 2PM. Email illinoiscomposts@gmail.com for a link to join.

The **IFSCC Compost Market Development Committee** is increasing IFSCC's reach! The current committee focus is on print and/or online material to continue raising awareness among potential buyers and organizing opportunities for companies and individual users to purchase compost made here in Illinois. Land application projects are critical for compost sales to grow and for economic viability of the compost processing industry. **Pictured left: First of three ads in a series**
for the Illinois Landscape Contractors Association (ILCA) publication. You can view it on p. 37 of the digital edition [HERE].

Are you a business or individual that can get finished compost in the end market via a large project or installation? Please contact illinoiscomposts@gmail.com. Co-chairs Kila Harwick or Mike DiMucci would love to make these connections.

The IFSCC Policy Committee continues to promote policies that support composting of all organics, including food scraps, and food recovery efforts in Illinois.

Meetings are robust and well-attended with committee members representing local grassroots, regional, state, and federal organizations. The Policy Committee works on initiatives ranging from education to expanding compost use at the state level to promoting federal legislation. Read the full committee update [HERE].

Help grow the IFSCC We Compost Recognition Program: Do you know a business or entity that is diverting organics from landfills in Illinois? Download this image and copy and paste the text below to share in your own networks.

Did you know? We Compost is a program of the Illinois Food Scrap & Composting Coalition (IFSCC) and promotes businesses and institutions that participate in a compost program. We Compost's goals are to highlight entities that compost and encourage more people to patronize businesses that are managing their organics responsibly.

We Compost is FREE. Use the appropriate application form to join. We Compost is FOR ALL. Illinois partners receive shout outs from the IFSCC on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. We Compost has a DIRECTORY. Check it out.

Email illinoiscomposts@gmail.com for more information.

Celebrating ICAW

"We encourage you to watch a short and inspiring video for some of this year’s highlights. You’ll see beautiful pictures of
compost/composting in action and some of the shiny, happy people who were a part of ICAW 2023. We hope to see you next year and are already planning more exciting Adventures and programming to come!"

Read a letter from ICAW 2023 Co-Chairs, Merleanne Rampale and Kate Caldwell, on our IFSCC blog HERE.

Picture caption left: The secret of using food waste to start an ecological cycle in a Do it Box as featured by Dr. Lin Man-Wan during IFSCC’s International Café on May 11th.

An IFSCC Administrative Invitation

New to IFSCC? Join July Office Hours to ask questions and get to know your coalition better. This is a great opportunity in a small setting and is open to all. Send an email to Amy Bartucci, IFSCC Administrative Coordinator illinoiscomposts@gmail.com. Indicate availability for July 20th at Noon or 7PM. All participants will receive an invite and Zoom link.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Note: If you'd like to join a committee please email illinoiscomposts@gmail.com. We'd love to have you!

- Education Committee, 2nd Tuesdays at 12pm
- Communications Committee, 2nd Mondays at 2pm
- Market Development Committee, 3rd Tuesdays at 9am
- Policy Committee, 3rd Thursdays at 9am
- We Compost Recognition Committee, 3rd Fridays at 12pm

Want to see your composting related events on our calendar? Email illinoiscomposts@gmail.com

IFSCC Sustaining Members

- Platinum -
- Gold -