Winter Greetings,

We hope you enjoy our January Newsletter which includes information about a **Special Speaker Spotlight** this Wednesday, January 24th at 10am with the **Wasted Food Action Alliance** and more.

We look forward to seeing everyone via zoom, in person, on a tour, during International Compost Awareness Week (ICAW) or at compost related events again this year.

Be sure to read and share our 2023 Annual Report [HERE](#).

**Information is like compost; it does no good unless you spread it around.**

~*Eliot Coleman’s Guide to Great Compost*

Amy Bartucci  
IFSCC Administrative Coordinator

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**IFSCC Speaker Spotlight:**  
**Wasted Food Action Alliance**  
Join a combined meeting this Wednesday!

Learn about the distinction and synergies between our dynamic and interconnected organizations.

Hear from US Environmental Protection Agency’s: Julie Schilf & Amy DeLorenzo

They will share about the latest *From Field to Bin* report + present two useful community toolkits that help further our mission to divert...
food scraps and all organics from landfills in Illinois.

Click here to join the meeting via Zoom

Meeting ID: 935 2500 3788
Passcode: WFAA

An Invite From IFSCC Board Chair

As we welcome in a new year, I invite each of you to further the mission of the Illinois Food Scrap & Composting Coalition. Our success and impact depend on active participation from individuals and organizations committed to fostering composting education, infrastructure, and policies across a wide spectrum of our society. Come join us as we work to create a circular economy around food scrap and general organics diversion to improve soil health, mitigate climate change and build resilient communities both locally and throughout the state. John Lardner, PE

It's 2024 Membership Campaign Season

Member participation and financial support are critical to the IFSCC. Our 2024 membership campaign is live on our website. If you prefer invoice billing or choose to mail a check directly contact illinoiscomposts@gmail.com. Please indicate the intended membership level in your email. More details HERE.

IFSCC Platinum Level: REDUCED

Read all about it! The Illinois Food Scrap & Composting Coalition Platinum Level is reduced to $2000 from $3000 in 2024. Benefits apply for up to three designated members of your organization. More HERE.

Platinum members receive all member benefits plus an opportunity to:
- present your organization’s involvement with food scraps and composting at IFSCC meetings or events
- be featured annually in this newsletter

A letter from IFSCC’s Executive Director, Benjamin Krumstok is HERE.

International Compost Awareness Week:
Plan an Adventure in Composting

We are excited to share our enthusiasm for a diverse lineup of activities during May 5 - 11, 2024 with the international compost community, United States Composting Council (USCC) and its Compost Research and Education Foundation (CREF).

Our website has been updated with plans for International Compost Awareness Week (ICAW) HERE.

Want to get your community group, organization or business on our 2024 ICAW map of events in Illinois? The Adventures in Composting, Other Happenings and Library Program Event Google Form is HERE.

Need help brainstorming? We encourage you to watch a short and inspiring video for some of last year’s highlights and adventures. You’ll see beautiful pictures of compost in action and some of the shiny, happy people who were a part of ICAW 2023.

We Compost Recognition Program

Our New Partners in 2023

Red Oak Elementary School, Highland Park
S&C Electric Company, Chicago
Lycée Français de Chicago, Chicago
Loyola Dining, Chicago
FlowersFlowers, Evanston
Picnic, Evanston
Renaissance Schaumburg Hotel & Convention Center, Schaumburg
Casa Central, Chicago
Braeside Elementary School, Highland Park
Oak Terrace Elementary School, Highland Park
The Paramount Group, Chicago
Eden, Chicago
Westmont Public Library, Westmont

All partners are recognized on IFSCC's website HERE.

Do you know of a business or organization that composes?

Tell Us Your Idea For Our Next We Compost Partner

We're Partnering with Midwest Grows Green

IFSCC Organization Member, Midwest Grows Green (MGG), will spotlight compost use and natural lawn
A half day workshop covering best natural lawn care practices, policies and strategies.  
MARCH 19TH, 2024 • 9:00 AM – 3:15 PM  
6100 S. Blackstone Avenue, Chicago, IL 60637

Registration is $35 at bit.ly/NaturalLawn24 and will include presentations from various experts. MGG’s Technical Assistance Program team will share how site preparation with compost topdressing restored Ray Elementary schoolyard’s turfgrass without synthetic chemicals.

Following the workshop, the IFSCC will host a Membership Appreciation & Networking Event at Experimental Station. Please email illinoiscomposts@gmail.com if interested in sponsoring.

Thanks goes out to our partners already helping us shape this big event.

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 11am (new time)
- **We Compost Recognition Committee**, 3rd Fridays at 12pm
- **International Compost Awareness Week**, 1st Tuesdays at 1pm

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

Platinum Sustaining Member

YOUR NAME HERE?
BENEFITS APPLY TO UP TO THREE OF YOUR MEMBERS
All benefits of Gold Membership PLUS:

- Opportunity to present your organization’s involvement with food scraps and composting at IFSCC meetings or events
- Opportunity to be featured annually in an IFSCC newsletter

Email illinoiscomposts@gmail.com for more info!

Gold Sustaining Members

Illinois Food Scrap & Composting Coalition
illinoiscomposts@gmail.com