



We Compost Celebrates You

Since 2014, we've been **identifying** and **celebrating** municipalities, organizations, businesses, and other entities that offer residents, patrons, and guests options for composting through a **We Compost Recognition Program**.

Gold: use a hauler to divert all of their organics

Silver: use a hauler to divert some of their organics

Green: compost on-site or haul their organics to a community garden or farm



Dear We Compost Partners,

Have we told you lately how much we love that you compost? Some of you have been at it for more than a decade. That's incredible! We hope that our recognition has led more people to you and, in turn, helped create more connections for you. We're sure that your example has helped them to consider ways that they could be more sustainable. Are there changes you've made that you are particularly proud of?

We'd love to hear about them so we can share that knowledge. Thank you for your dedication!

Warm regards, Amy and Mary Beth, We Compost Recognition Program Co-Chairs

(Photo caption: We Compost Co-Chairs Amy Bartucci and Mary Beth Schaye atop a beautiful pile of finished compost at Collective Resource Compost Cooperative's 2024 Spring Finished Compost Gift-Back.)

How Does Feed & Conserve Illinois Affect You?



Support Food Recovery and Composting Legislation in Illinois!

Support legislation that will feed people and combat climate change in Illinois! Scan the QR code or visit the website below to subscribe to our email directory for important updates and action alerts.



FeedandConserveL.org



Feed and Conserve Illinois is a grassroots movement building support to achieve the goal of **feeding people AND keeping edible food and food scraps out of landfills.**

The movement has grown its supporters to over 40 organizations and THOUSANDS of individuals. Find out more **HERE.**

Join their list to receive *newsletters with interviews + resources that highlight the importance of food recovery, diversion, and waste reduction* and how it directly impacts Illinois communities.

Say farewell to harmful single-use plastics

Every day, people throw away tons of plastic “stuff” — packaging, bags, takeout containers, and more. All of this waste clogs our landfills and incinerators, trashes our parks, litters our streets, and washes into our rivers and lakes, where it can persist in the environment for hundreds of years.



ACTION NEEDED! To tackle our waste crisis, we need to reduce the use of single-use plastics. The **Coalition for Plastic Reduction** is working to phase out harmful polystyrene foam foodware in Illinois and this effort needs support from restaurants and food service providers.

Take two minutes to sign on **HERE.**

Climate Education IS power-filled in Illinois

ATTENTION IFSC MEMBERS
CONNECTED TO K-12 SCHOOLS!

IFSC EDUCATION COMMITTEE WELCOMES

SUBJECT TO CLIMATE!

OCTOBER 14TH,
12-1PM

Join us for a special opportunity to learn about and share resources for the Illinois hub of Subject to Climate. This hub supports teachers as they build resources to comply with Illinois policy requiring climate change education be a component of curriculum.

Katie Nahrwold

Email illinoiscompost@gmail.com for link to join

Join the October **IFSC Education Committee** meeting to learn about **a hub** of trusted resources, vetted by scientists and reviewed by teachers, to help Illinois educators bring climate and sustainability literacy to students across the state. Katie Nahrwold, IL Subject to Climate State Lead, has a strong foundation working in schools and with non-profit organizations and local community groups. Please email illinoiscomposts@gmail.com for link to join.

Join IEC's Business Council as a Member



Showcase your sustainability, network, help develop strategy, network and more! The **IEC Business Council** is an avenue for environmentally conscious businesses to engage as members of the Illinois Environmental Council and to be active

participants in the environmental movement by connecting environmental advocacy with economic development initiatives. Contact Chelsea Biggs, IEC Chief of Staff, cbiggs@ilenviro.org.

Our 2024 We Compost Partners

Kane DuPage Soil & Water Conservation District, St. Charles
Green Earth Grocery, Edwardsville
West Suburban Community Pantry, Woodridge
JT's Genuine Sandwich Shop, Chicago
Maroa Public Library District, Maroa
RPM Steak, Chicago
RPM Italian, Chicago
RPM Seafood, Chicago
RPM Events, Chicago
Pizzeria Portofino, Chicago
The Oakville Grill and Cellar, Chicago
Winston & Strawn, Chicago
Sketchbook Brewing Co., Skokie
Better Earth, Chicago
tinyshop, Chicago
Valerio Dewalt Train, Chicago
Garfield Produce Company, Chicago
Park Ridge Public Library, Park Ridge
Daly Bagel, Oak Park
IL State University, Normal
Sunset Ridge School District 29, Northfield
Impact Culinary Training, Chicago

All partners are recognized on IFSCC's website [HERE](#).
Do you know of a business or organization that composts?

Tell Us Here

Plan to join IFSCC's Adventures in Composting next year

The IFSCC is always looking for folks interested in hosting an Adventure in Composting during International Compost Awareness Week every May!

This past year's theme was ***Sustainable Communities Begin with COMPOST!*** and partners throughout Illinois hosted a variety of virtual and in-person events that were published on a helpful map. A quick look at what we accomplished is all [HERE](#).

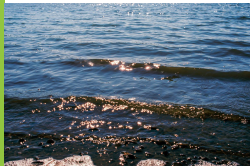


(Photo caption: IFSCC Silver Sustaining Member, **SWALCO**, hosts dozens of ICAW events in Lake County, IL)



REMINDER: If you'd like a We Compost decal for your window, we're happy to mail you one!

Email illinoiscomposts@gmail.com



Free virtual training Sept 30 for businesses + restaurants
Learn how you can reduce plastic AND save money. Hosted by Surfrider, Alliance for the Great Lakes and Shedd Aquarium [HERE](#).



Feed Your Kids, Not the Can Oct 1

SGA will also provide resources and tips to minimize food waste in school districts. Food service professionals, school administrators, lunchroom staff, and anyone interested in sourcing local while generating less waste are encouraged to attend [HERE](#).



From Energy Sense Resilience Center and Partners
How to Protect Yourself from PFAS in Foodware: Health Risks and Smart Tips for Consumers (article)

How to Choose PFAS-Free: A Commitment to Food & Customer Safety (article)



Food Should Never Be Trash Postcard Campaign

Empower students to advocate for food waste reduction in K-12 schools across the country. [HERE](#).

Support Restaurants in Your Community Going Plastic-Free

Shedd Aquarium partners with restaurants to help them cut out



unnecessary plastic and switch to planet-friendly alternatives. Check out businesses that are using or developing plastic-free alternatives [HERE](#).



Reuse for Onsite Dining Library

A comprehensive resource to assist those looking to advance reuse. Check out this one-stop shop of resources for getting real dishes into restaurants, schools, and anywhere else you sit down to eat [HERE](#).

plastic free RESTAURANTS

Plastic Free Restaurants

Learn more about a cash subsidy program that helps restaurants and schools make the switch from plastic to reusable products [HERE](#).



Alternatives to Single-Use for Schools

Start planning ways to transition your school from single-use plastics to reusable food ware with the Center for Environmental Health's [Ditching Disposables: A Toolkit for Healthier Foodware in K-12 Schools](#)



IFSCC
ILLINOIS FOOD SCRAP
& COMPOSTING COALITION

Contact Us:
illinoiscomposts@gmail.com

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Click here to JOIN the IFSCC

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Composting Coalition
illinoiscomposts@gmail.com

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