

# ICAW GUIDE FOR LIBRARIES & SCHOOLS

Join Libraries and Schools (pre-k to college) across the state, and become a hub to help promote International Compost Awareness Week (ICAW), the largest, most comprehensive initiative of the global compost community. We bring people together, to share resources and educate about the benefits of composting, and diverting organics and food scraps from our waste streams. It's held the first full week in May each year. Themes have included conservation, climate, soil health, wasted food, & biodiversity.

The Illinois Food Scrap & Composting Coalition (IFSCC) organizes a variety of statewide educational events each May, called Adventures in Composting.

## Ideas for Adventures

- **Celebrate** w/fun & informative programs/events
- **Create a book display, or combo info/resource table**
- **Provide informational one-pagers and materials** for staff, students, patrons and families via toolkit throughout the week in lobbies, libraries, or other main areas.
- **Host a Book Club/Book Discussion** or series
- **Host a Storytime or Assembly**, indoors, outdoors or in a garden!
- **Collaborate** with your municipality/town, county, local Garden Club, Go Green, or other environmental orgs.
- **Host a Compost Giveback** (we have a guide for this too and can help!).
- Let patrons, parents, staff and community know about all of the **other Adventures** happening around the region.
- **Join our Compost Café**
- **Consider a plan to create/grow, a school or library garden.** Invite a horticulturist, master gardener, or soil health specialist to participate in ICAW events.
- **Like a compost pile, almost anything goes!**



## Resources we can provide (no cost):

- **Toolkit full of printables and information** for all ages with loads of event and display ideas and materials.
- **Educational materials**, including, one-pagers, infographics, how-tos, activities, games, signage, curated book list, and more you can use to create a variety of programs and events for your Adventure/s!
- **Help with programming & event creation and development** w/ resource sharing and brainstorming.
- **SWAG!** Official art posters, bookmarks, and other supplies last.
- **Your Adventure listed** on our website.
- **The opportunity to be a part of a large, world-wide, environmental initiative**, helping to promote and inspire composting locally and abroad, wasted food reduction, and environmental awareness and education.

Contact: **Amy Bartucci**, Administrator:

[admin@illinoiscomposts.org](mailto:admin@illinoiscomposts.org) and **Merleanne Rampale**, IFSCC Board & ICAW Chair: [mrampale@swalco.org](mailto:mrampale@swalco.org). Visit the [IFSCC website's](#) ICAW events archives for ideas and photos and inspiration from what others have done in past years.

*The IFSCC is a thriving not-for-profit organization advancing diversion and composting of all organics in Illinois through advocacy, program implementation, market and business development, policy and education/outreach.*

