

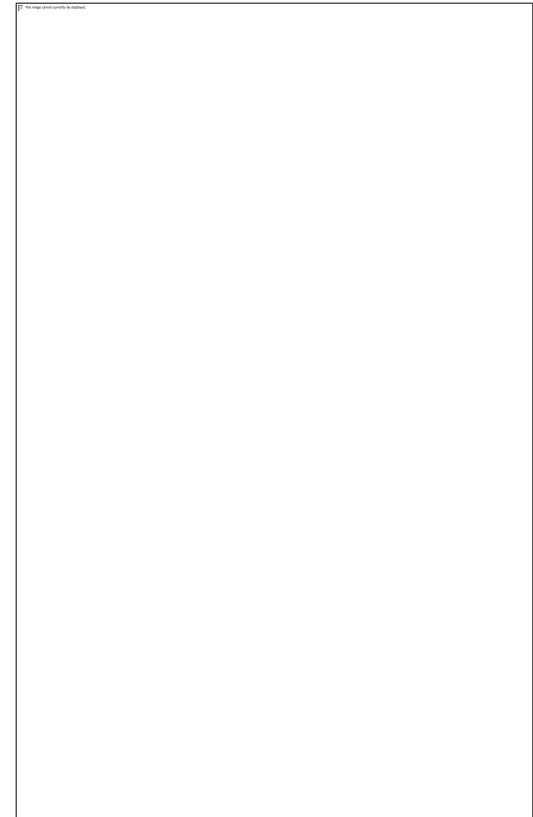


# Compost!

## What's Next, Georgia?

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# Organics Management In the US

- One of the fastest growing segments of the recycling stream
- Over 4,000 composting facilities in the US
- Many more collection programs
- Most handle yard debris
- But, on-farm, biosolids and food scraps, too

# Georgia's Current Composting Status

- About 40 facilities
  - Mostly permit by rule
  - 5 have solid waste handling permit
    - 3 Private
    - 2 County
- Yard debris ban modified
  - Must collect yard debris separately
  - But, may go to landfills that collect landfill gas for energy
- The potential for compost manufacturing is great
- DNR understood this but recognized that there were barriers

# Georgia's Current Composting Status

DNR turned to industry to determine what barriers there were:

- Composters:
  - Outdated or absent definitions
  - Terms such as “solid waste” hinder permitting
  - Address limited number of feedstocks
  - Not flexible
- Regulators:
  - Stormwater/groundwater protection
  - Scale/Risk

# USCC-Georgia Partnership

- Ensure Georgia's proposed rule changes are based in science and verify that similar rules have been effective
- Share information and research
- Simplify and expedite the rule revision process

# Process

- Fanning Institute
  - Surveys
  - In-depth interviews
- BioCycle reported under USCC contract
- Develop a national model compost rule template
  - Public-private partnership
  - Regulator, composter and consultants
  - Feedstock-based, tiered structure
  - Performance over prescription

# Stakeholder Research Showed...

The majority of stakeholders interviewed supported:

- Tiered approach
- Different requirements for in-vessel operations
- Exemptions
- More stringent requirements for facilities handling biosolids
- Case-by-case analysis for groundwater monitoring based on number of criteria
- Groundwater monitoring decreasing over time once history of compliance has been established
- Not establishing a set time limit on storage of finished product
- Using USCC protocols for testing

# USCC Model Compost Rule Development

- Project officially kicked off in February 2012
- Draft disseminated to core team for final review 12/5/12
- Passed by USCC Board on January 27, 2013



- Georgia is set to release is composting regulations for comment
- These regulations are largely based on the current USCC Model Regulations

So, what does this mean  
for you?

The stage is set!

- Bring in the performers to the stage!
- What's needed to get the show going?
- What could bring entrepreneurs to the dance?

# Bring in the performers to the stage!

- Existing facilities that might want to expand
- Waste companies
  - Disposal
  - Collection
- Farmers
- Landscape companies
- Nurseries
- Organic material generators (commercial and residential)
- Government agencies
- KAB representatives

# What's needed to get the show going?

- Markets for the compost produced
- Entrepreneurs that see a business opportunity
- Knowledgeable people to run quality compost facilities
- Educated organics generators

# What could bring entrepreneurs to the dance?

- Increase the demand for compost
  - Develop contracts that guarantee that a certain amount of compost will be purchased, annually
    - Parks
    - Golf courses
    - Department of Transportation
    - Construction companies
  - Develop relationships with farmer, landscape contractor, storm water manager, erosion control, restaurant and nursery organizations and educate them about the benefits of compost

- Financial Incentives
  - Consider leasing county/municipal land to composters
  - Guarantee feedstock
    - Build a consortium/coop for commercial generators to jointly solicit services for collection and/or processing
    - County contracts
- Training
  - USCC Compost Operator Training Course
    - September 31-October 4, 2013 in Beltsville, MD
    - September 16-20, 2013 in Raleigh, NC
- Limit disposal of organics
  - Push yard debris that is collected separately to compost manufacturing facilities

Don't wait for the regulations to be completed

Start planning now!!







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