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### **BACKGROUND AND PROCESS**

### **Background**

Georgia has a thriving composting community comprised of organizations, businesses, individuals, and government officials who are engaged in and supportive of the development of this industry in Georgia. As the newest state chapter of the US Composting Council, the Georgia Composting Council (GCC) promotes the composting industry and the reduction, reuse and recycling of the organic component of Georgia's waste stream through support of infrastructure development, quality control, training, legislative and regulatory advocacy, and public education.

GCC provides the necessary organization and leadership to coalesce the energy and interest into focused action and progress.

#### **Process**

In July 2024, the Board Members embarked on developing the first strategic plan for the organization to set the framework to guide them through the next three years. The facilitator, Stephanie Busch, guided the participants through the strategic planning process, ensuring the committee worked together to achieve the goals and reach consensus.





## VISION AND MISSION

#### **Vision**

Engaged Georgians with access to high-quality compost and healthy soils supported by a thriving compost industry.

#### **Mission**

Promote compost education, advocacy, utilization, and infrastructure growth initiatives to increase organics recovery and build healthy soils.

## **OUR CORE VALUES**

MEMBER VALUE DIVERSITY INTEGRITY FILL FILL MENT COLLABORATION GCC looks to We believe that GCC believes We approach our GCC works to collaboration is a that a diversity mission at the deliver value to infuse our mission key to the of thought, GCC with a high its members and work with success of our industry level of integrity through satisfaction and representation, mission. We look and believe this executing on the enjoyment. to collaborate is critical to long mission of the **Composting is** geography, with community culture and term success organization by difficult but impactful work. It is perspective are and sustainability listening and members. industry leaders, all critical to of this work and including member also rooted in feedback and politicians, and developing a industry. tangible benefits organizations that and value for our Furthermore, we participation. composting we believe can believe this is communities. Our industry that delivers value to dedication and strengthen GCC's how we will earn mission. all stakeholders. and grow the involvement are something of which trust of our we may all be members. proud and fulfilled.

## GOALS AT-A-GLANCE (FY24-26)



## MEMBERSHIP GOALS (FY24-26)

Goal 1

Secure variety of funding mechanisms and sponsorships to support organization

#### **OBJECTIVES**

- By the end of 2025, secure three more Gold Sponsors and one Platinum Sponsor.
- By 2025, double individual, supporter, and organization membership.

Goal 2

Recruit a diverse and robust community of Georgians to advance GCC's mission

#### **OBJECTIVES**

- By 2026, reach 30% of membership be from counties outside of metro Atlanta area.
- By 2026, have members from five Georgia universities, with representation from three regions: North Georgia, Metro Region, and Southern Georgia.

#### STRATEGIES:

- Engage and recruit individuals and organizations operating in Georgia's compost, waste diversion, and adjacent industries.
- Engage large business entities in Georgia's compost and waste diversion industries.
- Grow membership through outreach and recruitment tools.
- Structure pathway for student engagement with GCC.
- Define relationship between Georgia universities & GCC.









## ADVOCACY GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Goal 1

Engage policymakers to increase awareness of the benefits of compost and ensure the composting sector is represented in policy discussions.

#### **OBJECTIVES**

- By end of 2024, identify and prioritize legislative policy and advocacy opportunities in Georgia.
- Create a briefing document summarizing legislative and policy opportunities and description of composting value as it relates to Georgia.

Goal 2

Expand partnerships with state and national organizations to make decision makers aware of the benefits of compost and the value/importance of the composting industry in Georgia.

#### **OBJECTIVES**

- Identify and build partnerships with state and national organizations on related advocacy efforts by the end of 2025.
- Formalize strategy to formalize partnerships and introduce GCC to legislators.



## **EDUCATION AND OUTREACH GOALS & OBJECTIVES**

Goal 1

Increase GCC members' awareness and engagement in composting training and resources

#### **OBJECTIVES**

- By end of 2025, host two compost training events with 25% attendance of members.
- By end of 2024, have events calendar and list of upcoming conferences available on GCC website.

Goal 2

Ensure members receive pertinent and timely communication

#### **OBJECTIVES**

- By January 2025, create a comprehensive communication plan.
- Beginning 2025, create 8-10 social media posts per month.

## PROGRAM AND EVENTS GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Goal 1

Increase compost awareness by engaging Georgians at both regional and highly-visible outreach events

#### **OBJECTIVES**

- By end of 2025, participate in one high-impact, highly visible event.
- By end of 2025, engage at least 50,000 people through outreach events.
- By end of 2026, participate in at least one event in each region.

Goal 2

Create signature programs and experiences to add value to our membership and broader ecosystem

#### **OBJECTIVES**

 Host two signature networking events annually.





# OPERATIONAL GOALS & OBJECTIVES (FY24-26)

Goal 1

Operate by shared core values

#### **CORE VALUES**

- Team work
- Continuous learning
- Transparency creates trust
- Deliver member value
- Fulfillment

Goal 2

Build relationship with US Composting Council to leverage resources, provide training, focus on emerging issues, and expand membership

#### **OBJECTIVES**

- Collaborate and build relationships with State Chapters.
- Remain in good standing by following USCC bylaw requirements.





### ROADMAP: MILESTONES AND TIMELINE

Identify and prioritize legislative policy and advocacy opportunities in Georgia.

Create a briefing document summarizing legislative and policy opportunities and description of composting value as it relates to Georgia.

Provide events calendar and list of upcoming conferences available on GCC website.

Host initial council meeting with members and educational tour.

Identify and build partnerships with state and national organizations on related advocacy efforts.

Formalize partnerships and introduce GCC to legislators and host legislative town hall and tour.

Engage at least 50,000 people through outreach events.

Participate in one high-impact, highly visible event and sponsor an ICAW event 2025.

Host two compost training events with 25% attendance of members.

Create a comprehensive communication plan and enhance social media presence.

Secure three Gold Sponsors and one Platinum Sponsor; double individual, supporter, and organization membership. Assure statewide coverage by participating in one event in each region in Georgia.

Participate in at least one event in each region.

Reach 30% of membership be from counties outside of metro Atlanta area.

Sponsor Georgia Compost Operator Training Course.

By 2026, have representation from five Georgia universities, with representation from three regions: North Georgia, Metro Region, and Southern Georgia.

Structure pathway for student engagement with GCC.

2024 2025

2026

#### **ON-GOING EFFORTS**

Host two signature networking events annually Collaborate and build relationships with State Chapters.

Remain in good standing by following USCC bylaw requirements.

## Message from the Georgia Composting Council President

Organics recycling is a common sense solution that all communities in Georgia would benefit from. The composting industry and related programs and services create goodpaying jobs, provide critical soil amendments for Georgia's agricultural industry, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions thus making the air we breathe cleaner.

The Georgia Composting Council invites you to join our efforts in supporting the growth and development of this impactful and emerging industry. Through your membership, sponsorship, and volunteer time, we will accelerate composting as a solution

for the benefit of all Georgians.

David Paull
Chief Impact Officer | CompostNow
2024-25 President
Georgia Composting Council



For more information about the Georgia Composting Council, email us at gacompostingcouncil@gmail.com or scan the QR code below:

