

Georgia Composting Council Member Newsletter

October 2025

GCC/Georgia News

Legislative Town Hall Recap

GCC held its inaugural legislative town hall in August to inform and educate our state elected officials on the policy priorities of the state chapter.

Thanks to those who participated and presented; additional meetings will be scheduled to continue working toward achieving our policy goals.



GCC at BPI Conference!

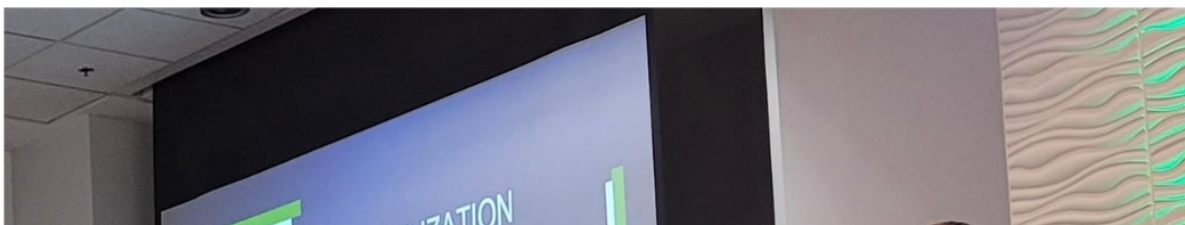
In September, the Georgia Composting Council proudly sponsored the Biodegradable Products Institute (BPI) Summit held in Atlanta. It was wonderful to connect with and learn from so many industry experts and show off our home state as well as Georgia's growing and vibrant compost industry. GCC was thrilled to have so many members and sponsors involved!



Pictured (l-r) Anisha Johnson, Better Earth and Dilshad Mondegarian, GHD representing GCC.

Conference highlights included:

- A tour of CompostNow's Feedstock Hub and compost facility
- Blair Michal, Better Earth, speaking at the session "Data to Build Trust and Move Compostables Forward"
- Brody King, EARTH Products, speaking on compost utilization beyond the agricultural market
- Abbie Sawyer, Athens-Clarke County SW Dept., presenting on public-private partnerships
- Dilshad Mondegarian, GCC Board Member and Education and Communications Committee member, giving an overview of GCC's work
- Dilshad Mondegarian and Anisha Johnson tabling for GCC



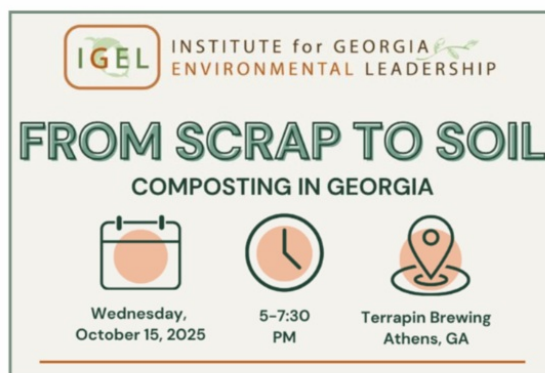


Brody King, EARTH Products LLC and GCC Board Member presents at BPI Conference in Atlanta.

Special thanks to BPI for hosting a fantastic week of programming and thanks to everyone who stopped by our table and engaged with GCC. We hope to see you at future events!

Institute for Georgia Environmental Leadership Announces Composting Event in Athens

Join the Institute for Georgia Environmental Leadership (IGEL) for an engaging evening in Athens exploring the future of composting in Georgia. Hosted at Terrapin Beer Company, this event will feature a panel of experts discussing innovation, challenges, and opportunities in composting—facilitated by Suki Janssen. Event held on October 15th from 5-7:30 PM. Compost tour offered prior to the event. Tour is limited to 30 participants. Transportation is provided. Registered participants should meet at Terrapin Beer parking lot at 2 PM.



**Register for IGEL
Event**

**Register for Compost
Tour**



GCC Announces Annual Meeting

November 6, 2025
CompostNow-Feedstock Hub
Atlanta, GA

Join the Georgia Composting Council for our inaugural annual meeting. Come celebrate our accomplishments and successes and then hear about future plans. We'll also feature some of our members presenting on their company or community efforts.

DWSWA Holds Compost Training



On September 23rd and 24th, the Dalton Whitfield Solid Waste Authority (DWSWA) held workshops for citizens to learn the “ins and outs of composting”. They gave away a few Kitchen compost collector bins courtesy of Keep Dalton-Whitfield Beautiful.

Beginners and experts were invited to attend to share info and tips for successful composting efforts. Amy Hartline, their Recycling & Education Program Coordinator led the workshops.

Sponsor Spotlight

This month, we are highlighting one of our Silver Sponsors, **Better Earth**!

Better Earth is a compostable foodservice company based in Clarkston, GA. They proudly use rapidly renewable substrates for their packaging and emphasize sustainability and circularity across all parts of the value chain - from field to fork to field. Better Earth was founded in 2015 and as of 2024 is a proud B-Corp dedicated to strengthening the circular economy.

GCC is incredibly grateful to Better Earth for their commitment to circularity across Georgia and the nation, and for their involvement and dedication in growing the composting industry. Thank you for all you do for GCC and the industry, Better Earth!

Why We Sponsor

“ Better Earth is on a mission to create compostable packaging that makes sustainability goals accessible and regenerative circularity achievable within the foodservice industry. To support closed loop systems, we are proud to serve as a silver sponsor of the Georgia Composting Council to show our commitment to advancing composting in Georgia. ”



Welcome New GCC Member!

Individual

Ryan Cooper, Denali

Reminder to Renew Your Membership

Notices and invoices are being emailed monthly to members based on the month they joined a year prior. So please get your renewal done to extend your

membership another year. We're making great momentum with your generous support and welcome your input as we continue providing resources, programs, events and projects for our members. If you have questions, reach out to Gloria at garecycles@mindspring.com.

GCC Committee Positions Open

The Georgia Composting Council is seeking members to volunteer for a committee; here's your chance to dig in and be involved in shaping the programs, projects, outreach and advocacy work being done to fulfill our mission in Georgia. [Learn more](#) about the committees and let us know which committee is for you! Email us @ garecycles@mindspring.com

USCC and National News

BPI Announces Certification Program

BPI has officially launched its Commercial & Home Compostable Certification program. Unveiled last month at the #2025BPISummit by BPI Executive Director Rhodes Yepsen, the new certification offers a scientifically rigorous framework to clearly identify products that safely break down in home compost piles, enabling more households to participate in the circular bioeconomy through a known certification that consumers already trust. It builds on BPI's existing commercial certification by requiring products to fully break down at lower, less controlled temperatures—while also limiting substances like PFAS, heavy metals, carcinogens, and endocrine disruptors. Applications open Dec 1, 2025.



In announcing this new certification, Rhodes Yepsen, BPI's Executive Director said, "Our goal is to achieve widespread access to composting, and this certification gets us one step closer, acknowledging that composting can happen at different scales to meet diverse needs across the country." [Read more in the Packaging Dive](#) article by Katie Pyzyk and [Packaging Gateway](#).

USCC Policy Update

Each month, the USCC provides policy updates from their Public Policy and Lobbying Program at the Legislative and Environmental Affairs Committee, a member committee that meets monthly to discuss legislation, regulation, issues, and programs. Click the button below to watch the September update.

[Watch Policy Update Video](#)

International Compost Awareness Week Poster and Bookmark Contents Opens



It's that time of year! The 2026 International Compost Awareness Week Poster Contest is open. Last year's winner was submitted by a talented designer from Athens, GA! The focus for the May 3-9, 2026 observance is Life on Land, emphasizing protecting, restoring, and promoting sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems. The official theme is "Compost! Feed the Soil that Feeds Us." There's also a bookmark contest for kids. Deadline for submitting an entry is November 14, 2025. [Learn more and enter today!!](#)

In Other News

- [Organics Drop Off Map Now Available](#)
- [Compost Comics!](#)
- [Mercedes Benz Stadium Touted on Green Sports Day](#)
Learn more about [Green Sports Day](#).

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Better Earth

Niamke Shropshire-Boykin
GlycoSponge

Michael Snipes
Laurens County SWMA

Izabela Suster
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Calendar of Events

October 27-29, 2025
GRC Annual Conference
Jekyll Island, GA

November 13-14, 2025
UGA Urban Ag Conference
Griffin, GA

**Georgia Composting
Council**

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Compost Resources

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