



MARCH 2026



International Compost Awareness Week

The International Compost Alliance (ICA) follows a thoughtful process each year to select the theme for ICAW. For 2026, the Compost Research Education Foundation (CREF), in partnership with ICA, began by choosing one of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs) as our anchor. The CREF ICAW Committee and ICA members agreed to focus on SDG 15: Life on Land, which emphasizes protecting endangered species, restoring degraded forests and soil, and promoting sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems. Members of the ICAW Committee and ICA brainstormed potential theme ideas that would connect composting to this global goal. After discussion, review, and refinement, the final list of themes was put to a vote. Following the ICA's final decision, they announced the selected theme for ICAW 2026: "Compost! Feed the Soil that Feeds Us" with the winning poster pictured above.

What's Your Plan for observing International Compost Awareness Week this May? Need ideas? Check the [ICAW Home – Compost Foundation](#) page for inspiration.

Ending Food Waste Within a Generation: Upcoming Project to Expand Compost Use

In September 2025, the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), ReFED, WRAP Americas, the Ad Council, the US Composting Council (USCC), and the Institute for Local Self-Reliance (ILSR) formed a coalition to launch a five-year program, "Ending Food Waste Within a Generation," to reduce wasted food and expand composting in the US. This program will create systemic change by combining a national media campaign, compost market development, and local community capacity building.

Food loss and waste is a major economic, environmental, and social challenge in the U.S. Food loss and waste strains waste systems and undermines food security. [Learn more.](#)



Food Waste Pact's 2025 Impact Report Shows Food Waste Decrease

The amount of food wasted nationwide by grocery retail and food service companies decreased in 2024 compared to 2023, according to a new report from the U.S. Food Waste Pact, a collaborative of 30 food businesses across the country led by Chicago-based ReFED and World Wildlife Fund (WWF). Composting is the most common destination for food waste diverted from landfills, according to the report. The report explains that destination pathways are often determined by client-owned infrastructure, and composting has been the focus for many. In 2024, composting made up 58.19 percent of the food service destination rate, followed by landfilling at 35.95 percent. [Read article.](#)

March 25, 2026

Local Policy Strategies to Advance Composting

What does effective local policy to advance composting look like? Join the Institute for Local Self-Reliance's upcoming online town hall event to hear what it takes to advance local composting ordinances. This event will introduce advocates and policymakers to a range of policies that local governments can implement to support farmers, healthy soils, economic development, and trash reduction via local composting. Registration is \$20.* All registrants will receive a recording of the webinar. *Free registration is available for government affiliates, farmers, members of tribal communities, educators, schools and members of the Community Composter Coalition (CCC).

[Register for Town Hall](#)

Renew Your GCC Membership!

GCC is well into its third year of operation as a state chapter; notices and invoices are being emailed monthly to members based on the month they joined a year prior. Get your renewal done to extend your membership another year. We're making great momentum and welcome your input as we continue providing resources, programs, events and projects for our members. Questions? [Email](#) us.

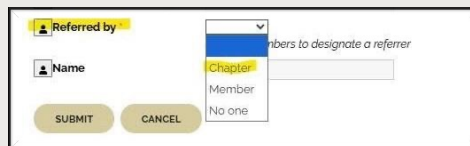
Committee Positions Open

Georgia Composting Council seeks members for committees; 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. [Check out the opportunities](#) and let us know which committee you want to is right for you by [emailing](#) us.

Chapter Credits for USCC Membership Referrals

One of the perks for state USCC chapters is that we receive annual rebates for new members who join both the national organization and the state chapter. USCC pays 20% (double) the rebate for new members who join USCC because they heard about USCC from a GCC member!

So, if you refer colleagues to join USCC ask them to check **REFERRED BY CHAPTER** (see image below) in their application! This results in larger rebates to GCC to assist us with local programming & projects!



The image shows a screenshot of a web application form. At the top, there is a dropdown menu labeled 'Referred by' with a yellow highlight. Below it is a text input field labeled 'Name'. To the right of the 'Referred by' dropdown, there is a smaller dropdown menu with the text 'Members to designate a referrer' above it. This smaller dropdown is open, showing three options: 'Chapter' (highlighted in yellow), 'Member', and 'No one'. At the bottom of the form, there are two buttons: 'SUBMIT' and 'CANCEL'.

Pictured above: Image of application screen with location to check referred by so GCC receives credit for referral.

Welcome New Members

Associate Member

Marisa Finucan

Waste Eliminator

News and Views

[A Blueprint for Curbside Composting](#) | Waste Today Magazine

[Does Curbside Food Scraps Collection Access Increase Household Food Waste?](#) | BioCycle

Calendar of Events

March 16-20, 2026	Compost Operations Training Course	Griffin, Georgia
May 3-9, 2026	ICAW 2026	
May 7-8, 2026	GCC Spring Training	Griffin, Georgia

2025-26 Sponsors

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