

## **Organics Recycling Working Group Meeting**

**Date:** Thursday, December 5, 2024 1:00- 2:30 p.m.

**Location: Virtual Meeting** [Click here to join the meeting](#)

**Contact/Chair:** [Michael.Wonsidler@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:Michael.Wonsidler@sdcounty.ca.gov)

### Agenda

#### 1. Introductions

- a. Alma Ramirez – City of Escondido
- b. Jennafer Steffan – City of Poway
- c. Anthony Smith – Republic Services
- d. Avecita Jones- City of Carlsbad
- e. Serana Lee – City of La Mesa
- f. Ofelia Andrade– City of Coronado
- g. Roshan Christoph – MOE
- h. Gio Cortes – City of Escondido
- i. Alex Christie – City of Escondido
- j. Aurelia Velasquez – City of San Marcos
- k. Emily Schuetz – CalRecycle
- l. Suzan Ehdaie – City of Coronado
- m. Emily Creegan – City of San Diego
- n. Jessica Toth – Solana Center
- o. Jennifer Winfrey – City of San Diego
- p. Skylar Windnagle- UCSD Graduate Student
- q. Shannon Lee – County of San Diego
- r. Michael Wonsidler – County of San Diego
- s. Heather Heckman- City of Santee
- t. Valeria Collins- City of San Marcos
- u. Colleen Foster – HF&H
- v. Alex Christie
- w. Diana Jamaledine

#### 2. SB 1383

- a. General Updates- no updates
- b. Education and Outreach
  - i. City of Chula Vista – Compost Application Training Recap- no updates
  - ii. County of San Diego- Shared an example from their current organics campaign, which borrowed and tailored assets from the City of San Diego. Campaign began on November 15<sup>th</sup> and will run through January 15<sup>th</sup>.
  - iii. Emily Creegan – City of San Diego compost and mulch giveaway event to be held at Sunrunner lot on December 7<sup>th</sup>
  - iv. Solana Center held a state-wide EFR training course recently and plans to potentially hold it quarterly.
- c. Procurement

- i. County of San Diego – Started compost voucher program for farms in select unincorporated County
    - d. Enforcement- no updates
    - e. Facility Updates- no updates
  - 3. Market development of processed organics
    - a. Compost & mulch application- no updates
    - b. Releasing a jurisdictional survey & plan for compost and mulch application
      - i. Identification of key depts. and contacts, estimated acreage, challenges and limitations, successes, equipment needs, opportunities, priority projects, ROI, etc.
        - 1. Key Depts: General Services, Parks & Recreation, Planning, Public Works, Watershed Protection, Waste & Recycling, Capital Improvement Projects, Landscape Architects, Civil Engineers, etc.
        - 2. Working group reviewed the draft survey, added information regarding promotion/ education on the science and application, and other edits. Please send additional feedback or comments for the survey, to UC Soil Health Advisor Dr. Natalie Levy [nlevy@ucanr.edu](mailto:nlevy@ucanr.edu).
    - c. Topic areas of interest: Brownfield Development, Application on Existing Turf (Ballfields, Golf Courses, etc.), Stormwater Protection- Construction Projects, Policy Recommendations/Requirements for Project Developers, Addressing Contamination & PFAS in Compost/Mulch, etc.
    - d. Trainings, tip sheets, specifications
      - i. [Compost and Mulch Use Toolbox](#)
  - 4. Highest and Best Use of Food Scraps
    - a. Feed for Animals
      - i. City of Coronado - How do you issue waivers for organics used as animal feed?
      - ii. Members asked if a waiver would even be required- technically, materials are not food waste per se, but an input to create the animal feed product.
        - 1. CalRecycle will research this item and report back.
        - 2. City of La Mesa shared that they are aware of a grocery store taking food scraps and turning it into dog food.
  - 5. Legislative Updates- no updates
  - 6. Roundtable, News & Events
    - a. Proposed Republic Otay Compost Facility Tour: Date to be determined (potentially in April). Republic will share more information as details are finalized.
  - 7. Adjournment- next meeting (first Thursday 1:00- 2:30 p.m.)