



9th Annual Composting and Organics Recycling Conference & 6th Annual Food Recovery Forum

Conference June 28-30, 2021 | Exhibits June 29-30 | Las Vegas Convention Center, Central Halls

Monday, June 28

Track 1, Room N211: Organics Management

9:00 am - 10:15 Anaerobic Digestion: Renewable Energy from Organics, Biofuels, Business Models, and Project Development

Moderator: Jim Miller, JR Miller & Associates

- A Developers View of Anaerobic Digestion Based Renewable Energy from Organics. Rashi Akki, CEO, Ag-Grid E. PA
- D3 & D5 RINs: Navigating the Co-Digestion Conundrum. Alan Johnson, Quasar Energy Group. OH
- Dairy Development Dos and Don'ts: How to Develop a Successful Dairy RNG Project. John Dannan, Principal and Head of Organic Waste Business, Generate Capital. CA

11:00 am - 12:30 Anaerobic Digestion: Technologies, Feedstocks, Successful Case Studies

Moderator: Tracie Onstad Bills, SCS Engineers

- Anaerobic Digestion at Scale: When to Know You're Ready. Peter Ettinger, BioEnergy Development Co. MD
- Organics Recycling via On-Farm Anaerobic Digestion Benefits Organic Waste Producers, Haulers, Farms, and the Environment. John B. Hanselman, CEO, Vanguard Renewables. MA
- Continuous Flow High Solids Anaerobic Digestion: The Urban AD Solution. Rolfe Philip, VP of Business Development and Sales, Thoeni North America Inc. CA
- Organics Recycling from MSW and SSO with Centralized Mixed Waste Processing and Anaerobic Digestion. Yaniv Scherson, Managing Director, Western U.S. Anaergia. CAN

1:15 pm – 2:30 Composting Technologies, Case Studies, Best Management Practices

Moderator: Gary Bilbro, EcoSafe Zero Waste

- 10 Years in the Making: Case Study Describing the City of San Diego Food Waste Composting Project from Pilot to Full Scale and Beyond. Burton Ewert, City of San Diego. CA
- California's New Organic Waste Processing Facility. Eric Herbert, President, Bulk Handling Systems and CEO of Zero Waste Energy. CA
- Covered ASP Best Management Practices. Waylon Pleasanton, Sustainable Generation, LLC. DE
- A Technical Comparison: Turned Windrow vs Aerated Static Pile Composting. Baraka Poulin, Engineered Compost Systems. WA

3:15 pm – 4:45 Organics Diversion and Collection

Moderator: Debra Darby, Tetra Tech

- Organic Waste Diversion – Example Projects. Jim Miller, JR Miller & Associates. CA
- Food Waste Diversion - An Essential Service in the New Normal. Ryan Cooper Waste Diversion Manager, Organics Recycling Lead, Rubicon. GA
- Semi-Underground Organics Containment: The Next Frontier. Tim Corcoran, Molok North America Ltd. ON
- Food Scrap Recycling Truck Game App - an I-Phone/I-Pad app to teach kids the value of food waste recycling. Paul Darby, VP Marketing, Novamont North America. CT



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Track 2, Room N204: Food Recovery Forum | Solutions to Food Waste Prevention, Reduction, & Recovery

8:30 am – 10:00 Plenary Session & Keynote Address: Innovations in Food Waste Prevention, Reduction, & Recovery, Actions Needed to Help Achieve 50% Reduction in Food Waste by 2030

Moderator: Dr. Stuart Buckner, Buckner Environmental Associates, LLC

- **Keynote Presentation:** Reducing Food Waste: A Roadmap to 2030. Dana Gunders, Executive Director, ReFED (Rethink Food Waste Through Economics and Data). NY
- How Source Reduction Technology Pushes the Needle in Corporate Sustainability. Luc Dang, CEO, Phood Solutions. MA
- Eat Up! How Upcycled Food Product Innovation Delivers Environmental, Social and Financial Returns. Daniel Kurzrock Co-Founder & Chief Grain Officer, ReGrained. CA
- Food Recovery is Not Enough to Impact Hunger. Leah Lizarondo, Food Rescue Hero. MA

10:45 am – 12:15 Advances in Wasted Food Policy and Practices; Using Measurement Tools to Reduce Food Waste and Drive Prevention

Moderator: Dr. Jon Deutsch, Drexel University

- Food Matters Regional Initiative: Scaling-Up City Level Food Waste Solutions Through Regional Collaboration. Maddie Keating, City Strategist, Healthy People and Thriving Communities Program, Natural Resources Defense Council. CO
- US EPA Reducing Food Waste: Measurement and Tools. Claudia Fabiano, Sustainable Management of Food, US EPA. DC
- Real World Examples of Prevention Using AI. Marc Zornes, Co-Founder and CEO, Winnow. IA
- Empowering Stakeholders to Embrace Food Waste Prevention. Max Mlinar Director of Operations, Phood Solutions. MA

1:00 pm – 2:00 Standardized Date Labels, Information Campaigns and Consumer Food Waste: Research and Response

- ReFED (Rethink Food Waste Through Economics & Data) and Ohio State University conducted research evaluating how the introduction of the Food Marketing Institute and Grocery Manufacturers Association's voluntary labeling standards affect consumer decisions and how this might inform decisions about date-labeling policies. Attendees will learn what this research yielded, and its salience in light of recent Federal legislative initiatives.

Speakers

- Meghan Stasz, Vice President Packaging and Sustainability, Consumer Brands Association. VA (Moderator)
- Kathryn Bender, Assistant Professor, Department of Business and Economics, Allegheny College, PA
- Kevin Smith, Senior Advisor for Food Safety, Center for Food Safety & Applied Nutrition, U.S. Food and Drug Administration. MD

2:45 pm – 3:45 Preventing Food Waste and Fighting Hunger in the U.S.: Award Winners of Kroger's Zero Hunger | Zero Waste Foundation's Innovation Fund

- The Innovation Fund of The Kroger Co. Zero Hunger | Zero Waste Foundation ("Foundation") is engaging innovators and social entrepreneurs to develop ideas and scalable solutions to prevent food waste and fight hunger in the U.S. The Foundation is highlighting three (3) portfolio companies that have received philanthropic venture capital. They will discuss their initiatives, how they will help create communities free of hunger and waste, and how they shifted during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Moderator: Sunny Reelhorn Parr, Executive Director, The Kroger Co. Zero Hunger | Zero Waste Foundation

- Food Rescue Expansion. Maen Mahfoud, CEO, Replate. CA
- Nutritious Food Access. Maddy Rotman, Head of Sustainability, Imperfect Foods. CA
- There's Wonder in Waste. Tony Bova, Chief Executive Officer and Co-founder, mobius, TN

4:30 pm – 5:30 Technology + Civic Engagement + Partnerships: Launching and Scaling Food Recovery

Moderator: Leah Lizarondo, Food Rescue Hero

Speakers

- Steve Dietz, Food Donation Connection. TN
- Aaron Tolson, Development Director, Prince William Food Rescue. VA
- Michelle Sandidge, Chief Communications Officer, Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh. PA
- Aubrey Alvarez, Executive Director, Eat Greater Des Moines. IA



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Tuesday, June 29

Track 1, Room N211: Organics Management

9:00 am – 10:15 Evaluation of Organics Management Options; Composting Odor Control; Equipment Maintenance

Moderator: Gary Bilbro, EcoSafe Zero Waste

- Comparison of Organic Waste Management Options in Terms of Air Quality and GHG Impacts. Patrick Sullivan and Raymond Huff, SCS Engineers. CA
- Reorganizing and Reframing Composting: How to eliminate compost facility odor by flipping the composting process inside out and upside down. Geoff Hill, HDR. CA
- Large Compost Cultivating: Odor Management. Robert Ballantyne, RWI Enhanced Evaporation. CO
- The Importance of Maintenance: Four Key Strategies to Sustain Lasting Improvements. Ted Dirkx, Application Specialist, Vermeer Corporation. IA

11:00 am – 12:30 AD and Composting: Integrated Solutions, Pre- and Post-Treatment Options

Moderator: Debra Darby, Tetra Tech

- To Compost or Not to Compost? Luc De Baere^{1*}, N. McDonald², Bruno Matthews^{1*}, Organic Waste Systems (OWS) ¹ Belgium; ² Ohio
- Mixing it Up: An Analysis of Switching from Mechanical to Hydraulic Mixing. Alan Johnson, VP, Quasar Energy Group. OH
- Benefits Achieved Worldwide by Bio-drying Waste Fractions Derived from Mixed MSW for Production of Quality RDF. Luigi Castelli, BioMRF Technologies, Inc. CA
- Organics Waste Processing, Interfaces between Process Design and Operations. Marieke Kromkamp, Business Development Manager, Convertus Group. CAN

1:15 pm – 2:15 Panel Discussion on The Future of Organics in California

- Learn about California's SB 1383 implementation that will require 75% diversion of organic waste from landfills by 2025. Hear from industry policy leaders and composters in an interactive panel discussion regarding collection, contamination, permitting, and markets of transforming organic wastes into compost and energy products. This lively discussion will include questions from the audience on how to develop over 100 facilities at a cost of \$2 to \$3 billion.

Panelists:

- Evan Edgar, Principal, Edgar & Associates, CA (Moderator)
- Bill Camarillo, President, Agronim, CA
- Tracie Onstad Bills, Northern California Director, SCS Engineers, CA

3:00 pm – 4:15 Organics Infrastructure Development, Investing Strategies, and Case Studies

Moderator: Neil Edgar, California Compost Coalition

- Infrastructure Options for The Diversion and Utilization of Organic Resources. Rick Aho, Principal, Regulatory Lead, Divert Organics. MI
- Organics Diversion Opportunity: Are We Wasting It? Infrastructure Development and Conversion to Meet Capacity Needs. Tom Bilgri, Manager of Biogas Engineering Services, and Debra Darby, Manager, Organics Sustainability Solutions, Tetra Tech. CA
- Building Organic Waste Treatment Facilities, Making use of Different Kinds of Feedstocks. Ryan Lauzon, Business Development Director, Convertus Group. CAN
- Making Food Waste Work: Investing Strategies in Organic Waste Disposal. John Dannan, Principal and Head of Organic Waste Business, Generate Capital. CA

5:00 pm – 5:30 Successful Composting Systems: From Consumer to Composter. Rich Cohen, CEO, Elevate Packaging. IL

- In this session, we will outline the core principles, working with successful examples, necessary for organizations to contribute toward building an effective composting system. The session will start with outlining the essential components which comprise a functioning system for end to end composting and address each of the systems constituents, their interests, and how to align and design the composting system to work across the composting value chain. Without a thoughtful architecture and strategy of the inter-working components of a compost initiative, it is challenging to be successful. The attendees will leave with a comprehensive overview of what makes these systems work and knowledge of how to design and launch compost initiatives that align stakeholder interests throughout the system.



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Tuesday, June 29

Track 2, Room N204: Food Recovery Forum | Solutions to Food Waste Prevention, Reduction, & Recovery

8:30 am – 9:45 Food Waste: Technology App's, Innovative Recovery Solutions, and Zero Waste

Moderator: Coryanne Mansell, Center for EcoTechnology

- Human-Centered Hunger Relief and Food Distribution using Technology. Bryan Moran, Director of DevOps, Plentiful. NY
- Circular Economy in Food Waste and Food Production. Zhihao Chen, Homer Farms. AZ
- Full Shelves, Fresh Food, Zero Shrink: How Grocery Order Automation is Massively Reducing Food Waste, Delighting Shoppers, and Making Grocers Rich. Stefan Kalb, Co-Founder & CEO, Shelf Engine. WA

10:30 am – 12:00 Strategies and Policies for Food Waste and Increasing Recovery in Municipal, Regional, and State Programs

Moderator: Claudia Fabiano, US EPA

- Food Recycling and Rescue – Los Angeles County's Three-Pronged Approach. Michelle Leonard, Vice President, SCS Engineers and Judi Gregory, Go2Zero Strategies. CA
- Collaboration and Social Marketing Lessons for Food Waste Reduction and Recovery, Central Contra Costa County. Lisa Coelho, SCS Engineers and Ashley Louisiana, RecycleSmart, CA
- The Significance of Strategies to Reduce Food Waste. Amber Duran, SCS Engineers. CA

12:45 pm – 1:45 Innovation on the Front Lines of the Food Waste Crisis

- One of the most impactful ways to repair and replenish the earth is the most basic – stop wasting food. More than 40% of all food is lost across the distribution chain and it is the single largest material in landfills. Launching in early 2021, ReFED's *Roadmap to 030: Reducing U.S. Food Waste* and the ReFED Insights Engine, a digital-first platform providing data and solutions for food waste reduction, will give the food system the blueprint they need to address this challenge. Join Alexandria Coari, Capital and Innovation Director at ReFED, and key food system stakeholders to discuss how we can shift from awareness to scalable action.

Speakers:

- Alexandria Coari, Director of Capital + Innovation, ReFED (moderator)
- Turner Wyatt, CEO, Upcycled Food Association
- Sunny Parr, Executive Director, The Kroger Co. Zero Hunger | Zero Waste Foundation and The Kroger Co. Foundation
- Stefan Kalb, CEO, Shelf Engine

2:30 pm – 3:30 The Upcycled Food Association: The New Voice of a Growing Industry

- The Upcycled Food Association aims to reduce food waste by growing the upcycled food economy. In this session, association Members will share ground-breaking research in the space, and current initiatives, including the launch of a revolutionary new product certification program

Speakers:

- Turner Wyatt – Co-Founder and CEO, Upcycled Food Association
- Jon Deutsch Ph.D. - Professor of Culinary Arts and Food Science, Drexel University (Moderator)
- Mike Oraschewsky - Co-Founder, TBJ Gourmet
- Caroline Cotto - Chief Operating Officer, Renewal Mill

4:15 pm – 5:45 Food Waste and Food Production: Best Management Practices and Corporate Social Responsibility

Moderator: Lisa Coelho, SCS Engineers

- Food Waste Recycling Best Practices. Ryan Cooper, Waste Diversion Manager and Organics Recycling Lead, Rubicon Global. GA
- Food Waste as a Worthy CSR Initiative. Luc Dang, CEO, Phood Solutions. MA
- Food Recovery and Zero Waste -The Missing Link: The Green Oceanside Kitchen. Colleen Foster, City of Oceanside. CA



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Wednesday, June 30

Track 1, Room N211: Organics Management

8:30 am – 9:30 Compostable Packaging: Issues and Solutions

Moderator: Gary Bilbro, EcoSafe Zero Waste

- The Challenges of Compostable Packaging. Neil Edgar, Executive Director, California Compost Coalition. CA
- Compostable Packaging vs Biodegradable, Impact on AD/windrow. Beneficial Reuse Options for Output. Christopher O'Brien, CEO & Founder, Proven Sustainable Solutions, LLC
- The Bioaccumulation of Plastic Waste is a Global Challenge. Is compostable packaging the solution? Gary Robinson, CEO, Synaptic Packaging, LLC. GA

10:15 am – 11:45 Conversion Technologies for Organics

Moderator: Debra Darby, Tetra Tech

- Organic Waste Transformation via Hydrothermal Carbonization: Implementing Zero Waste Solutions at the Food, Water, and Energy Nexus. Dan Spracklin, Chief Executive Officer, SoMax BioEnergy. NY
- The Opportunity to Convert Challenging Waste Streams into Valuable Outputs with Pyrolysis. Andrew White, CEO, Char Technologies. CAN
- FastOx® Gasification: Profitably Achieve 100% Recycling. Mike Hart CEO, Sierra Energy. CA
- Developing A Landfill RNG Project, Lessons Learned at The Dane County Landfill. Nadeem Afghani, BIOFerm Energy Systems. WI

12:30 pm – 1:30 Upcycling Organic Waste, Biodegradability and Bioaccumulation of Polymers, Circular Economy as a Strategic Mission

Moderator: Gary Bilbro, EcoSafe Zero Waste

- Upcycling Organic Waste into PHA Biodegradable Plastics. Robert Celik, Abdul Khogali, COO, and Luna Yu, CEO, Genecis Bioindustries Inc. ON
- Moving to a Circular Economy: BPI's New Strategic Mission. Rhodes Yepsen, Executive Director, Biodegradable Products Institute. NY
- Aerobic and Anaerobic Biodegradability of Biopolymers. László Aleksza, CEO, ProfiKomp Környezettechnika Zrt., L., and Zsuzsanna Üveges, Szent István University. Hungary

2:15 pm – 3:30 Mechanical Biological Treatment (MBT), WWTP, and Other Organics Conversion Technologies

Moderator: Evan Edgar, Edgar & Associates, Inc.

- Waste to Biogas, What is Next? Xu Fei (Philip) Wu, SusWork Inc. CAN
- Is a Successful MBT Technology a Viable Alternative to Landfilling and Incineration in North America? Glen Tobiasson, President and CEO, Innovative Waste Conversion Technologies. NH
- Bio-slurry Injection: an efficient method to divert organic waste from landfill. Omar Abou-Sayed, Yashesh Panchal, and Ibrahim Mohamed, Advantek Waste Management Services. TX
- Urban Biocycle Concept for Municipal Organics: From Wastewater Treatment to Resource Recovery. Joerg Blischke, Senior Process and Organics Management Specialist, Black & Veatch Corporation. CA

4:15 pm – 5:15 Closing Plenary: Visionary Perspectives on Biofuels and Zero Waste

Moderator: Dr. Stuart Buckner, Buckner Environmental Associates, LLC

- Zero Heroes with 2020 Vision. Zero Waste, Biogas, CNG, Food Waste to AD and Compost. Evan Edgar, Principal, Edgar & Associates, Inc. CA
- The Zero Waste Approach to Managing Compostable Organics. Richard Anthony, Zero Waste USA. CA



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Track 2, Room N204: Food Recovery Forum | Solutions to Food Waste Prevention, Reduction, & Recovery

8:00 am – 9:00 Small Scale & Scalable Food Waste Recycling Technologies for Food Waste Generators

Moderator: BethAnn Taylor, Taylor Environmental

- On-Site Food Waste Decomposition/Reduction Mechanisms. Jaclyn Hill and Ed Sawchuk, Patriot Organics LLC. NY
- Organics Equipment. Differences between Biodehydration, Microbial Liquefaction & Composting. Christopher O'Brien, CEO & Founder, Hungry Giant Waste Systems LLC

9:45 am – 10:30 Be the Rescue: Food Recovery During Covid-19 - Food Rescue US.

- With ripe crops being reploughed, milk and eggs being dumped, and less demand from restaurants, food waste is increasing due to the impact of COVID-19. In response, food recovery organizations have been adapting to meet the changing food recovery landscape, creating new programs and inspiring communities to come together around new, creative solutions. With a panel of Food Rescue US location leaders, learn how these leaders adapted and how communities can move forward to reduce their overall food waste.

Speakers:

- Melissa Spiesman, VP, National Site Director, Food Rescue US. DC (Moderator)
- Jennifer Guhl, Director, Marketing & Development, Food Rescue US. DC
- Darraugh Collins, Site Director, Food Rescue US. DC
- Levi Grimm, Chief Marketing Officer, JEE Foods

11:15 am – 12:15 The Effects of Organics Diversion Policies on Food Donation and Food Waste Recycling Programs

Moderator: Regina Anderson, Food Recovery Network

- RecycleSmart Edible Food Generator Survey, Contra Costa County Solid Waste Authority. Tracie Onstad Bills, SCS Engineers, CA
- Public-Private Partnerships Support Wasted Food Diversion Efforts. Coryanne Mansell, Center for EcoTechnology. MA
- Vallarta Supermarkets – Organics Recycling and Waste Reduction. Cory Oskardmay, Zero Waste Project Manager. Go2Zero Strategies. CA

1:00 pm – 2:00 Capturing Event Food Waste to Maximize Food Waste Prevention, Donation, and Diversion

- This panel will review how different departments within a stadium or large event spaces interact with food waste and how collaboration can improve waste prevention, donation, logistics, communication, and processing. The panel will also discuss how business initiatives are driving increased organic waste diversion and reuse in event management. Attendees will learn about innovations in food waste processing that repurpose waste into raw materials and how stadiums can ensure uncontaminated waste is delivered to these facilities.

Moderator: Greg Lettieri, CEO, Recycle Track Systems

Panelists:

- Brittany Price, Director of Sustainable Operations, MGM Resorts International. NV
- Matthew Jozwiak, Founder and Executive Director, Rethink Food. NY
- Amanda Weeks, Founder, Veles. NY

2:45 pm – 3:45 Optimizing Food Waste Recovery

Moderator: Coryanne Mansell, Center for EcoTechnology

- Food Recovery Network: Creating a New Generation of Leadership Fighting Food Waste and Hunger Through Systems Change Work. Regina Anderson, Executive Director, Food Recovery Network. DC
- The Food Waste Experts Have Spoken! Racheal Ajayi¹, Scott Baum¹, Cordia Chu¹. ¹Centre for Environment and Population Health, Griffith University. QLD

4:30 pm – 5:30 Closing Plenary: Food Waste Paradigms and Zero Waste

Moderator: Maddie Keating, Natural Resources Defense Council

- Food Waste Is a Design Flaw. Christina Mitchell Grace, CEO, Foodprint Group. NY
- There's More Than Enough: Minimizing Waste, Maximizing Savings. Komal Ahmad, CEO, COPIA. CA