

# BIOCYCLE

## cultivating community composting

Saturday, October 19, 2013 • Columbus, Ohio

## Agenda

Moderators:  
**Nora Goldstein**, BioCycle  
**Brenda Platt**, Institute For Local Self-Reliance

Sponsored By



**10:30–11:00 AM**  
**Registration**

**11:00 AM–12:15 PM**  
**Breadth And Depth Of Community Composting**

Community Gardens, Urban Farms And Small Decentralized Operations

**Bill Dawson**, Franklin Park Conservatory, Growing To Green, Columbus, Ohio

**Erik Martig**, BIG!Compost, NYC Compost Project Local Organics Recovery Program, Queens, New York City

**Marisa Dedominicis**, Earth Matter NY, NYC Compost Project Local Organics Recovery Program, New York City

**Noah Fishman**, Highfields Center for Composting, Hardwick, Vermont

**Jennifer Mastalerz**, Philly Compost, Philadelphia

**12:15–1:00 PM**  
**Interactive Lunch With Community Composters**

All lunch tables will have a panelist from Forum sessions to facilitate discussion.

**1:00–2:00 PM**  
**Composting Methods**

Tools, Labor, Food Scraps Receiving, Odor And Vector Management

**David Buckel**, Community Composting Consulting, Brooklyn, New York City

**Charlie Bayrer**, Earth Matter NY, NYC Compost Project Local Organics Recovery Program, Queens, New York City

**James McSweeney**, Highfields Center for Composting, Hardwick, Vermont

**2:00–2:45 PM**  
**Tackling Critical Components —**  
**“Speed Dating” With Community Composters**

Topics include: Financing, Training, Permitting And Regulations, Space And Land Access

**2:45–3:15 PM**  
**Building A Community of Practice**

Next Steps To Cultivate Community Composting

Discussion: Help shape a national Community Composting Forum and Network, to be hosted at [www.biocycle.net/communitycomposting](http://www.biocycle.net/communitycomposting)

**3:30–4:30 PM**  
**Tour of Franklin Park Conservatory’s**  
**Community Garden And Composting Site**

Tour Leader:

**Bill Dawson**, Franklin Park Conservatory

## Panelist Biographies

**Charlie Bayrer** is Community Compost Manager, Earth Matter NY, NYC Compost Project Local Organics Recovery Program. Earth Matter NY, Inc. is a nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing the art, science and application of composting in and around New York City. Earth Matter NY accepts and processes food scraps as part of the NYC Compost Project Local Organics Recovery Program funded by the NYC Department of Sanitation.

**David Buckel**, a retired attorney, serves as a consultant developing community composting sites in New York City. His largest project is at the Red Hook Community Farm in Brooklyn, which in 2012 composted 225 tons of organics in turned windrows, entirely by hand.

**Bill Dawson** is Program Coordinator, Growing to Green Community Gardening program for the Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens. Bill has worked at the Conservatory for over 20 years. He has been coordinating the Growing to Green program since 2000. Bill manages an onsite community garden at Franklin Park Conservatory while being a resource for over 200+ garden projects throughout the city of Columbus. The onsite community garden consist of a 40-plot community garden where garden plots are rented to community members and accessible raised beds serve special needs groups and individuals.

**Marisa DeDominicis** is Director, Earth Matter NY, NYC Compost Project, Local Organics Recovery Program. Earth Matter NY, Inc. is a nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing the art, science and application of composting in and around New York City. Earth Matter NY accepts and processes food scraps as part of the NYC Compost Project Local Organics Recovery Program funded by the NYC Department of Sanitation.

**Noah Fishman** is the program manager for the Close the Loop! program at Highfields Center for Composting where he spearheads a statewide campaign to develop statewide composting infrastructure. Prior to joining the Highfields compost crew, Noah had a diverse array of experiences from establishing a national coalition of Serbian environmental organizations, managing a Brownfields redevelopment program in Northwest Vermont, and developing microfinance projects in D.R Congo and Tanzania.

**Erik Martig** is Program Coordinator for Compost Operations Development at Build it Green!Compost in Queens, NY. He holds a bachelor's of science in Landscape Architecture from The Ohio State University and has 5 years of professional experience focused on landscape design and organic waste management infrastructure in New York City.

**Jennifer Mastalerz**, LEED AP, left her architecture job in 2010 to pursue her passion for urban agriculture and found a job with Philly Compost. She started the Compost Coop in her neighborhood in 2011, expanded it to its current state early this year and now works there part of her time (+/-15 hours per week) doing bike collections and making compost.

**James McSweeney**, a Compost Specialist with the Highfields Center for Composting, provides technical services in composting to farmers, businesses, institutions and communities, with a focus on scalable and appropriate technological solutions. In 2011, James developed and delivered Vermont's first Compost Operator Certification. He helped to found the grass-roots organization Compost Power to advance compost heat recovery with other innovators and engineers, and is the lead designer in Highfields' ongoing compost heat recovery research and development work and collaborations. James has a B.A. in Agroecology from Prescott College.