



NJ Composting Council

Jairo E. Gonzalez

President

Oct 8th 2019



Background

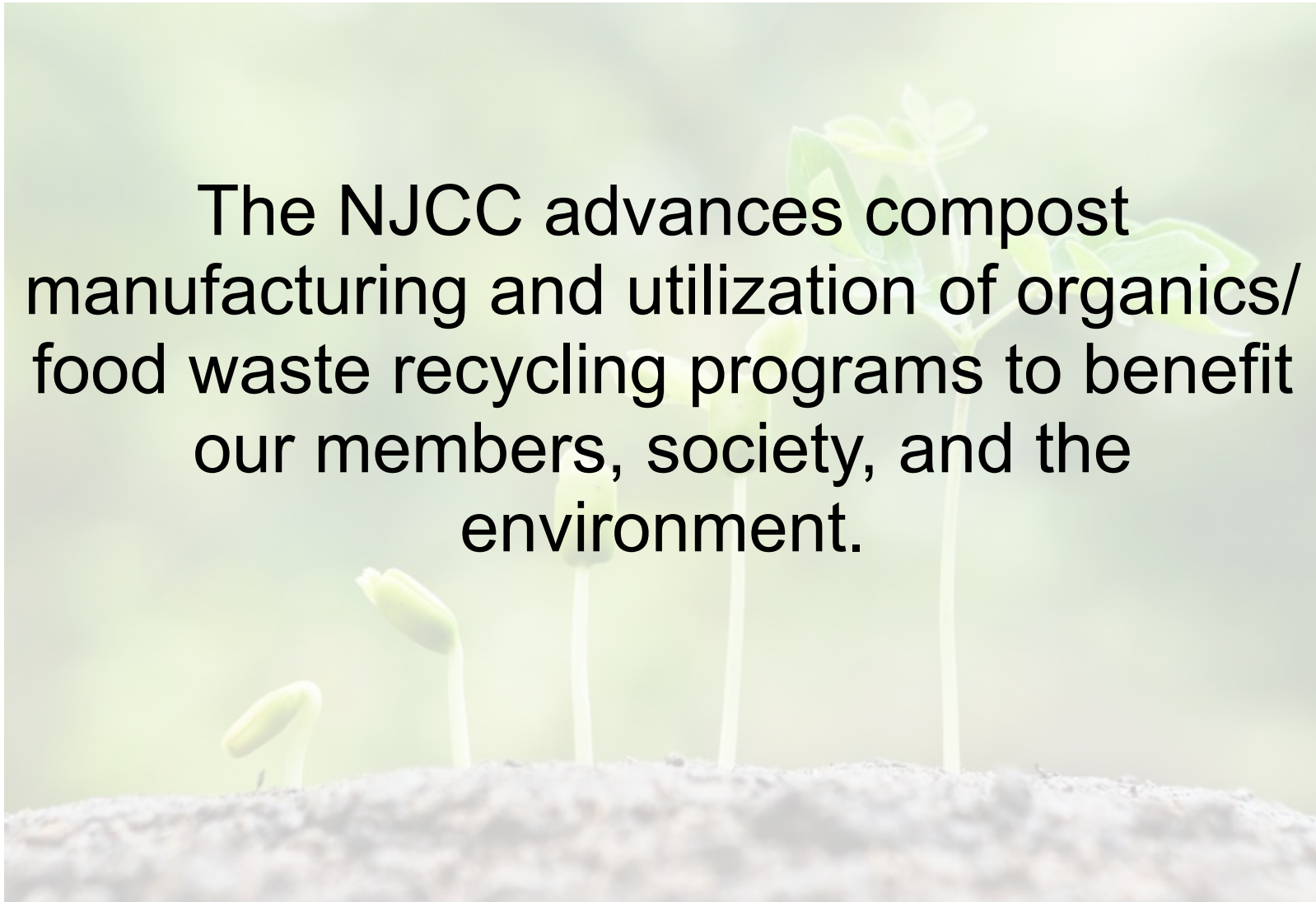
The NJCC is a 501(c)(6) non-profit affiliate of the US Composting Council, which is the only national organization in the US dedicated to the development, expansion and promotion of the composting and organics and food waste recycling industry.

WWW.NJCOMPOSTING.COM



Mission

The NJCC advances compost manufacturing and utilization of organics/ food waste recycling programs to benefit our members, society, and the environment.





The Issue

45%+ of the waste material going to landfills/incinerators are organics.

Organic waste decomposing in landfills account for 37% of man-made methane



The Issue

The landfill or Incinerator vs. Composting.

Problems: toxins, leachate,
methane and greenhouse gases.

landfill expansion needs, health
and environmental issues



Benefits of Composting

- ❖ Improves soil structure, porosity and density
- ❖ Increases infiltration and permeability of heavy soils reducing erosion and runoff
- ❖ Improves water holding capacity, reducing water loss and leaching in sandy soils
- ❖ Supplies and rehabilitates a variety of micro and macronutrient to the soil
- ❖ Reduces & in some cases eliminates the need for chemical fossil based fertilizers
- ❖ Reduces toxic emissions



Work To Be Done

Advocacy

Legislation and Public Policy

Education

Seminars, Training and Conferences.



Pending Legislation

S1206/A3726

- Based on Food Waste Disposal Bans In MA, CT, VT & RI
- Requires “Large Food Waste Generators” to Recycle “Food Waste”
- Contains Compliance Details, Including “Safety Valves” and “Landfill Exemption”
- Contains Supporting Provisions, Including Compost Use Requirement, Market Development Council, and Energy Incentives
- Passed by Legislature in June 2019; Conditional Governor’s Veto in August 2019



Pending Legislation

- S4097
 - Description: Requires each solid waste management district to develop strategy in solid waste management plan to reduce food waste
 - Status: Introduced in Senate in September 2019

- S1768/A2968
 - Description: Requires DOT to prioritize green stormwater infrastructure in design, construction, reconstruction, and repair of public highways
 - Status: Referred to Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee in March 2019; NJ Composting Council Commented in March 2019



Recently Enacted Legislation

- **P.L.2019, c.42**
 - Description: Authorizes municipalities, counties, and certain authorities to establish stormwater utilities
 - Status: Signed into law in March 2019

- **P.L.2019, c.145**
 - Increases tax credit provided for qualified investments under New Jersey Angel Investor Tax Credit Act.
 - Status: Signed into law in June 2019



NY Senate Bill S1508c

Food Scraps Bill

- [Effective January 2022](#), any establishment that generates more than two tons of food waste per week must separate material for donation and arrange for inedible scraps to be taken to an organics recycler within 25 miles. Temporary waivers will be granted by the state based on factors such as cost and distance. (Waste Dive)





Regulatory Activity

- New Jersey's composting and food waste recycling regulations have not been updated in many years since 2005
- The regulations permit a few, limited composting/food waste activities without a permit. These exemptions primarily benefit vegetative composting and composting of materials generated on-site.
- However, except for these exempt activities, composting operations require a “one size fits all” permit with onerous operational and regulatory requirements. (It also is possible to apply for a Research Demonstration and Design Permit with fewer requirements, but these permits are limited in scope and time and are not a reliable or permanent solution.)
- New Jersey's Science Advisory Board is studying the impacts of composting on the environment and NJDEP plans to update its food waste permitting regulations based on the findings of this study / 2019. (This is not the first time an organization in New Jersey has studied the impacts of food waste recycling. The last study occurred in 2005 and did not result in any changes.)

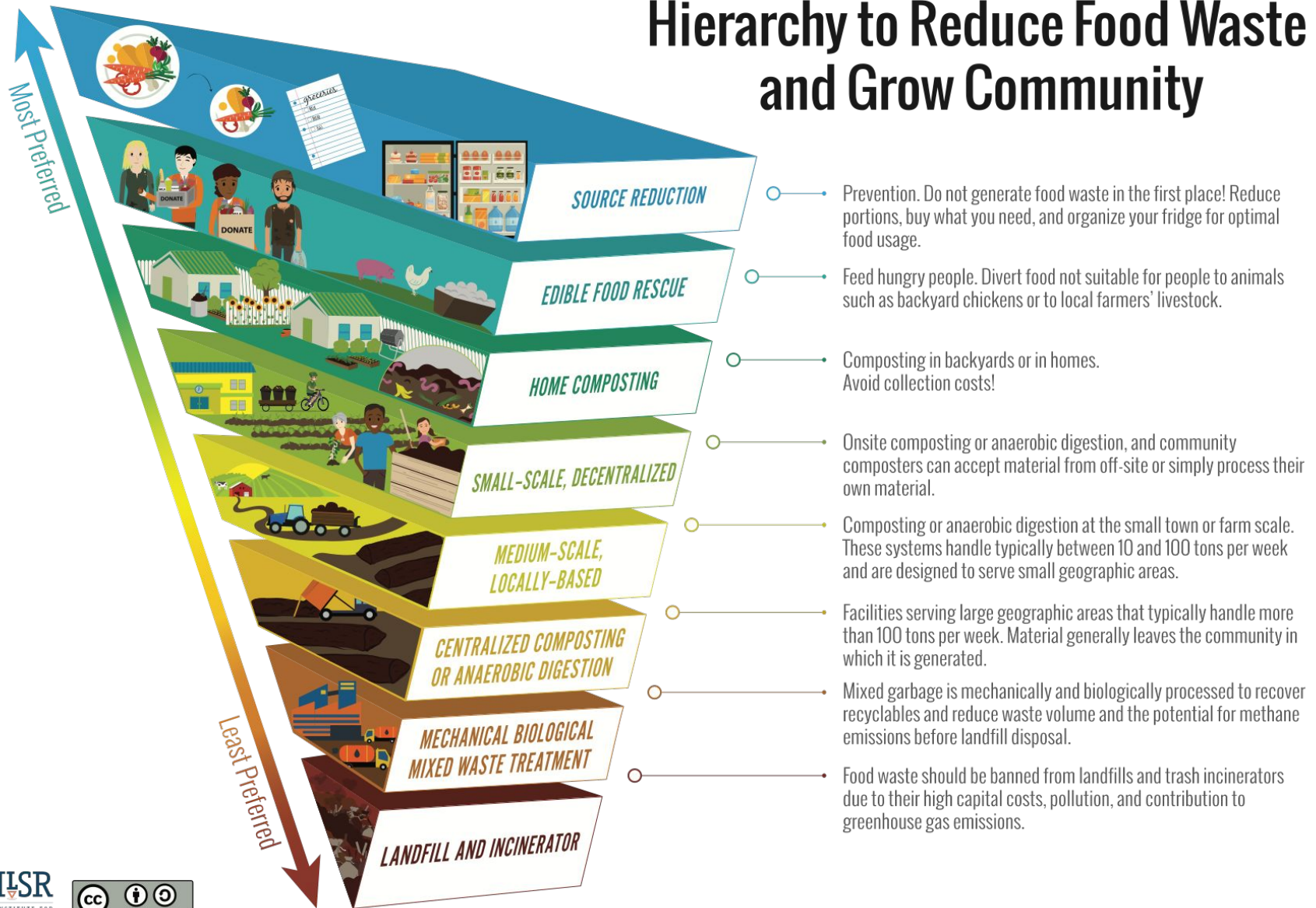


Tools for Changing Regulations

- Petitions for Rulemaking and Pilot Programs
 - Community Composting
- Scientific Studies
 - Mid-Size Commercial Composting
- Stakeholder Meetings
 - In-Vessel Composting
 - USDA technical committee

Food Waste Reduction

Hierarchy to Reduce Food Waste and Grow Community





So Why Not Compost?

“Composting gives your food a second chance at life; It is the **soul of your soil.**”

- Quote from NJCC member, Java's Compost





JOIN US!

Jairo E. Gonzalez

Website: NJComposting.com

Email: jairo@njcomposting.com

Individual Memberships: a low as \$75