



Presentation to Materials Management Advisory Council 10/20/21

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History

- Created in 1993
 - Ohio Compost Association
 - Organics Recycling Assoc. of Ohio
- Officially became Ohio Chapter of US Compost Council mid-2019



About

- 501 (c) (6)
 - Non-profit trade association
- Mission

The OHOC is a non-profit organization that promotes the growth of the organics recycling industry in Ohio by encouraging further study, research, advancement, and development of composting and organic recycling through professionalism, education, training, information exchange and networking within the industry and with regulatory agencies

Board of Directors

- Currently 12 Directors
 - Public and Private operators of organics recycling facility
 - Academia
 - Solid Waste Mgmt
 - Regulatory Agencies
 - Ex-Officio

Membership

- Membership goes through USCC
 - 23 Voting members/primary entities
 - Currently coordinating with USCC for a membership drive

Some private member of OHOC



Barnes

ANDRE FARMS



vegware

GoZERO

accessible food waste services

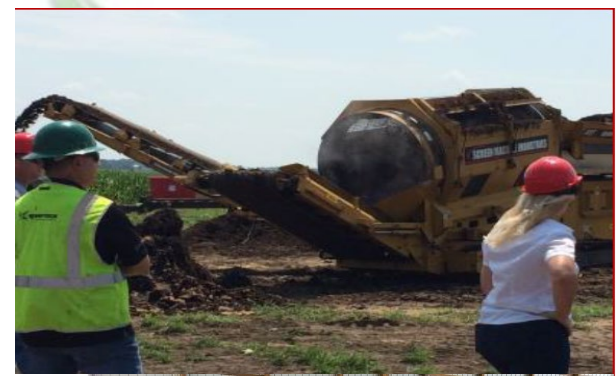
Some other members of OHOC



Facilities Management and Safety

Services

- Annual Conference
 - 70-100 attendees
 - Networking Event
 - Technical Sessions
- Annual Ohio Compost Tour
- Compost Training Course
- Scholarships



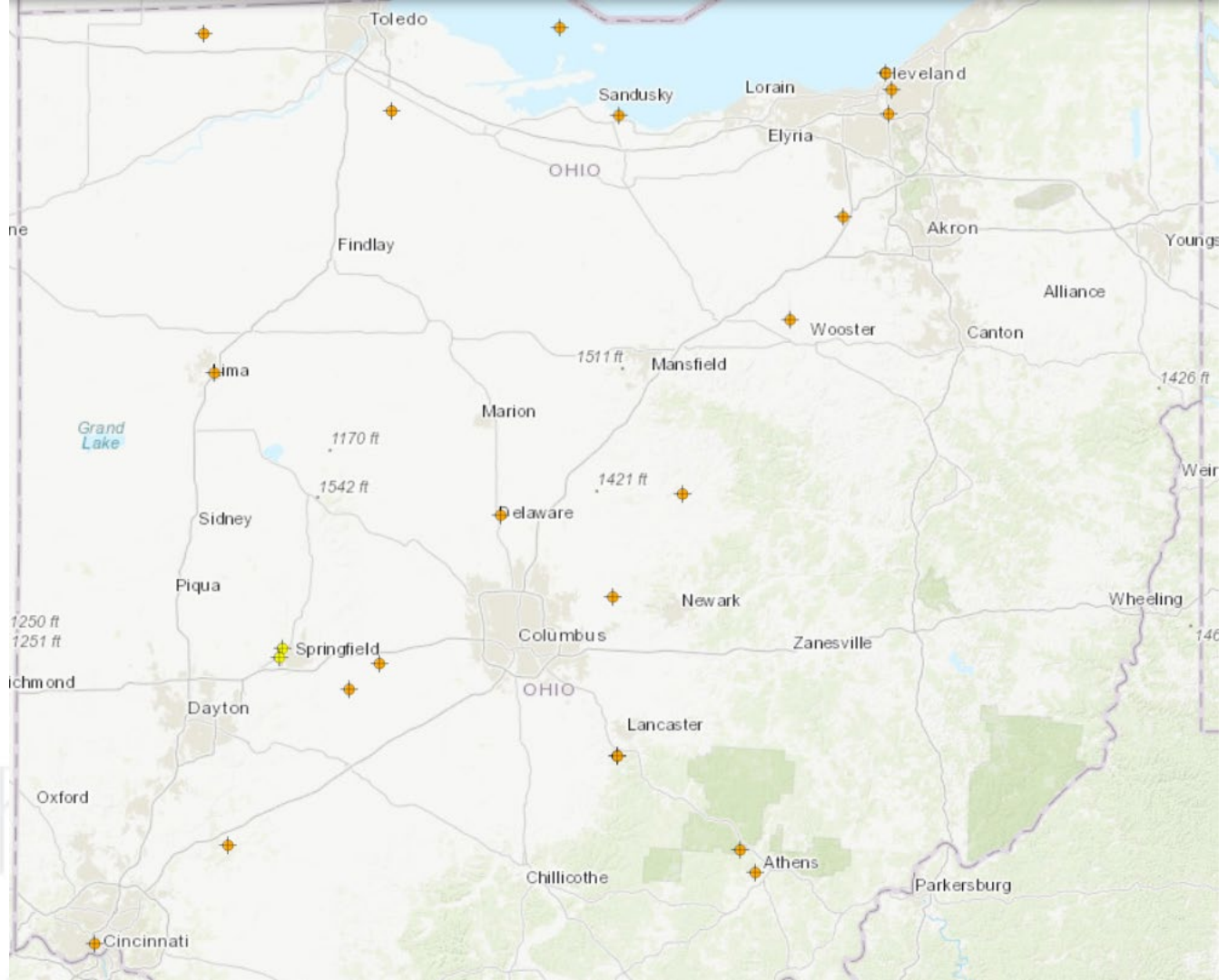
Organics Issues Relevant to MMAC

Ohio 2020 Solid Waste Plan sets goal to reduce food waste to landfills

-ReFED reports 1.2 million tons of food waste was landfilled in Ohio in 2019

- a. Ohio Class 2 Compost Facilities recycled 33,140 tons of food waste in 2019 or 2.7% of estimated volume landfilled
- b. Food waste represents a huge target for solid waste diversion

Ohio's Class 2 Composters



Ohio Composting Infrastructure is Inadequate

- Largest food scrap composters are Andre Farms and Garick Paygro at about 10,000 tons/year - we would need **60** more of these facilities to get to 50% food scrap diversion.
- Why So Few....
 1. Compost sites are Expensive:
 - 10,000 tons food scrap/year takes between 3.5-25 acres
 - 2020 Biocycle estimates between \$5000-\$250,000/acre for site preparation
 - Equipment for 10,000 tons/year costs \$500,000-\$2,000,000 depending on method used
 - New compost sites cost between \$600,000 - \$4,000,000 to open
 - Bonding
 2. Regulations
 3. Citing Criteria

Other Barriers

Low cost of landfills - It is less expensive to dispose of material in a landfill facility than it is to compost it. This makes it difficult for owners/operators of compost facilities to charge a fee that competes with landfill disposal costs while allowing them to cover the costs of constructing and operating the facility.

Cost of permitting, constructing and operating a composting facility - To compensate for the costs of preparing a permit application, providing financial assurance, purchasing equipment, sampling and testing finished compost, and ongoing operational expenses, facility operators must charge fees to accept material. Those fees must be competitive with Ohio's low landfill prices to encourage generators to take compostables to composting facilities.

The background features a repeating pattern of icons. Green icons include various vegetables like carrots, radishes, cucumbers, and leafy greens. Grey icons include a shovel, a bridge, a fork, a window, and a water drop. The central text is in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

What Can Be Done?

Follow Your Plan...But Expand

Goal 1 — Recycling Infrastructure

The SWMD shall provide its residents and commercial businesses with access to opportunities to recycle solid waste. At a minimum, the SWMD must provide access to recycling opportunities to 80 percent of its residential population in each county and ensure that commercial generators have access to adequate recycling opportunities.

Goal 2 — Waste reduction and recycling rates

The SWMD shall reduce and recycle at least 25 percent of the solid waste generated by the residential/commercial sector.

Opportunities

Short-Term

Continue to support purchasing equipment for composting facilities - Helping to finance equipment for class 2 composting facilities and anaerobic digestors could help improve Ohio's infrastructure for managing unusable food waste.

Long-Term

- *Assist potential owners/operators identify acceptable sites for composting facilities* - Ohio EPA could take a more active role in helping people interested in opening a class 2 composting facility identify potential sites. One option is working with Ohio's brownfield revitalization program to identify acceptable locations for sites. When an operator proposes opening a new site, Ohio EPA could then recommend identified brownfield sites as options.
- *Financial support for composting facilities* - Ohio EPA will explore opportunities to collaborate with other Ohio agencies that administer grant and loan programs to better leverage available funding.

What Can the State do to Help

- The Existing Grant program is good but should be expanded
- Focus on Organics
 - Make it a Larger Priority Target and set a target
- Incentivize Recycling for Businesses/Composters or just Ban organics disposal...or...increase fees and use for education or grants
- Incorporate further use of Organics in such State programs as ODOT, Brownfields and Agriculture
- Target Residential Organics: By far the largest volume of organics in the State