



EBC Solid Waste Management Webinar Organics Management in the Northeast: Moving Into the Mainstream

Tuesday, October 26, 2021

In Collaboration with

American Biogas Council

MassRecycle

National Waste & Recycling Association

Northeast Resource Recovery Association

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Program Co-Chairs

Debra Darby, Client Manager, Organics Sustainability Solutions, Tetra Tech

Deborah Denfeld, Senior Project Manager | Business Line Manager, Fuss & O'Neill, Inc.

Brian C. Freeman, Senior Associate, Robinson+Cole

AGENDA

9:00 a.m. Welcome: **David Murphy**, Chair, EBC Solid Waste Management Committee
Vice President, Tighe & Bond

Program Introduction and Purpose – What you will learn

- **Deborah Denfeld**, Program Co-Chair
Senior Project Manager | Business Line Manager – Fuss & O'Neill, Inc.

- 9:10 a.m. Composting Infrastructure: Focus on Food Scraps
- **Nora Goldstein**, Editor, BioCycle
- 9:35 a.m. Recycling Food Waste with Anaerobic Digestion
- **Patrick Serfass**, Executive Director, American Biogas Council
- 10:00 a.m. Permitting of Organics Projects in Connecticut: The Changing Landscape
- **Robert Isner**, Director, Waste Engineering & Enforcement Division
Bureau of Materials Management and Compliance Assurance, CTDEEP
- 10:25 a.m. Networking Opportunity
- 10:40 a.m. Break
- 10:45 a.m. Organics: Where Will We Get the Biggest Bang for the Buck?
- **Chaz Miller**, CEO, Miller Recycling Associates
- 11:10 a.m. Compost Markets and Trends
- **Ron Alexander**, Consultant, R. Alexander Associates, Inc.
- 11:35 a.m. Moderated Discussion
- Moderator: **Debra Darby**, Program Co-Chair
Manager, Organic Sustainability Solutions, Tetra Tech
- Panel Members:
- **Nora Goldstein**, BioCycle
 - **Patrick Serfass**, American Biogas Council
 - **Robert Isner**, CTDEEP
 - **Chaz Miller**, Miller Recycling Associates
 - **Ron Alexander**, R. Alexander Associates, Inc.
- 12:00 p.m. Adjourn

PROGRAM CO-CHAIRS



Debra Darby, Client Manager, Organics Sustainability Solutions
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Ms. Debra C. Darby is a client manager of organics sustainability solutions with Tetra Tech, an engineering and environmental consulting firm with a focus on solid waste and organics. She has 14 years of organics experience within the solid waste industry, and she is a U.S. Composting Council Certified Composting Professional (CCP).

Drawing from her experience working with biopolymers and product end-of-life disposition plus 20 years in marketing, she has extensive background working with organics and compostable materials, and an earned reputation for driving product stewardship. She assists clients through the design and implementation of organics diversion programs and management technologies, including composting and anaerobic digestion systems.

In addition to her technical expertise, Ms. Darby also has 20 years of experience in marketing and has served as a strategic advisor in the public and private sectors. As part of Tetra Tech's solid waste solutions team, she is involved with solid waste master planning, permitting, and the operations of organics management systems. Ms. Darby received a M.S., Cleaner Production/Pollution Prevention from the University of Massachusetts Lowell and a B.S. from Emerson College in Boston, MA. Ms. Darby lives in Gloucester, MA and serves on the city's Clean Energy Commission (CEC).



Deborah Denfeld, P.E., CHMM, CET, WEDG
Senior Project Manager | Business Line Manager
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Ms. Denfeld is a Senior Project Manager in Fuss & O'Neill's Environmental and Facility Services Business Line. In this role she works directly with clients and oversees infrastructure improvement, pollution containment, recyclables management, and site development projects. She has practical experience with environmental assessment/remediation, environmental compliance, hazardous materials management, petroleum storage, stormwater handling, solid waste management, air compliance, and auditing. Ms. Denfeld has previously acted as a Construction Project Manager.

A particular strength and passion for Ms. Denfeld is her expertise conducting regulatory environmental training at open-enrollment events and at client sites. As a Certified Environmental Trainer (CET), she has prepared a UST Operator Training Manual and exams, approved by the CT DEEP and their subsequent use in on-going training classes and

certifications. Additionally, Ms. Denfeld regularly teaches courses in hazardous materials management, compliance, and worker spill response. Verified in WEDG (a Waterfront Alliance), she is interested in waterfront development improvements and resilience.

Ms. Denfeld holds several degrees: a BS in Forestry/Civil Engineer from Syracuse University; a BS in Environmental Policy from SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry; and a MS in Secondary Education from the University of Hartford. She is a registered Professional Engineer in Connecticut, a Certified Hazardous Materials Manager, and serves on the Connecticut Building Congress Board.



Brian C. Freeman, Senior Associate
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Brian Freeman focuses his practice on environmental compliance counseling, permitting, site remediation, and related litigation regarding federal and state regulatory programs. Areas of particular focus include air quality, site remediation and liability, and organics recycling. He has worked with a variety of clients, ranging from Fortune 100 conglomerates to individual entrepreneurs, and across a broad spectrum of industries.

Brian has worked with numerous composting and other organics management facilities in achieving permitting, compliance and transaction objectives. He also has served as legal counsel to the U.S. Composting Council (USCC), where he was instrumental in developing the certification programs underlying the "Seal of Testing Assurance" (STA) logo found on many compost products today, and the "Compostable" logo for plastic consumer products. Most recently he worked with other members of the USCC Legislative & Environmental Affairs Committee to develop a model zoning ordinance for composting facilities.

Brian has been listed in ***The Best Lawyers in America***© in the area of Environmental Law since 2006, and in the area of Litigation - Environmental since 2011. He was selected to the Connecticut ***Super Lawyers*** list from 2006 to 2010 and since 2013. Before joining the Robinson+Cole, he clerked for Judge Albert J. Engel, Jr. of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit.

SPEAKERS



Nora Goldstein, Editor
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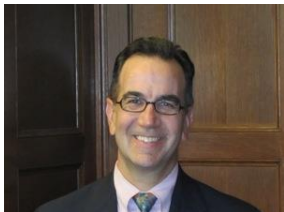
Nora Goldstein is Editor/Publisher of BioCycle CONNECT® and BioCycle.net, the Organics Recycling Authority. Nora has authored numerous articles on all facets of zero waste, food recovery and recycling, composting and anaerobic digestion, as well as organized many conferences on these topics. She received the US Composting Council's Hi Kellogg Award for Outstanding Service to the Composting Industry, and the American Biogas Council's Biogas Visionary Award.



Ron Alexander, President
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Ron Alexander is president of R. Alexander Associates, Inc. a company specializing in product and market development for organic recycled products. He is author of 'The Practical Guide to Compost Marketing and Sales' (2nd Edition published by BioCycle) and has over 35 years of experience in compost and organic recycled product marketing.

Mr. Alexander is a member of the US Composting Council's Seal of Testing Assurance (Program) Advisory Committee and is an Industry Liaison to AAPFCO (Association of American Plant Food Control Officials).



Robert C. Isner, Director
Waste Engineering and Enforcement Division
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Robert has been with the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's (DEEP) Waste Engineering and Enforcement Division for almost thirty years, and for the past twenty-one years as the solid waste and hazardous waste program manager. His current responsibilities as Division Director includes management of permitting, compliance assistance, and enforcement activities for the recycling, solid waste, hazardous waste, and pesticide programs. In addition to Robert's normal managerial work, Robert has spent several years as DEEP's Incident Commander including for COVID-19 response efforts providing direct coordination with Commissioner Katie Dykes and Connecticut's Emergency Operations Center.

Robert is on the Board of Directors for the Northeast Recycling Council, including three-times as President, and the Connecticut Chapter of the Air & Waste Management Association. Robert holds a Bachelor of Science from UConn and a Master of Science from Central Connecticut State University.



Chaz Miller, CEO
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Chaz Miller's career in waste and recycling spanned four decades with stints at the US EPA Office of Solid Waste and the agency original recycling programs, the Glass Packaging Institute and the National Waste and Recycling Association. He testified on waste and recycling issues at Congressional and state hearings and spoke at conferences throughout North America. He is a member of the Maryland Recycling Network Board and an ex officio member of the Board of the Northeast Recycling Council.

Although he is now retired from full time work, he consults and continues to write his "Circular File" column for Waste360 and to speak at waste and recycling conferences. He chaired the Montgomery County Aiming for Zero Waste Task Force as it advised the County on its 2020 Solid Waste plan update. Chaz is a recipient of the National Recycling Coalition's Lifetime Achievement Award. When he is not keeping up-to-date on recycling and waste, Chaz loves to swim, bike, and play with his grandkids. He is an avid fan of Maryland's lacrosse teams.



Patrick Serfass, Executive Director
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Patrick Serfass is Executive Director of the American Biogas Council. Patrick has led the American Biogas Council since he helped create it in 2010. The American Biogas Council is the voice of the US biogas industry representing over 285 organizations and has a network of more than 17,000 stakeholders in the biogas industry. All are dedicated to maximizing the amount of organic material that's recycled into biogas and soil products. Beyond biogas, Patrick has more than 20 years' experience growing clean energy industries, like solar, hydrogen, biochar, and woody biomass, through the company that manages the ABC, Technology Transition Corporation. In Patrick's early career, he was a physical oceanographer, architectural engineer and designed unmanned deep ocean vehicles. Patrick holds a Bachelor of Arts in Engineering Sciences from Dartmouth College.