
Speaker Biographies

Ron Alexander, R Alexander Associates Inc.

Mr. Alexander is the President of R. Alexander Associates, Inc., a consulting company specializing in product development for organic recycled products. He has almost 35 years experience working with compost and organic recycled products. Early in his career, Mr. Alexander was the Vice President of Marketing for one of the first compost brokerage firms. Since becoming a consultant he has authored the *Field Guide to Compost Use*, *AASHTO Specifications for Compost Use in Erosion Control*, and *Landscape Architecture Specifications for Compost Utilization*. Mr. Alexander was also the co-manager of the US Composting Council's Seal of Testing Assurance Program (national compost testing program), and is the author of many state and national compost application specifications.

David Allaway, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality

David Allaway has worked at the intersection of waste, materials, and environment for thirty years, first in the private sector and since 2000, as a senior policy analyst at the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). David recently served as an Advisor to Paul Hawken's Project Drawdown and the *New York Times* bestseller *Drawdown: The Most Comprehensive Plan Ever Proposed to Reverse Global Warming*. David has a B.A. in physics from Carleton College, Minnesota.

Angel Arroyo-Rodríguez, Ohio EPA

Angel Arroyo-Rodríguez is an environmental planner and biologist specializing in solid waste planning and policies for sustainable management of organic wastes. He currently works in the Division of Materials and Waste Management of Ohio EPA as program leader for the composting and infectious waste programs. He is also a PhD candidate in City and Regional Planning at The Ohio State University specializing in sustainable management of food wastes and recycling behaviors.

Dan Avery, Oregon Department of Energy

Dan Avery is a senior renewable energy policy analyst with Oregon Department of Energy who works with public and private interests to help advance renewable energy opportunities and their supporting policy. Dan believes that sustainability, in the social, economic and environmental sense, is the guiding influence for planning and decision making. Renewable, clean and affordable energy opportunities are a major foundation piece for a sustainable world. Dan has worked on energy and natural resource issues in the Pacific Northwest for over 25 years and has worked in federal, state and private industry. He has worked in regulatory, conservation and public planning arenas. Dan holds a MBA in Sustainable Business and Renewable Energy from Marylhurst University and a BS in Marine Biology from Texas A&M.

Kate Bailey, Eco-Cycle

Kate Bailey is the Policy and Research Director for Eco-Cycle, based in Boulder, Colorado. Eco-Cycle is one of the largest recycling nonprofits in the world and has more than 40 years of hands-on experience in creating community infrastructure, policies and programs to reduce waste and increase recycling. Kate works directly with local citizens and governments to implement Zero Waste solutions at the local level as a critical solution to reduce climate pollution.

Dave Baran, quasar energy group

Dave Baran joined quasar in 2014 and has played an active role in developing numerous facilities in new geographies. He is a core member of quasar's project development team and directs business development, due diligence on new ventures and preconstruction project management. Baran comes from a background in management consulting where he conducted projects and advised clients in renewable energy, environmental services and industrial manufacturing. He also has international experience, having worked in Nairobi, Kenya with a sanitation, composting and waste to energy social enterprise. Baran holds a Bachelor of Science

from Georgetown University and attended the Universidad de Buenos Aires in Argentina.

Carrie Baxter, R3 Consulting Group

Carrie has a Bachelor of Science in Organization, Management, and Leadership from the University of San Francisco. As Project Manager with R3 Consulting Group, she has over 10 years of experience in a range of solid waste operational, planning, and financial projects. She specializes in assisting jurisdictions to negotiate and improve waste hauler collection contracts that incorporate best practices and legislative requirements. Carrie has also created disaster debris management plans for various California cities; provided financial analysis services such as modeling rates and diversion incentive methods; and evaluated billing and reporting systems.

Ned Beecher, North East Biosolids & Residuals Assoc.

Ned Beecher is Executive Director of NEBRA, which advances best practices and sustainability in biosolids and residuals recycling. Ned has led projects and authored articles, papers, and book chapters on residuals management around North America. Since early 2017, he has led efforts in the biosolids profession to understand PFAS related to biosolids and other residuals. He has an MS in Resource Management from Antioch University and a BA in Geology from Amherst College. He lives, composts, and gardens (using biosolids) in Tamworth, NH.

Tim Bielenberg, Oak Lea Dairy

Tim is the owner/operator of Oak Lea Dairy in Aumsville, Oregon. Oak Lea Dairy has a methane digester that is used to produce power from the dairy manure.

Tracie Bills, SCS Engineers

Tracie Bills has over 23 years of materials management experience, including working for a hauler, a county government, and a nonprofit; she also has over 12 years with materials management consulting firms. She has provided commercial sector materials flow assessments, organics processing research and analysis, waste characterization studies, and recycling, organics and waste management technical assistance to government agencies, schools, multi-family dwellings and businesses. Tracie has an environmental science degree from San Jose State.

Elaine Blatt, Oregon Dept of Environmental Quality

Elaine Blatt is a Senior Policy and Program Analyst at Oregon Department of Environmental Quality. Her primary focus is on sustainable consumption and production of materials. She led development of DEQ's Strategy for Preventing the Wasting of Food and manages DEQ's current messaging research. Prior to joining DEQ, Elaine worked on projects related to sustainable production/consumption, energy efficiency, and supply chain management. She has a MA in Public Policy (University of Chicago) and a BA in Political Science (Carleton College).

Joerg Blischke, Black & Veatch

Joerg Blischke is a Senior Process Engineer within Black & Veatch's water business, with over 25 years of experience. His expertise includes engineering services for wastewater and organics management, encompassing anaerobic digestion, composting, biogas utilization and air quality compliance. He was involved in the design and construction of some of the largest organic waste digestion facilities in North America. Joerg is currently working on optimizing the synergies between organic waste management and wastewater treatment.

Jean Bonhotal, Cornell University

Jean Bonhotal works on composting feedstock from food to manure to animal carcasses. Currently her time includes work on food scrap, manure and carcass & butcher waste composting education and research.

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Characterizing waste streams is important to be able to separate and determine value-added purposes for different residuals. Compost quality and consistency in the market place is also a high priority, as well as encouraging use to build healthy soils and redistribute nutrients. Previous experience includes working with different agencies including US Forest and National Park Service, US EPA, NYS DEC and the landscape and greenhouse industry. She received an M.S. degree in Education and Communication from SUNY Binghamton in 1991, a B.S. in Biology from Utah State University in 1984 and an A.A.S. in Natural Resources from SUNY Morrisville.

Embrey Bronstad, Washington State University

Embrey Bronstad is Clinical Faculty and Research Associate at Washington State University. Her research and extension efforts focus on anaerobic digestion optimization, integrating biorefinery concepts into organics management programs, and waste to energy projects. She has also developed protocols for third-party evaluation of nutrient removal technologies for dairies in Washington State.

Sally Brown, University of Washington

Sally Brown is a Research Associate Professor in the School of Environmental and Forest Sciences at the University of Washington, as well as a member of *BioCycle's* Editorial Advisory Board and author of *BioCycle's* popular column, Connections. She focuses on identifying resources in wastes, and has worked on studies involving soil health, climate change mitigation, biosolids recycling and wastewater treatment. At the root of her work, Sally believes that soil amendments, in the form of residuals from different industries (composts, for example), offer the potential to help us to live in a more sustainable manner. Sally's goal is to turn cities green by making the use and reuse of wastes part of our daily vocabulary.

Margaret Burke, University Beyond Bars

Margaret Burke manages educational programming inside the Washington State Reformatory for University Beyond Bars. UBB empowers prisoners to fulfill their potential through communities of higher learning. Margaret works closely with incarcerated community leaders & learners at the intersection of sustainability projects and educational programming. She has a background in natural resources education and a MS in Ecological Teaching and Learning.

Kelli Bush, Sustainability in Prisons Project (SPP)

Kelli Bush is Co-Director of the Sustainability in Prisons Project (SPP), a partnership founded by The Evergreen State College and Washington Department of Corrections. For nearly ten years, she has been advancing SPP's mission to bring science, nature, and environmental education into prisons through various sustainability and ecological conservation programs. Kelli has over 15 years of nursery and restoration ecology experience and a B.A. in Agriculture Ecology from The Evergreen State College.

Peter Canepa, Oregon DEQ

Peter joined the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality in January 2017, providing Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) expertise to Oregon's Materials Management program. Peter's primary role is to conduct and support projects that advance Oregon towards achieving its 2050 vision, through the application of LCA. Prior to this role, Peter spent 8 years with Thinkstep, a consultancy specializing in life cycle assessment. Peter holds a Master's degree in Environmental Science and Management and a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies.

Tom Card, Environmental Management Consultant

Mr. Card is internationally recognized for the assessment and control of odors, air toxics, and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) from waste

treatment and industrial facilities. He has written nine books on air emissions and participated in over 150 air quality projects over the last 30 years. He has been the Chairman of the Air Quality Technical Committee of the American Society of Civil Engineers and the Program Committee for the Water Environment Federation for the Odor and Air Emissions Technical Sessions.

Carla Castagnero, AgRecycle, Inc.

Carla Castagnero is President of AgRecycle, Inc., a composting operation, headquartered in western Pennsylvania. She is an attorney with a background in environmental, safety and business law. AgRecycle operations are the largest source separated composting enterprise within Pennsylvania. Its products penetrate diverse market sectors from remediating abandoned steel mill sites to customizing fairway blends for golf courses. AgRecycle has been actively composting food residuals since 1998 and is in its tenth year of composting for the Pittsburgh Pirates and their home, PNC Park. Ms. Castagnero is on BioCycle's Editorial Board. Education: BA, Columbia University; JD Duquesne University.

Paolo Carollo, ENTSORGA GROUP

Paolo has 20 years of experience in deploying innovative and sustainable industrial ecosystems around the world. He has been operating in various markets including Advanced Bio-fuels - Bio based Chemicals, Waste-Recycling and Renewable Energy. He started the development of Entsorga's first high efficiency Mechanical Biological Treatment plant in U.S. and he is presently heading the roll out of Entsorga's business in North America. Before joining Entsorga, Paolo led the project development activities for Mossi & Ghisolfi bio business in US, overseeing business development and licensing activities in North America for Betarenewables USA Inc., A JV between Mossi & Ghisolfi, private investment fund TPG and Novozymes.

Katie Chapman, Jacobs

Katie is a Civil Engineer with over 7 years' experience with planning, managing the development, construction and operations of several of award-winning public and private projects for transformative advanced waste treatment and renewable energy. She is a project manager at Jacobs where she works in their Integrated Solid Waste Group.

Craig Coker, Coker Composting & Consulting/BioCycle

Craig is CEO at Coker Composting & Consulting in Roanoke, Virginia and Senior Editor of *BioCycle*. He has over 40 years experience in composting and organics recycling and has developed 19 facilities in 12 states since 2005. He has an undergraduate degree in Environmental Science from the Univ. of Virginia and a Master's Degree in Environmental Engineering from George Washington University.

Matt Cotton, Integrated Waste Management Consulting, LLC

Matthew Cotton has worked in organics and solid waste management since 1986. He has served as a consultant, educator, researcher, and advocate for new and expanded organics recycling and composting programs in California and beyond. Mr. Cotton has completed hundreds of significant organics projects, including permitting and assisting in the development of some of the major composting facilities in California. Mr. Cotton served on the Board of Directors of the US Composting Council for almost two decades, including as three terms as president. He currently serves on the Board of Californians Against Waste. He has published research on compost odors, compost use, climate impacts, compostable plastics, and compost facility infrastructure. Mr. Cotton is a lead instructor for the week-long Compost Operator Training Program operated by the Composting Council's Research and Education Foundation.

Goksel Demirer, Central Michigan University

Dr. Göksel N. Demirer received his Bachelor and Master of Science degrees from the Department of Environmental Engineering at Middle East Technical University (METU), Ankara, Turkey, and his Ph.D. degree from

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the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN. He worked at METU as a faculty member between 1997-2018 before he joined CMU. His areas of interest include anaerobic environmental biotechnology, wastewater engineering, waste valorization, resource efficiency, sustainability, pollution prevention, industrial ecology.

Ted Dirkx, Vermeer Corporation

After studying composting and graduating with a degree in Environmental Studies from Central College, he joined equipment manufacturer Vermeer Corporation in Pella, Iowa. Traveling about 25 weeks a year, he has been roaming North America and beyond helping organizations setup compost facilities, manufacture mulch, clear land, and produce biofuels. He has presented at the Compost Council of Canada Conference, Canadian Wood Waste Recycling Association, and USCC Conference on topics related to operational efficiency and maintenance.

Jennifer Erickson, Metro Portland

Jennifer Erickson is a Principal Planner in Metro's Resource Conservation & Recycling Division. She began her career at Metro in 1990. Among other waste reduction planning and coordination tasks, her work is primarily focused on helping to build a sustainable food system in the Portland region including waste prevention, food donation and developing the policies and infrastructure required to collect and process what's left. Ms. Erickson also provides planning, coordination and technical assistance for regional waste reduction and recycling program implementation. In her spare time you'll find her puttering in her garden, foraging wild foods with her husband, and cooking up a storm. Education: BA, History and English, University of Oregon; Masters, Public Administration and Natural Resource Policy, Portland State University.

Nathan Fleming, Dirt Hugger

Nathan serves as the "Central Nervous System" with the Columbia River Gorge composter, Dirt Hugger, where he has worked for over 3 years. He specializes in product design, business development, and data analysis. He holds a Bachelor's of Science degree in Natural Resource Mgt- Land Use Planning from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point and completed his Compost Facility Operator Training with the Washington Organics Recycling Council in 2017.

Ned Foley, Two Particular Acres

After leaving a full time law practice to pursue his composting passion Ned Foley conceived and created an agricultural composting enterprise on his Pennsylvania farm, Two Particular Acres, and a commercial composting partnership, American BioSoils & Compost (ABC). These two vertically integrated companies collect and process 2,000,000 pounds/month of food residuals at multiple locations located throughout eastern Pennsylvania. ABC produces in excess of 50,000 cubic yards of compost and engineered soils for storm water controls; Two Particular Acres utilizes compost exclusively for fertility to raise a variety of crops including malting barley, popcorn and specialty heirloom potatoes. Ned is a frequent lecturer and writer on composting and agriculture and the intersection of the two.

Thomas Gratz, Hitachi Zosen Inova USA, LLC

Thomas Gratz is Sales Manager for Hitachi Zosen Inova USA, LLC and responsible for all sales activities of Hitachi's KOMPOGAS anaerobic digestion, BIOMETHAN biogas upgrading and P2G Power to Gas technologies. Mr. Gratz brings over 27 years of experience in sales and sales management, providing solutions to end users in both the public as well as the private sectors. His experience includes all aspects of sales and sales management for capital equipment and specialty technology products. He successfully managed the start-up of several European Sales Organizations in the U.S. and has a proven track record of implementing advanced new technologies in the US. Education: BS in Mechanical Engineering, Federal technical College of Moedling, Austria.

Louise Hansen, Trade Council of Denmark /Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Louise Hansen is a Commercial Advisor at the Danish Trade Council in North America. As part of the Waste, Recycling and Biogas Team, Louise advises Danish companies on market entry strategy and identifies strategic partners and potential buyers in the U.S. Biogas Market. For the past year, Louise has worked dedicatedly with a 'Danish Biogas Alliance', a one-stop-shop of solutions that are critical in a biogas project. Louise holds a Master of Science in International Business and Politics from Copenhagen Business School.

Chuck Henry, Critical Practices LLC

International consultant with over 35 years experience in environment assessment and sustainability. Dr. Henry has been involved in research, development, and education of innovative environmental solutions to the numerous challenges facing marginalized communities. He has authored/co-authored over 75 articles, edited 10 books/proceedings, and published 2 books. He has extensive expertise in sanitation, water systems, renewable energy, composting, and solid waste management, including development and commercialization of a urine-diverting dry (composting) toilet.

Jack Hoeck, Rexius Forest By-Products, Inc.

Jack Hoeck has been with the Rexius Company for 40 years, most of that time overseeing the company's soil and mulch production, composting operations as well as the bagging facility. Jack has worked with the City of Eugene to create the "Love Food Not Waste" program that provides opportunities to compost food waste from commercial businesses in the City of Eugene. He is currently working with the City of Eugene Residential Food Waste Pilot Program. He is a member of the US Composting Council and has served on the Board of Directors, and on the Executive Committee. Jack also serves on the Board of the Washington Organics Recycling Council. Jack currently serves as a commissioner for the USCC Certification Commission and is a Certified Compost Operations Manager.

Darby Hoover, Natural Resources Defense Council

Darby Hoover is a Senior Resource Specialist at the Natural Resources Defense Council. She specializes in issues related to wasted food prevention, composting, anaerobic digestion, zero waste, recycling, and sustainable packaging. Her publications include NRDC's "Estimating the Quantities and Types of Food Waste at the City Level" and *Guide to Composting at Sports Venues*. Darby received her bachelor's degree from Stanford University, and her master's in Energy and Resources from U.C. Berkeley.

Nick Isbister, City of Gresham Recycling

Nick Isbister is a Sustainability Specialist at the City of Gresham where his main role is to increase participation from businesses and schools in the Portland Metro area's organics recycling program. He's had many jobs in the industry around the Portland area and has found that keeping straws, gloves and ramekins out of the compost bins at his participating businesses to be his biggest challenge yet.

Donovan James, Oregon Food Bank

Donovan James has over nine years of experience as a financial analyst and accountant, including expertise in the areas of inventory management, gross margin analysis, budgeting, forecasting, and fixed asset management. He's currently employed at the Oregon Food Bank, focusing on finding more efficient ways to help those in need.

Jim Jensen, WA State Univ. Energy Prog.

Jim Jensen has broad technical knowledge and experience about resource management, clean energy, and climate change. Consulting for governments, he launched cost-effective, climate-friendly programs for waste prevention, reuse, recycling, and composting programs. In the private sector, Jim built a successful organic soil products business advancing

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innovative methods to convert waste residuals, followed by an executive role with a national company developing carbon credit markets. Now at the Washington State University Energy Program, Jim provides research, analysis, technical assistance, and policy support for bioenergy and alternative fuels to state and local government agencies, tribes, and NGOs.

Thomas Young Hwan Westring Jensen, Danish Energy Agency

Thomas Jensen is working at the Danish Energy Agency as a special advisor. His function is to develop regulatory framework conditions that ensure a cost-efficient transition of the gas system. Thomas holds an MSc in Technological Socio-Economic Planning from Roskilde University, specialized in the integration of renewable energy in developing countries. Before joining the Danish Energy Agency, Thomas has held positions at the Danish Gas Transmission Operator, solid waste management and environmental NGOs.

Alan Johnson, quasar energy group

Alan Johnson joined quasar in 2009 and has been instrumental in the development, management and engineering of all 19 digester projects throughout his tenure. He has more than 40 years of experience in manufacturing and business start-ups. He is a registered engineer in 13 states and holds an M.B.A. from Lake Erie College and a Bachelor in Industrial Engineering from the Fenn College of Engineering of Cleveland State University.

Stephen Jones, The Bread Lab

Stephen Jones is a wheat breeder and the Director of the The Bread Lab. Stephen has a PhD in Genetics from the University of California at Davis and teaches graduate courses in advanced classical genetics and in the history and ethics of genetics. He holds the Clif Bar and King Arthur Flour Endowed Chair in Organic Grain Breeding and Innovation. Together with his graduate students and staff he breeds wheat and other grains for local uses to be grown on small farms in the coastal West, the upper Northeast and other under-served regions of the country. The Bread Lab is a baking laboratory where scientists, bakers, chefs, farmers, maltsters, brewers, distillers and millers experiment with improved flavor, nutrition and functionality of regional and obscure non-commodity wheats, other small grains and beans.

Michael Keleman, InSinkErator

Mr. Keleman currently serves as Manager of Environmental Engineering for InSinkErator, the world's leading manufacturer of food waste disposers. He is a 20-year wastewater treatment professional with a Bachelor of Science from Purdue University in Environmental Health Science and a Master of Science in Environmental Engineering from the Milwaukee School of Engineering. He is also a certified water and wastewater treatment operator, as well as a Registered Environmental Health Specialist.

Greg Kester, CA Assn of Sanitation Agencies

Greg is the Director of Renewable Resource Programs for the California Association of Sanitation Agencies (CASA). He serves as both the technical and programmatic contact for CASA members and conduit for emerging issues on the state and federal levels on all biosolids, renewable energy, recycled water, and related issues. He works closely with local, state and federal authorities as well as the private sector on biosolids management, climate change mitigation, energy optimization, and all management options. Greg is the lead conduit of information for emerging technologies and markets for biosolids management and renewable energy opportunities. Prior to joining CASA, Greg served as the state biosolids coordinator for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. He represented all states in the nation, by their election, to USEPA on all biosolids issues. He served on the National Academy of Sciences Committee which evaluated federal biosolids regulations and produced the 2002 report: Biosolids Applied to Land: Advancing Standards and Practices. Education: BS Civil and Environmental Engineering – University of Wisconsin; Registered Professional Engineer (WI).

Jennifer King, Los Angeles County Public Works

Jennifer King is a program manager with Los Angeles County Public Works. She has been involved in the development of Los Angeles County's Food Donation and Recovery Outreach Program (Food DROP) and is also overseeing the Multi-Family Recycling Project. Recently, she has been working closely with her team visiting 150 large food generators operating in Los Angeles County, conducting outreach on AB 1826 and SB 1383 and assisting in connecting with food recovery agencies. Jennifer has a master's degree in Environmental Science and is happy to be able to relate her educational background with her interests at work.

Keith Lampi, Fluid Technology Solutions, Inc.

As President of Fluid Technology Solutions, Keith Lampi is responsible for all operations for industrial waste water systems and personal hydration solutions including research, development, membrane manufacturing, business strategies and communications. He has over 25 years in the industry and was an early pioneer in forward osmosis technology. Keith is the co-author and co-applicant of papers and patents focusing on forward osmosis. He has presented at AMTA (American Membrane Technology Association), NAMS (North America Membrane Society), AWWA (American Water Association), IDA (International Desalination Association), and other conferences. He holds a B.A. in Chemistry from Linfield College and M.S. in Environmental and Natural Resource Economics from Oregon State University.

Rooney Kim Lazcano, Purdue University

Rooney Kim Lazcano is a doctoral candidate in Ecological Sciences and Engineering Interdisciplinary Program and Department of Agronomy at Purdue University. Her research addresses the beneficial use of waste residuals and associated environmental assessment, which includes leachability and uptake of contaminants of concern. Specifically, her research has focused on the environmental fate of trace organic contaminants including per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and pharmaceutical and personal care products in waste-derived fertilizers. She received a B.S. in Environmental Toxicology from University of California-Davis in Davis, CA, and a M.S. from Bioengineering from University of Hawaii-Manoa in Honolulu, HI.

Robert Lems, DMT Clear Gas Solutions

Robert Lems, CEO of DMT Clear Gas Solutions, is an expert in the field of biogas upgrading, gas desulfurization, and waste water treatment. His previous experience as R&D manager highlights his irrepressible passion for pioneering and market development, particularly for technologies that stimulate the circular economy. Lems believes in a clear and prosperous future and has made it his company's mission. Since 2015, he has helped DMT establish a local office in Portland and 15 projects in North America.

Cindy Liles, Clements Environmental

Cindy Liles has been working with Clements Environmental for the past five years managing all aspects of solid waste and recycling facility design, permitting, and environmental compliance. She has successfully acquired site-specific operational and environmental permits for transfer stations, MRFs, composting operations, anaerobic digesters, and renewable energy facilities. In addition, she specializes in on-going industrial water management practices, compliance, and litigation. Ms. Liles has consulted for over 75 projects on their permitting and compliance needs.

Lorenzo Macaluso, Center for EcoTechnology

Lorenzo Macaluso is a national expert on business waste reduction systems. He works with government, foundation, and industry partners to develop award-winning waste diversion solutions to reduce waste, save energy, and improve environmental performance. He serves on the MassDEP Organics Subcommittee and presents at numerous conferences as a waste reduction infrastructure development expert. Lorenzo has a M.P.H. with an Environmental Health focus, and a B.S. in Natural Resource Management; both degrees are from UMass Amherst.

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Wym Matthews, OR Dept of Agriculture

Wym Matthews, ODA Fertilizer Program Manager since 2012, (7 years). ODA CAFO Permit Program Inspector / Manager since 2002, (17 years). BS in Plant and Soil Science, Graduate studies in plant genetics from Southern Illinois University. American Society of Agronomy, Certified Crop Advisor #29830.

Christa McDermott, Portland State University

Christa McDermott, Ph.D., directs Community Environmental Services (CES). CES is a research and service program at Portland State University that employs students to work in the community on waste reduction projects. McDermott, a social psychologist, has also served as an APA Congressional Fellow and AAAS Science and Technology Policy Fellow in federal government on topics ranging from climate change policy to toxics to improving uptake of energy efficiency initiatives. Recently, she was the Principal Investigator of the Oregon Wasted Food Study for the Oregon DEQ.

David McDonald, Seattle Public Utilities

David McDonald is a biologist and environmental scientist with Seattle Public Utilities, focusing on soil science and environmentally friendly landscape design and development practices. He works with the public and professionals on best practices. He leads the Washington Organic Recycling Council, a Soils for Salmon initiative, which is transforming development practices around the Northwest, and serves on the technical core committees of the national Sustainable Sites Initiative, and Washington's ecoPRO Sustainable Landscape Professional Certification program.

James J. Meehan, Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority

James joined the RVSA in November 2010. When Jim joined the Authority, he brought with him more than 30 years of combined experience in the public and private sectors of the water and wastewater treatment industry. He started as a Utility Worker in 1980 and progressively worked his way through the ranks from Operator, Supervisor, Project Manager, and Senior Project Manager to Executive Director. Jim holds S4, C4, N4 and T2 Licenses.

Julie Miller, Oregon DEQ

Julie Miller is the communications specialist for the Materials Management program at the Department of Environmental Quality. She worked on DEQ's waste reduction campaigns "Wasted Food Wasted Money and Make Every Thread Count," and supports outreach efforts around prevention and recovery. She previously served as Communications Director at Ronald McDonald House Charities of Oregon and Southwest Washington. She has a degree in journalism from Northwestern University and a master's in public affairs from Indiana University.

Ben Morelli, Eastern Research Group, Inc.

Ben Morelli is a life cycle analyst at Eastern Research Group (ERG) in Lexington MA. Ben has supported life cycle assessment (LCA) work of wastewater treatment systems for U.S. EPA's Office of Research and Development since joining ERG in 2015. His work has focused on environmental benefits and burdens of resource recovery methods including anaerobic digestion, composting and non-potable reuse. He has also supported U.S. EPA's work to advance eutrophication life cycle impact assessment methods.

Laura Moreno, UC Berkeley

Laura Moreno is a PhD Candidate at the University of California at Berkeley. Laura studies wasted food in households with a focus on behavior and prevention. Additionally, Laura works on food waste measurement, including prior consulting with the NRDC for their city-level food waste assessment initiatives. Prior to graduate school, Laura was an environmental scientist at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Pacific Southwest Region, working primarily on wasted food and other organic wastes.

Peter Moulton, WA Dept of Commerce

Peter Moulton is a Senior Energy Policy Specialist for the State Energy Office at the Washington Department of Commerce. He coordinates interagency support for bioenergy through public policy, research and incentive programs, and recently co-authored a report on "Promoting Renewable Natural Gas in Washington State." Peter is currently leading a multi-state conversation on quality standards for pipeline injection of RNG. His diverse background includes careers in watershed management, environmental education, nonprofit management, and media production.

Al Mowbray, Metro Data Resource Center

After completing a degree in Fine Arts from Iowa State University, Al ran away to the Peace Corps for two years where he met his wife and began his professional journey toward science and conservation. After settling in Oregon in 2004, he spent some time doing science education and environmental restoration before getting a M.S. in Geology at PSU, which included surface elevation modeling of hot springs in eastern Oregon. While hot spring research was a great excuse to explore Eastern Oregon, the mapping skills landed him his current job at Metro. When Al started at Metro in 2015, he did basic map analysis and visualization for many of Metro's various departments, including Parks, Solid Waste, and the Zoo. His current projects include development of reporting measures for monitoring a commercial food waste-reduction program, and a Land Development Monitoring System for measuring regional growth.

Julie Muir, PSSI/Stanford Recycling

Julie Muir works for Peninsula Sanitary Service/Stanford Recycling and has managed Stanford University's Waste Reduction, Recycling, and Composting Program for the last 25 years. She leads Stanford University toward a zero waste campus through a rigorous and comprehensive program of waste reduction, reuse, recycling, and composting. She enjoys most working with students and the campus community on waste reduction and educating on the connection between materials management, the economy, and climate change. Julie Muir is Past-President and current Senior Advisor to the California Resource Recovery Association and Chair of the Zero Waste Campus Council.

Monaliza Noor, HF&H Consultants LLC

Monaliza Noor is an Associate at HF&H Consultants where she assists local governments with SB 1383 jurisdictional compliance, performance reviews, contract analysis, and zero waste planning. Monaliza has conducted in-depth research of food recovery program options through recent work with a regional agency in Northern California. She holds a Master of Science degree in Environmental Management from the University of San Francisco, and Bachelor degrees in Politics and Sociology from UC Santa Cruz.

Tim Olson, California Energy Commission

Tim Olson is a senior policy advisor on transportation fuels and technology and has held several management and policy positions at the California Energy Commission, including policy advisor to Commissioners. He currently leads strategic planning to help guide annual deployment of \$100 million in Energy Commission incentive funds to develop and expand low carbon fuel production plants, spur zero emission and near zero emission/low NOx vehicle growth, and install vehicle charging and fueling infrastructure. Mr. Olson also represents the Energy Commission as a liaison with other agencies and member of several advisory committees, including the South Coast Air Quality Management District's Clean Fuels Advisory Group, The California Air Resources Board's SB 1383 Dairy Methane Workgroups and Low Carbon Fuel Standard Technical Advisory Committee. Mr. Olson received a bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies/Biology from UC Santa Barbara.

Katie Pearmine, Oregon Food Bank

Growing up on a farm in the North Willamette Valley of Oregon, Katie has worked in agriculture since childhood. As the Strategic Sourcing Manager for Oregon Food Bank, Katie leads a team that works across the food system procuring food for people experiencing hunger in Oregon and Clark

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County Washington. Katie's previous work includes: ecology and outdoor education in rural Oregon, ten years in publishing and marketing, and five years with Oregon Department of Agriculture. Katie spends her free time on food access and land use issues, by chairing Oregon State University, Food Innovation Center's advisory board, and acting a Commissioner for Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development.

Joshua Peppers, CA Air Resources Board

Josh Peppers grew up working on various grain and animal farms in Iowa. His interest in agricultural machinery led him to earn a B.S. in agricultural engineering from Iowa State University in 2006. After working in the ethanol industry for a few years, his curiosity for advanced energy sources led him to pursue an M.S. in biosystems engineering at the University of California, Davis in 2013. In addition, he has worked in other industries including utilities, food, technology development, and biogas. He currently works with the California Air Resources Board in Sacramento, CA on enacting local air pollution reductions.

Kaitlin Phelps, Action Research

As a behavioral scientist, Kaitlin focuses on creating sustainable communities through effective programming that fosters voluntary behavior change. She enjoys helping organizations understand and overcome the challenges their audience faces to action. Over the past 7 years, she has applied this expertise in a multitude of environmental and sustainability topics, including recycling, composting, water conservation, forest conservation, and energy. Her work has been published in the *Journal of Applied Environmental Education & Communication*, the Washington State Recycling Association newsletter, the International Association of Fairs & Expos magazine, *BioCycle* and *Resource Recycling*. She has an M.S. in Behavior, Education, and Communication, University of Michigan, School of Natural Resources & Environment.

Brad Pleima, EcoEngineers

Brad Pleima is a Senior Engineer and biogas line of business manager at EcoEngineers. Brad has extensive experience working in the water, wastewater, and industrial markets delivering traditional consulting and design services including anaerobic digestion and biogas upgrading. Brad has also developed a deep understanding of the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) and Low Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS) regulations and is uniquely qualified to help clients navigate the biogas to renewable natural gas opportunity. Brad is a licensed professional engineer in Iowa, Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, South Dakota, North Dakota, New York, Oregon, Oklahoma, Washington, and West Virginia. Brad is a graduate of Iowa State University with a degree in civil engineering.

Joshua Rapport, CleanWorld

As VP of R&D for CleanWorld, Josh directed the company's efforts since completing his PhD in Biological and Agricultural Engineering at UC Davis in 2011. He helped launch three commercial food-waste digesters that integrated novel pre-processing, digestion, biogas processing, and effluent treatment systems. He modeled and designed key components, developed an efficient control and data monitoring system, and invented a novel digestate-to-fertilizer production system currently undergoing commercialization. CleanWorld continues to provide digester technologies throughout California.

Poul Ejner Rasmussen, RENEW ENERGY A/S

Poul Rasmussen is the founder and CEO of Renew Energy, formerly BioScan. Poul has more than 35 years of experience in AD working with a number of U.S. partners in Denmark and abroad, including Fair Oaks Farms in Indiana. Poul is a member of ReCon Associates, an advisory group with senior executives, managers and researchers with significant experience in the energy industry.

Rhys Roth, Center for Sustainable Infrastructure

Rhys Roth is Executive Director of the non-profit Center for Sustainable Infrastructure (CSI), which brings innovation, new tools and sustainability excellence to infrastructure planning and investment in the Pacific Northwest. Working with a wide array of partner organizations, CSI builds alignment around a shared vision and roadmap for world-class infrastructure systems in the region, helps bipartisan policymakers develop smart public policy approaches, and assists distressed communities to uncover innovative infrastructure solutions. Prior to founding CSI, Rhys co-founded and helped lead for over 15 years the non-profit group Climate Solutions.

Rick Sapir, Hawkins Delafield & Wood LLP

Rick Sapir is a Partner at the New York-based law firm of Hawkins Delafield & Wood LLP, one of the leading law firms in the US in complex municipal procurements and in public finance. He has devoted his career to the representation of local and state governments in the procurement, financing and development of projects involving design-build, design-build-operate, P3 and asset management contracts. As lead procurement counsel, he has worked on more than 100 P3 and alternative delivery projects in the water, energy, solid waste, transportation and social infrastructure sectors.

Chuck Schmidt, Environmental Consultant

Chuck has been working in the field of area source assessment since 1980. His background is analytical chemistry and most of his professional career has been developing and using direct measurement technologies for assessing air emissions, in particular the USEPA flux chamber technology he developed while at Radian Corporation. He has numerous articles on assessing air emissions from various compost technologies as well as other area sources (e.g., landfills, WWT facilities, dairies, lagoons, hazardous waste sites, groundwater impacted parcels and buildings, vapor intrusion, etc.) and has conducted many compost site air emission assessments for clients.

Donna Serrati, Region of Waterloo

Donna Serrati is currently the Manager of Engineering for the Waste Management Division at the Region of Waterloo, with over 20 years of experience in environmental engineering. Donna oversees the Waste Management Division's capital programs, including long term planning, responsibility for design and construction of engineered landfill and environmental control systems, and monitoring and compliance activities for division's active facilities and decommissioned sites. Donna managed the recently completed Waste Management Master Plan and Energy from Waste Feasibility Study for the Region. Ms. Serrati completed an Honours B. Sc. (Eng) in Water Resources Engineering at the University of Guelph.

Peter Severtson, Washington Department of Ecology

Employed with Washington Department of Ecology; Certified Professional Soil Scientist with SSSA; MS Soils from University of Washington.

Ron Skinner, Skinner AgSolutions Inc.

Ron is President of Skinner AgSolutions, Inc in Peoria, Illinois. Skinner AgSolutions is a distributor of Xylem (Flygt Brand) products for the AG/Biogas market in the US. Ron is a member of the American Biogas Council. A graduate of Illinois State University with a degree in Vo-AG, he began his career as a Vo-AG teacher and managed an FS Co-op system for 10 years.

Sanne Stienstra, Oregon Dept. of Environmental Quality

Sanne Stienstra is a material recovery specialist with Oregon DEQ's Materials Management Program where she works on a range of projects, including multitenant recycling and food waste prevention. She enjoys working in sustainable materials management because of the potential to transform how society thinks about our use of natural resources and what it means to "live well." Prior to joining DEQ in November 2018, Sanne was the green business coordinator for Washington County Solid Waste & Recycling for 3+ years. She got her start in sustainable materials management first as a volunteer and later as a staff member at SCRAP PDX, a

Speaker Biographies

creative reuse organization. Sanne holds a master of public administration from the University of Washington and when she's not at work, she volunteers as the board chair of the Bus Project, a nonprofit organization that increases youth access to democracy.

Holly Stirnkorb, Metro

Holly has two decades of experience working with the public and private sectors on a wide range of materials management issues. As a Senior Solid Waste Planner at Metro, the regional government in the Portland metropolitan area, she is responsible for leading projects, implementing policies and collaborating with others to advance efforts to reduce food waste. Her work includes collaborative partnerships with the Oregon Restaurant & Lodging Association and Oregon Food Bank to connect food service businesses professionals to resources and technical assistance as well as the development of the Food Waste Stops With Me campaign. Holly has a degree in Industrial Engineering from Oregon State University.

Shaunna Sutcliffe, City of Gresham (OR)

Shaunna Sutcliffe has worked in the sustainability industry since 2002, with experience in many different fields, originally starting with Campus Sustainability at Oregon State University. She has worked with business, schools, nonprofits and focuses now on residential and multifamily education and events. Her passion is teaching about repair, food waste prevention and alternative waste prevention methods, and helping people connect that that saving money is also sustainability. She also loves health and has been instructing yoga since 2009, and became a Certified Holistic Yoga Therapist in 2017.

Jennifer Tabanico, Action Research

Jennifer Tabanico is President and owner of Action Research, a firm that specializes in changing behavior for the public good by applying marketing and social science research to outreach programs that promote clean, healthy, and sustainable communities. Jennifer has a Masters in Experimental Psychology from California State University San Marcos and more than 16 years of experience developing behavior change programs for public and private agencies. Her work has been published in the *Journal of Environmental Psychology*, *Social Influence*, and *Social Marketing Quarterly*.

Tamara Thomas, Terre-Source LLC

Tamara Thomas, P.E. is the founder and manager of Terre-Source LLC, a consulting company dedicated to serving the compost and recycling industries and to "Helping Compost Happen!" primarily in North America. She is a licensed environmental engineer in Washington state, with MS in Soils and in Civil Engineering from Washington State University and University of Washington. She is a long time Board and committee member of the Washington Organics Recycling Council.

Jessica Toth, Solana Center for Environmental Innovation

Jessica Toth is the Executive Director of 35-year-old Solana Center for Environmental Innovation. Solana Center is a dynamic organization, fostering environmental change through education, outreach, and consulting services. Jessica is responsible for setting Solana Center's strategic direction and managing the staff of 25. She envisions a future with landfills free of edible and compostable material. Jessica holds a Master's degree from MIT and a Bachelor's degree from Cornell in Engineering.

Kayla Walsh, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Kayla Walsh has a background in communications and environmental studies and has worked as a recycling and compost specialist for the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency for two years. Her work is at the intersect of sustainable behavior change, education, policy, and market development.

Casey Walsh Cady, California Dept. Food & Agriculture

Casey Walsh Cady is a Senior Environmental Scientist at the California Dept. of Food and Agriculture where she has worked on the development of the dairy digester program and other innovative agricultural/environmental programs. She has a MS from UC Davis and BS from U Mass-Amherst.

Rhodes Yepsen, Biodegradable Products Institute (BPI)

Rhodes Yepsen is Executive Director of the Biodegradable Products Institute (BPI), the leading certification organization for compostable products in North America. A nonprofit, the BPI's goal is to assist in the diversion of organic waste to composting, by verifying that products and packaging will completely break down in a professionally managed composting facility, without harming the quality of that compost. Prior to joining BPI, Mr. Yepsen worked for Novamont, served on the Board of Directors at the U.S. Composting Council (USCC), and was Associate Editor at *BioCycle*. Education: Graduated from Oberlin College.