



### Enews- A Quarterly Update

Volume I Issue I, Spring, 2004

In an attempt to enhance communications and better serve Florida's organics recycling industry, FORCE is now offering a quarterly e-newsletter. This newsletter will provide updates on upcoming training and events throughout the state, the status of FORCE grant projects and grant opportunities, website updates and pertinent organic recycling information. Our goal is to provide timely, relevant and useful information. Let us hear from you with ideas, suggestions and recommendations of what you would like to see in future issues.

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### FORCE: Partners in Organic Recycling

**Who are we?....** The Florida Organics Recycling Center for Excellence (FORCE) partnership is a cooperative effort between Sumter County, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, private and public researchers. The legislatively-funded FORCE provides a framework for expanding organics recycling. The Center provides an avenue for centralized compost research, demonstration, marketing and education in Florida. Let us work with you to enhance organic recycling statewide.

### Upcoming Training Opportunity

#### WHAT: PRODUCTION AND UTILIZATION OF COMPOST IN FLORIDA TRAINING

FORCE, in conjunction with grant recipient Dr. Monica Ozores-Hampton, would like to invite you to the 2004 Composting School. This free workshop will include the following topics:

Composting biology and core principles, Florida regulations, site safety, odor control, fire prevention, feedstock types and recipes, compost quality and testing, marketing, use of food waste compost in ornamental production and vegetables production System

**CEU's, CCA's and SWANA CEU's provided.**

**Where:** UF North Florida Research & Education Center  
155 Research Road, Quincy, FL 32351-5677

**When:** June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2004.

**How:** Please RSVP by June 21st to Dr. Monica Ozores-Hampton, Southwest Florida Research and Education Center, 2686 State Road 29 North, Immokalee, FL 34143-9515  
Tel: (239) 658-3400,  
Fax: (239) 658-3469  
[Ozores@mail.ifas.ufl.edu](mailto:Ozores@mail.ifas.ufl.edu)

**Complimentary lunch provided by Quincy Farms Inc.**

### Organic sRecycling Links & Contacts

FORCE  
[www.floridaforce.org](http://www.floridaforce.org)

FDEP  
[www.dep.state.fl.us/waste//categories/solid\\_waste/pages/composting.htm](http://www.dep.state.fl.us/waste//categories/solid_waste/pages/composting.htm)

RecycleFlorida Today  
[www.recyclefloridatoday.org](http://www.recyclefloridatoday.org)

Sumter County, Florida  
[www.scpw.org](http://www.scpw.org)

United States Composting Council  
[www.compostingcouncil.org](http://www.compostingcouncil.org)

University of Florida/IFAS  
[www.ifas.ufl.edu](http://www.ifas.ufl.edu)

Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA)  
[www.swana.org](http://www.swana.org)

SWANA Sunshine Chapter  
[www.swanaflorida.org](http://www.swanaflorida.org)

Biocycle Magazine  
[www.jgpress.com](http://www.jgpress.com)

Florida Center for Solid and Hazardous Waste Management  
[www.floridacenter.org](http://www.floridacenter.org)





835 Cr 529,  
Lake Panasoffkee, FL 33538

### What's New

#### **FORCE Website:**

FORCE is now offering a variety of new resources for organics recycling at [www.floridaforce.org](http://www.floridaforce.org).

#### **CHECK IT OUT!**

- ✓ **Technology Database:**  
Comprehensive list of companies in the Composting and Organics Industry.
- ✓ **State Regulations for Composting**
- ✓ **Bibliographies of Organics & Composting**  
Agriculture and Aquaculture Byproducts, Biosolids, Bioremediation, Citrus, Education Erosion, Nutrient Issues, Horticulture, Agriculture Field Crops, Food Waste, Health and Safety Livestock, Landscaping, Marketing, Economics, MSW, C&D, Organic Agriculture, Pathogen and Weed Control, Horticultural Potting Media, Sod and Turf Yard Waste Earthworms

### FORCE Grant Projects

**Sumter County Compost for Forest Crops.** The need for environmentally sound, economically feasible, practical, and applicable solutions for recycling and utilizing organics is being addressed by this project. Specifically, UF professor, Dr. Don Rockwood is implementing a study on tree responses to Sumter County compost to develop guidelines for compost use on forest crops, and providing economic and environmental benefits. At the competition of the project, a publication will be developed for the use of compost on forest crops and on associated economic and environmental benefits of utilizing compost.

**WRT/Biomass Utilization Project.** This project will address utilization of recovered biomass to produce marketable compost product. Specifically, municipal solid waste (MSW) conditioning to facilitate recovery will occur via pulverization, agitation and pasteurization. A variety of means of reducing landfill disposal costs will be defined throughout the process of producing compost mediums and achieve cost-effective reduction of disposable MSW.

### FORCE Project Projects (cont)

**Odor Control for Biosolids and MSW Transfer Stations.** - The treatment of the broad spectrum of odorous gases that originate from MSW and biosolids is a concern to most organics recycling facilities around the state of Florida. GOC Vapor proposed to demonstrate and evaluate the performance of a new odor product and process and the advantages for the composting and waste collection industries. The purpose of the treatment is to diminish odor to unnoticeable levels in any location around the MSW tipping building and minimize odor inside the building.

**Double S Ranch Recovery Project.** This project will demonstrate the economic benefits of utilizing an alternative feed source, food waste, for cattle feed. Food processing waste from grocery stores will be brought to the farm, avoiding waste disposal fees. The cattle will be fed the mixed food waste, weight gain will be evaluated and recorded. Following sufficient weight, cattle will be then delivered to a meat packer carcass quality and yield evaluations.

#### **Reduction of Organic Matter in Municipal Solid Waste and Agricultural Waste.**

Advanced Reduction Technologies will demonstrate an alternative low cost method of accelerating the reduction process of the organic matter in MSW and agricultural waste by reducing the total amount of material delivered to a landfill, processing facility or approved dumping area. The "Reducer" will be applied to organic matter in a test digester, to organic matter placed in windrows, and to agricultural waste placed in the digesters.

**Training in Production and Utilization of Composts in Florida.** Speakers from the industry and research entities will teach participants the principals of compost production and use: composting principles and biology, compost site safety, compost quality and testing, compost feedstock, composting rules and regulations, record keeping, and compost utilization on specific crops. Three one-day training programs at locations in South, Central and North Florida.

#### **Intensive Production System for Turfgrass Utilizing MSW Compost Over Ground Cover**

The goal of this project is to develop a viable cropping system for turf grass production that will conserve both water and land. The use of solid-waste compost over ground cover could be intended to provide these results. Research has shown that sod can be grown using compost over ground cover. However, many questions need to be answered before commercial production could begin. This project will address these issues.