The Composting Collaborative
Through work with EPA Region 4, we helped Charlotte, NC based businesses begin composting programs.

70% of participants had very positive view of their composting program.

The most common reason for not starting a composting program was not knowing how.
ReFed determined that in terms of waste diverted, centralized composting is the most effective strategy to reduce wasted food.
USDA & EPA have set the food waste reduction goal of 50% by 2030.

To achieve this, the entire composting value chain must reach new levels of coordination and problem solving.
The Composting Collaborative was created to drive sustainable materials management of organics and all compostables.

Our mission is to accelerate composting access and infrastructure to improve soil health and divert compostables from landfill. We cultivate resilient composting infrastructure, policy, and community nationwide.
Effective composting means:

- Maximizing diversion of food scraps and other compostables from landfill to composting potentially with energy recovery
- Building soil health and contributing to regenerative agriculture, clean waterways, and carbon sequestration
- Establishing consensus and “buy-in” for composting infrastructure in a community
- Fostering resilient infrastructure by supporting existing composting-related businesses and generating new businesses and organizations that are competitive, secure, and long-term
Accelerate composting infrastructure and landfill diversion in the US

Imperative 1
Imperative 2
Coordinate national composting initiatives across the value chain
Support the competitiveness and long-term viability of compost manufacturing.

Imperative 3
4 Determine gaps and prioritize initiatives in the composting space
Imperative 5

Educate diverse audiences on the environmental benefits and resilient infrastructure compost manufacturing provides
The Strategic Areas

Policy
This includes state and local level regulations, incentives, and practices.

Markets
This includes composter ability to operate and sell product, as well as value-added materials that incorporate compost.

Technical
This area focuses on effective composter operations, and the role of standards to help define processes.

Social
This includes overall education on the value of compost and the compost manufacturing process, as well as generator-specific information such as what items to place in compost bins.
Approach:

- Leverage the expertise of the diverse leaders in this field.
- Evaluate composting opportunities through a series of dialogues to systematically identify key leverage points and actionable next steps.
- Collaborate on a web-based platform across the variety of projects and initiatives.
- Facilitate cross-promotion of available resources.
- Create a resource for tracking composting-related data.
WE BRING THE COMPOSTING SUPPLY CHAIN TOGETHER

THE COMPOSTING COLLABORATIVE

A GreenBlue Initiative

GET STARTED
As the Collaborative’s site is designed to be an internal communication platform, public facing education and information will be housed on How2Compost’s site.
Phase One of the Composting Collaborative spans from now until September 2017.

It involves dynamic in-person dialogues and is punctuated by calls.

No financial obligation exists for membership during Phase One. Any entity in the composting value chain may participate.
The Collaborative’s initial dialogues will leverage the Value Innovation Process to identify key leverage points, prioritize project activity, and define what success for the Collaborative will look like.
As a member of the Collaborative, you engage in dialogues, identify key pivot points, and actionable next steps.

When possible, you leverage Collaborative resources to impact change in your organization or company’s area of interest.
The Collaborative is guided by its founding partners, in collaboration with the US EPA.
The Advisory Committee will include all founding partners, the US EPA, one state and one municipal government representative, as well as an at-large member, and representatives from both the private sector and non-profit community.
While GreenBlue has funded the initial development of the Collaborative and design of the web platform, a long-term funding model for the Collaborative will be a priority for Phase One.
We welcome you to join the Composting Collaborative for its inaugural dialogue in Washington, DC on November 17, 2016.

Following dialogues will take place at USCC’s annual meeting in Los Angeles on January 23, 2017 and at BioCycle East from April 3-6, 2017 in Baltimore, MD.
Please contact Anne Bedarf at Anne.Bedarf@greenblue.org or Charlotte Dreizen at Charlotte.Dreizen@greenblue.org with any questions, thoughts, or comments!