

***Let's talk about compost and rangelands:
field data, roundtable discussion, and field tour***

Central Coast Rangeland Coalition Fall 2021 Gathering

Thursday, October 21, 2021

8:30 – 4:30

*Location: Alameda RCD (morning-outdoor)
3585 Greenville Rd # 2, Livermore, CA 94550
StopWaste 'Altamont Property (afternoon-outdoor)
-a short drive from the morning venue-*

*This is a Free Program: No Cost
Reservations Necessary- we expect a waiting list*

Workshop Description

The Central Coast Rangeland Coalition invites you to a day of conversations about compost application to degraded rangelands. The day's host, Alameda County Resource Conservation District, will describe its Healthy Soils Demonstration project examining the effects of compost on steep (15-30%) slopes. Preliminary field data will be shared, as well as diverse perspectives on grassland and soil responses to compost, costs, benefits, logistics, and potential problems. After lunch, participants will tour the field site and engage in stations focused on vegetation, soils, and compost quality.

Goals

- 1) Share resources for implementing soil health practices on degraded rangelands.
- 2) Improve understanding of feasibility of compost addition on degraded rangelands with difficult terrain.
- 3) Improve understanding of degraded rangeland responses to compost addition.
- 4) Improve participant understanding of where and how to appropriately apply the compost addition practice on degraded rangelands

Registration

Follow this link to register: <https://ccrc-fall2021-gathering.eventbrite.com>. The program is free, but reservations are required for entry. Registration deadline is October 14, 5 p.m. This is first-come-first served event.

The Central Coast Rangeland Coalition and other Program Sponsors

The [Central Coast Rangeland Coalition](#) is a group of individuals and organizations that envision vibrant, productive, diverse, and sustainable rangelands and communities on California's Central Coast. Since 2008, the group has gathered twice a year to foster collaborative learning on topics of mutual interest, building a better community of practice.

Other program sponsors are: [Alameda County RCD](#); [StopWaste](#); [Cal Poly SLO](#) and [Swanton Pacific Ranch](#); [California Department of Water Resources](#); California Department of Food and Agriculture's [Healthy Soils Program](#); and [UCCE](#).

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Agenda

- 8:30** *Check in and coffee*
- 9:00** Welcome, opening remarks
Katherine Boxer, Chief Executive Officer, Alameda RCD
Ian Howell, Resource Conservationist, Alameda RCD
Grey Hayes, Education and Research Coordinator, Cal Poly Swanton Pacific Ranch
- Introductions and small group discussion*
- Effects of compost addition to rangeland soils – preliminary results from StopWaste site
Becca Ryals, Assistant Professor, UC Merced
- Feasibility of compost addition to rangelands with difficult terrain
Ian Howell
- Break*
- Panel Discussion:
Opportunities and Constraints, Benefits and Drawbacks for Compost Addition on Rangelands
- Small group discussions*
- 12:00** *Lunch*
- 1:00** *Travel to field site*
- Site introduction and background
Kelly Schoonmaker, StopWaste
- Rangeland management at the site
Joe Paulo, rancher
- Project tour
Ian Howell
- Soil Health Field Discussions/Demonstrations-20 minutes per station
- Station 1: Compost addition: Aboveground effects
- Station 2: Reading the soil
- Station 3: Rancher perspectives
- Station 4: RDM and soil health
- Small group debrief*
- Closing*
- 4:00** *Program ends*