



On March 27th & March 28th, the 4th annual Organics Summit: Nurturing People, Soil, and the Environment, was held in Poughkeepsie, NY at the Poughkeepsie Grand Hotel, reaching an all-time high of 183 attendees. With each passing year, the Summit continues to grow as the wasted food movement gains traction in the media nationwide and our local communities.

Keynote speaker, Amity Lumper, highlighted West Coast developments across the organics value chain from wasted food prevention to curbside organics collection and processing to compost product end markets. Additional highlights included organics collection challenges, a panel on large scale composting equipment, community composting, food recovery efforts in the Hudson Valley, residential wasted food reduction and much more. The Summit featured time for networking including a U.S. Composting Council Young Professionals mixer. The Summit concluded with a small group tour at the Poughkeepsie Farm Project, a member supported farm in the City of Poughkeepsie, where they grow fresh vegetables and fruit for CSA members, train future farmers, provide hands on education programs and improve access to healthy locally---grown food to their surrounding community In keeping with the theme of this year's Summit, we learned the farm makes their own compost out of leaves and on farm food scraps and amends their garden beds with the finished compost.

The planning team would like to thank everyone for their attendance and participation in helping to enrich and expand the Summit with each passing year. Your voices, thoughts and collective discussion allow the event to come to life and foster relationships that will help us further reduction, donation and organics recycling in NYS. Thank you to Community Compost Company for hauling organics produced by the event, 272 lbs., to a local composting facility and our sponsors and vendors – BDP Industries, Casella Organics, Compost Werks/ReCultivateNY, Elizabeth Whitehouse, Five Star Equipment, Harvest Quest, Milton CAT, NaturCycle, New Yorkers for Responsible Waste Management, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, New York State Chapter of Solid Waste Association of North America (NYSWANA), Promac, Simplicity Engineering NE Inc., Syracuse University Center for Sustainable Community Solutions, Sure Close, Sustainable Generation, Vantage Equipment, Vokashi and WeCare Organics – Denali Water Solutions. If you are interested in joining the Organics Summit Planning committee, please contact Kristine Ellsworth at Kristine.Ellsworth@dec.ny.gov.

Presentations from the event will be uploaded to the NYSAR3 website.

We look forward to seeing you all and more at the 2019 Organics Summit, location to be determined.



***Image Left: USCC Young Professionals Mixer, Poughkeepsie Grand Hotel
Image Right: Poughkeepsie Farm Project Tour***



Images above: Poughkeepsie Farm Project Tour