



**US Composting Council**

**USCC BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINATION FORM**

**Submission Deadline: *September 1, 2011***

Please submit via email to: [nominations@compostingcouncil.org](mailto:nominations@compostingcouncil.org)

Questions: Ron Alexander, Nominations & Awards Committee Chair, 919-367-8350

Please select one of the Membership Classes below as per USCC By-Laws:

**Composter Member:**

Composter Members shall be sole proprietorships, partnerships, corporations, government entities and/or cooperatives that actively and regularly engage in producing compostable products, compost, or residual organic materials. Business units, subsidiaries, and branch locations affiliated with a larger corporate entity may hold a separate membership upon payment of the prescribed dues and have the same voting rights and benefits as any other Composter Member.

**Affiliate Member:**

Affiliate Members shall be sole proprietorships, partnerships, corporations, government entities and/or cooperatives who supply equipment, supplies, marketing, and other services to the composting industry; and who are industrial, agricultural, commercial, and residential users and potential users of composting products; and who are trade associations; commodity organizations; governmental agencies; education and research institutions; state and local government entities; and other non-profit organizations with an interest in composting. This classification also includes those allied business enterprises that provide services to the composting industry, such as engineering, consulting, legal, financial, and other technical services.

Nominee			
<b>Name</b>	Patrick Geraty		
<b>Company/ Organization</b>	St. Louis Composting, Inc.		
<b>Address</b>	39 Old Elam Ave. Valley Park, MO 63088		
<b>Phone</b>	636-861-3344	<b>Fax</b>	636-861-5925
<b>Email</b>	<a href="mailto:pgeraty@stlcompost.com">pgeraty@stlcompost.com</a>	<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.stlcompost.com">www.stlcompost.com</a>

<b>Submitted By</b>			
<b>Name</b>	Sharon Barnes		
<b>Company/ Organization</b>	Barnes Nursery		
<b>Address</b>	3511 Cleveland Road West Huron, OH 44839		
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**The Nominee should complete each of the following questions:**

**PROFESSIONAL PROFILE:** Overview of your history of involvement in the composting industry, positions held, educational background, etc.

I founded St. Louis Composting, Inc. in 1992 in response to Missouri Senate Bill 530 which established solid waste disposal reduction goals. Prior to founding St. Louis Composting, I owned and operated a landscaping company for 12 years. With nearly 20 years of dedication to the recycling and composting industry, I have grown my company into one of the largest composting businesses in the region.

St. Louis Composting currently processes roughly 600,000 cubic yards of green material and source-separated organics annually, as well as 300,000 cubic yards of wood chips. St. Louis Composting operates 5 compost processing facilities and a transfer facility for organic material in the St. Louis metropolitan area.

In 2010, we launched the region's largest commercial food composting operation. St. Louis Composting currently accepts and processes approximately 200 tons of food waste and compostable material per week.

St. Louis Composting processes all incoming material and produces and sells compost, mulch, and compost/soil blends to landscapers, contractors, home owners and more. Customers include Missouri Botanical Garden, Gateway Greening, St. Louis Zoo, Washington University, Walmart, Schnucks, Frito Lay and Straub's and many more.

I continue to use my experience in the composting industry to work with other businesses and municipalities to provide assistance in planning, designing and implementing compost operations.

**ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATIONS:** List any boards or advisory groups on which you do/have serve(d), awards received, etc.

Governor Jay Nixon appointed me to the Missouri Solid Waste Advisory Board (SWAB) 3 years ago and recently renewed my appointment to this board. As a member of the board, I help to ensure solid waste is managed in such a way that protects both public health and the environment.

The SWAB advises the Missouri Department of Natural Resources on various solid waste management issues including:

- The efficiency of its technical assistance programs.
- Solid waste management problems experienced by solid waste management districts.
- The effects of proposed rules and regulations upon solid waste management within the districts.
- Criteria to be used in awarding grants pursuant to state statute.
- Waste management issues pertinent to the districts.
- The development of improved methods of solid waste minimization, recycling and resource recovery.

My extensive industry connections throughout Missouri also culminated in the formation of the Composting and Organics Association of Missouri (COAM) in 2010. As President of COAM, I and composters throughout Missouri work together to increase the quality, value and usage of recycled organics in Missouri by providing education, information and resources and promoting activities and legislation that build healthy soils, benefit people and minimize negative environmental impacts.

On April 19, 2011 and in association with COAM, Missouri Governor Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon proclaimed May 1 - 7, 2011 to be Compost Week in Missouri. On April 6, 2011, the Missouri House of Representatives adopted House Resolution No. 1707 to honor COAM and encourage Missouri citizens to participate in programs to promote the benefits of compost during International Compost Awareness Week. On April 11, 2011 the Missouri Senate adopted Senate Resolution No. 737 to honor COAM and encourage Missouri citizens to participate in programs to promote the benefits of compost during International Compost Awareness Week.

On June 7, 2010 I was recognized for the “Outstanding Collection Program” award at the Missouri Recycling Association annual conference in Branson, MO. The President of MORA Dave Beal said, “St. Louis Composting was recognized as an outstanding collection program for launching a commercial food diversion program that composts over 200 tons of out-of-date food a week.”

**MEMBERSHIP ACTIVITIES:** List any relevant memberships and activities, present or past.

Member and Founder of COAM  
Missouri Solid Waste Advisory Board  
CUP Program Member  
STA Program Member  
Missouri Recycling Association Member  
Illinois Recycling Association Member  
American Society of Landscape Architects Sponsor  
Missouri Nurserymen’s and Landscape Association  
St. Louis Earth Day Sponsor

**POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:** Please disclose any prior relationships with any USCC board members, members or staff. Disclose any business related legal issues – pending

and past. Is there anything else you feel you should disclose that could be viewed by members as a conflict of interest?

**Disclosure of Any Conflicts of interest** (If none, please write “None” below)

None.

*Failure to fully disclose all conflicts of interest irrevocably gives the USCC Board of Directors the right to nullify either or both the candidacy and/or election of the nominee.*

**INTEREST IN THE USCC:** Briefly explain why you choose to run for the Board?

The compost industry has come a long way in the last 20 years and continues to move forward. I feel that we will see major changes in the industry over the next 3-5 years. I have learned in the past that if you don't have a seat at the table, you can be on the menu. By joining the USCC board, it will enable me to help guide the industry through its changes.

**COMMITTEE INTEREST:** If you were asked to serve as the Chairperson of any of the USCC committees, which committee would you choose and why?

The Market Development Committee, because our industry faces unique challenge as competition for composting feedstock increases. The traditional revenue strategy that relies on revenue from incoming material as well as outgoing finished product will not continue to sustain the compost industry. To overcome this we need to increase revenue from our compost products and we need a proactive approach to increasing awareness and demand for our products, which in return will increase the price of our products.

**VISION AND OBJECTIVES:** Describe up to three programs or activities you would like to implement to improve the USCC and why?

Continuing to support to the USCC established legal fund to assist in fighting yard waste ban challenges. Help to allocate and raise funds to establish necessary funding to have independent scientist and researchers produce necessary data to counter the landfill industries data.

See the USCC create a Green Certificate Program for restaurants, institutions, businesses and industries to promote and recognize the diversion of source separated organics to certified compost facilities. This program can promote the use of compostable service ware in their facilities

Further, I propose the USCC grow the national marketing fund and branding campaign to create a national advertising campaign similar to the “Got Milk?” campaign. The annual USCC membership dues invoice could include an option to make voluntary contributions to one or both of these funds.

***Full length of application materials should not exceed 6 pages using no smaller than 11 point.***