

# Overview of CalRecycle and State Water Board Organic Waste/Compost Land Application Workshop



Workshop held on 6/23/2016 ~ Riverside, CA



Presented By: Joseph Venzon, P.E.

# Background

- \* Land Application defined as final deposition of organic waste/compostable materials spread on land
- \* Purpose of Workshop was to provide information and updates on recent regulatory requirements pertaining to land application limits, which were adopted by CalRecycle in August 2015 (Section 17852 – CA Code of Regulations)

# Land Application Limits

- \* Effective January 1, 2016
  - \* Maximum metals concentrations and pathogen density
    - \* *Metal Concentrations Limits – same as existing compost requirements (Section 17868.2 CA Code of Regulations)*
    - \* *Pathogen Density Limits – nearly the same as existing compost requirements (Section 17868.3 CA Code of Regulations)*
      - \* *Exception: Does not require any time/temperature requirements for pathogens*
  - \* Application frequency and depth
    - \* *Varies depending on whether land is zoned exclusively for agriculture*

# Land Application Limits Continued...

- \* Effective January 1, 2018
  - \* Physical Contaminants
    - \* *Limits on Plastic, Glass, Inert Materials, etc.*
    - \* *Cannot exceed 0.5% by Weight*
    - \* *Film Plastic Cannot exceed more than 20% of 0.5% (0.1%)*

# Exceptions

- \* Small Scale Gardening ( $\leq 5$  Acres)
- \* Federal, State, Local Government Land Application
- \* Beneficial reuse at landfill
- \* Agricultural by-product material authorized by State Water Resources Control Board or Regional Water Quality Control Board
- \* Beneficial use of Biosolids per Federal and State requirements

# Regulation Enforcement

- \* Local Enforcement Agency (LEA)
  - \* Responsible for inspection and enforcement of Regulatory Standards and Permit Conditions
  - \* Ability to issue and enforce Compliance Orders, Corrective Action Orders, and Cease & Desist Orders
  - \* Can Assess Civil Penalties of up to \$5,000/day per the Public Resources Code (PRC Section 45010)
  - \* Verification of compliance to limits/requirements must be provided to the LEA upon request

# Regulation Enforcement Continued...

- \* Water Board
  - \* Implements progressive enforcement policy of regulations
  - \* Issue Verbal Warnings, Written Warnings, Notice of Violation (NOV), Cleanup Abatement Orders (CAO), Administrative Civil Liability Complaints (ACL)
  - \* Discharge & Cleanup Abatement Orders (CAO) violations subject to \$10,000 per day and \$10 per “gallon” of waste

# Reasons for Regulations/Limits

- \* Land Application presents potential risks to the environment:
  - \* Impacts to surface water and groundwater quality
  - \* Potential Spread of Pests
  - \* Fires from excess land application

# Additional Information...

- \* Link to CalRecycle and Water Board's PowerPoint Presentation

- \* <http://www.cvent.com/events/2016-land-application-meeting/custom-18-3fa819a58250471ebb42067ec348daba.aspx>

- \* Updates to future workshops

- \* [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/compost/](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/compost/)

# Questions?

Thank you.