



# PREPARING <sup>the</sup> GROUND for HEALTHY SOIL

The Compost Council of Canada is delighted to announce that this workshop is an OSCIA-recognized On-Farm Climate Action Fund (OFCAF) Knowledge Sharing Event for applicants with approved Nitrogen Management projects. Questions about OFCAF should be directed to [OFCAF@ontariosoilcrop.org](mailto:OFCAF@ontariosoilcrop.org).

## An Interactive Workshop about Soil Health for Growers

Please join us for a day of learning – both in the classroom and out in the field.

**DATE:** Friday September 16, 2022  
**TIME:** 9am – 3pm  
 Registration from 9 – 9:30am  
 Sessions begin @ 9:30am  
 Bar-B-Q Lunch Provided

**LOCATION:** Utopia Hall & Farmland  
 8396 6th Line, Utopia  
 Essa Township ON L0M 1T0

**Price:** \$25

Registration in advance please @ Eventbrite  
<https://bit.ly/3wF686W>  
 or by e-mailing [info@compost.org](mailto:info@compost.org)

### AGENDA

9am – Registration  
 9:30am – Session Starts

#### Welcome to the Utopia Farmland !

*Susan Antler, The Compost Council of Canada*

#### Soil Health: From Principles to Practice to Recruiting Soil to Tackle Climate Change

*Glenn Munroe, The Compost Council of Canada*

#### The Power of Soil to Cycle and Store Carbon

*Christine Brown, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food & Rural Affairs*

#### The Power of Organic Amendments to Cycle and Store Carbon

*Stephanie Vickers, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food & Rural Affairs*

#### Interpreting the Results of Soil Tests

*Ian McLachlin, A&L Canada Laboratories*

#### Healthy Soils Lead to Healthy Water

*Shannon Stephens, Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority*

#### Embarking on a Soil Safari at the Utopia Farmland

*A Hands-On Session in the Field to Test for Soil Health.*

We'll be going out on to the farm field to do a number of "nimble" soil tests which you can do on your own land, whether farmland, garden or landscape. Comfortable work boots are recommended.

#### About the Utopia Farmland:

Located in Utopia, Ontario (about one hour north of Toronto and to the west of Barrie), the 46-acre Utopia Farmland is the site of a multi-year initiative to convert farm soil practices from conventional approaches to those focused on regenerative agriculture, with extensive monitoring of agronomic, environmental and economic factors involved in the transition. Now having completed its second harvest, the initiative benefits enormously from local farming expertise and the involvement of the Compost Council of Canada, the Compost & Digestate Quality Alliance and a team of national & international advisors with support from the Canadian Agricultural Partnership, the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority in addition to local producers of both compost and digestate as well as industry suppliers including North Line Industries and A&L Canada Laboratories.

#### About The Compost Council of Canada:

The Compost Council of Canada serves as the central resource and network for the organics recycling industry in Canada. The Council's involvement in standard-setting and regulatory developments, operator training and certification, communication and networking help to support their charter to advocate and advance organics residuals recycling, digestate and compost use and assist their members to contribute to the environmental sustainability of the communities in which they operate.

#### About the Soil Conservation Council of Canada (SCCC)

The SCCC is the only national organization to concentrate on the issues of soil health and soil conservation within a broadly-based landscape context. Healthy soils are the foundation of sustainable food production, enhanced biodiversity and cleaner air and water for present and future generations.

#### About the Compost & Digestate Quality Alliance (CQA & DQA):

The Compost and Digestate Quality Alliance (CQA/DQA) is a voluntary program established by the Compost Council of Canada and compost and digestate producers utilizing standardized testing methodologies and uniform operating protocols to improve customer confidence in compost as well as digestate selection and utilization. The Compost and Digestate Quality Alliance has been created to help the organics recycling industry to both meet the regulatory requirements for the testing and use of compost and digestate products as well as to go above and beyond regulatory requirements to incorporate agronomic parameters, ensuring that the right compost and/or digestate is being used for the right purpose.

This project is funded by the Canadian Agricultural Partnership (the Partnership), a five-year, federal-provincial-territorial initiative.

