PROCLAMATION

International Compost Awareness Week

May 3 – 9, 2026

Whereas, the Compost Research & Education Foundation, has declared the first full week of May to be the annual Compost Awareness Week;

Whereas, composting is a way of returning organic resources to the soil to restore the health of the soil and enable its essential function in the carbon cycle;

Whereas, applying finished compost is a proven method of growing healthy food, conserving water during extreme drought, providing resiliency during flooding conditions, reducing water consumption and non-point pollution, decreasing the dependence on chemical fertilizers, decreasing erosion, and remediating fire damaged lands;

Whereas, California instituted ambitious goals around both organics diversion and compost use through Senate Bill 1383, recognizing composting as an effective form of resource recovery, waste reduction, reuse and recycling, and pollution reduction;

Whereas, materials such as yard trimmings, vegetable cuttings, biosolids, food scraps, manures and hay shavings have all been composted and converted into a beneficial product known as compost;

Whereas, communities, through their local governments, highway departments, soil conservation service and extension offices, and public works professionals, can have significant impact on clean water, soil, climate change and landfill diversion by using compost for public works projects;

Whereas, International Compost Awareness Week is a publicity and education initiative to showcase compost production and demonstrate compost use;

Whereas, composting creates green jobs and infrastructure for cities and states who implement composting programs; and

Whereas, this year's theme is Compost: Feed the Soil that Feeds Us. The 2026 theme was chosen with the goal of highlighting the benefits of composting in agriculture and food production, and its role in supporting healthy, nutritious food, and by extension, healthy people and communities. Beyond responsible waste management, composting recognizes the interconnectedness between every person who eats and the earth that provides all of our food, as well as our agency in feeding the earth our scraps so that the soil may continue to provide for us abundantly. Compost grows healthy soil, healthy food, and a healthy California.

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that **<name of official or official office>** _____does hereby RESOLVE:

That **<name of official or official office>** _____ in recognition of the efforts of the Compost Research & Education Foundation, extension agents, soil conservation stewards, householders, landscapers, farmers, recyclers, public workers, composters, gardeners, and plant growers everywhere, hereby proclaim the week of *May 3 - 9, 2026* as Compost Awareness Week.