



International Composting Awareness Week  
Australia



Centre for Organic  
Research & Education

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**International Composting Awareness Week (ICAW)  
5-11 May 2014**

**“ICAW starts this Monday! Get ready!”**

The Centre for Organic Research and Education (CORE) is proud to announce that the 9th International Composting Awareness Week (ICAW) will be launched this Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May.

ICAW aims to bring together the resource recovery and environment industry, local government and communities. It is an opportunity for practitioners to reach their stakeholders and communities, online and through wider events and activities.

Eric Love, Chairman of CORE, will be welcoming ICAW’s Ambassador Costa Georgiadis, well-known gardening television personality, Compost Guru and ICAW Ambassador, and many compost and organic industry participants and supporters to the official launch in Martin Place, Sydney.

Eric has been an integral part of the program for over 15 years and commented, “The program and International Week of activities still serves to encourages composting, whether large or small scale, increasing the value placed on organic waste and stimulating compost utilisation in all sectors”.

ICAW aims to:

- Increase the diversion of organics from the main waste stream through increasing awareness of and participation in centralised composting, kerbside, home composting and community composting.
- Accelerate the uptake of compost products in the wider Australian community, “closing the loop” and stimulating effective use of "soil-improving composts".
- Highlight the environmental and social benefits of composting including the opportunity and drive to increase carbon in the soil and reduce carbon emissions.



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Each year, events such as composting and worm farming workshops, tours, talks, and demonstrations are being held by councils, community groups and industry associations across Australia. Visit [www.compostweek.com.au](http://www.compostweek.com.au) to find an event near you.

Everyone is encouraged to get involved by attending the different events, joining the discussion on Social Media ([www.facebook.com/ICAWaustralia](http://www.facebook.com/ICAWaustralia) or [twitter.com/CompostWeek\\_AU](http://twitter.com/CompostWeek_AU)) and spreading the word about the benefits of composting.

**ICAW major sponsors and supporters include:** The Victorian Government - through the Metropolitan Waste Management Group (MWMG), the New South Wales Environment Protection Agency, the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection Queensland, EC Sustainable, SITA Organics, Dial A Dump Industries, Compost for Soils and ABC Organic Gardener Magazine.

**ENDS.**

#### **Notes to Editors**

Australians are the third highest waste producers in the world, after Americans and Canadians.

Australians now throw away 4 million tonnes of food every year – up to a quarter of the country's food supplies.

If everyone composted, the total waste going to landfill could decrease by up to a third.

#### **Media enquiries**

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