

# State of Organics Recovery: National Waste & Recycling Association 2016 White Paper



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## Arkansas Environmental, Energy, and Water Law Blog

12/05/2016

The National Waste & Recycling Association ("NWRA") issued an October, 2016 "White Paper" titled *State of Organics Recovery ("Report")*.

The co-authors of the *Report* are Chaz Miller and Anne Germain.

Organics are described by the *Report* in the context of waste streams as food and yard waste along with paper and wood waste. The combination of these wastes is stated to comprise almost half of the waste stream by weight.

The *Report* notes that the different "organic" wastes can have distinct differences. (i.e., by way of example, food waste is heavy and wet compared to yard waste, which is bulky but drier.) These and other differences are described by the *Report*. They are stated to be important considerations when planning for organics recovery.

As to the prospect for increased recovery of organics from the waste stream the *Report* provides a look:

...at the components and amount of organic waste, the existing recovery infrastructure, both in terms of operating facilities and legislative and regulatory framework governing these programs, the technologies used to recover organics and what is necessary to increase organics recovery.

The *Report* addresses issues such as:

- Defining "organics";
- How much organics do we generate and throw away?
- Generation;
- Disposal
- Composition;
- Generators;
- Future trends in regulation;
- Organics law and regulation;
- Current organics management techniques – technology description and assessment;
- Landfill gas recovery;
- Infrastructure (collection, process and capacity);
- Incentives and barriers to increasing organics recovery.

[A copy of the \*Report\* can be downloaded here.](#)