

**COUNTY OF YOLO** 

Office of the County Administrator

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## **Anaerobic Composter Grand Opening October 22**

(Woodland, CA) – All are welcome to the grand opening of the Yolo County Central Landfill's anaerobic composter on Tuesday, October 22 from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m., located at 44090 County Rd 28H in Woodland. Participants will learn more about this groundbreaking process and have an opportunity to visit the process site.

Yolo County recently constructed seven anaerobic composter cells that will have an annual total capacity of 52,000 tons and use anaerobic bacteria to decompose organic waste, a mixture of green and food waste, in a sealed environment. This decomposition process takes less than six months to complete and will provide many benefits including: diverting organic waste from the landfill, producing renewable energy, reducing water use and carbon emissions, and creating compost at a lower capital and operational cost.

"The grand opening of the Yolo County Landfill's anaerobic digester marks a real step forward in local alternative energy generation and large-scale compost creation," said Yolo County Board Supervisor Gary Sandy. "It is part of the continuing evolution of our landfill as a center of innovation and environmental sustainability."

Yolo County's Division of Integrated Waste Management collaborated with North Carolina State University and the University of California, Davis to develop this cost-effective method of converting organic waste into renewable energy and compost. The initial research, which ran from 2006 to 2015, was funded by Yolo County, CalRecycle and the California Energy Commission.

"Food waste is a commodity," said Integrated Waste Management Director Ramin Yazdani. "Through innovation, planning and labor, we are able to convert food waste to renewable energy and return it back to the earth as compost."

Those who choose to visit the process site should wear closed toe shoes. Reserve your spot to the grand opening by visiting: <u>https://yolocountylandfill.eventbrite.com</u>. For more information about Yolo County's Integrated Waste Management Division, including learning about the Central Landfill, visit: <u>https://www.yolocounty.org/community-services/planning-public-works/integrated-waste-management-division</u>.