

## Our Businesses



- **representing over 150 businesses** involved in organics recycling and composting
- estimated industry turnover of **\$1 billion**
- capital investment in excess of **\$2 billion**
- directly employ over **3,500 people (FTE)** in addition to indirectly creating several thousand jobs in infrastructure and the collection, transport, distribution and application of products.

## Our Products



- recycle more than **6 million tonnes** of organic material each year
- create a range of new products including:
  - composted soil conditioners and mulches
  - agricultural soil amendments
  - potting mixes, playground surfacing and manufactured soils
- recover nutrients equivalent to more than **30,000 tonnes of urea, 3,000 tonnes of super phosphate** and **15,300 tonnes of potassium sulphate**; that would otherwise be lost to landfill each year
- sequester and abate more than **7.7 million tonnes of carbon dioxide** equivalent of potential and actual greenhouse gas emissions, through diversion of organic matter from landfill, storage of carbon in the soil and avoided fertiliser use.



## Our Environmental Contribution

### Compost -

- **builds soil carbon** in agricultural soils. One tonne of composted garden organics applied to land can sequester approximately 0.5 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e (equivalent)
- **creates healthy soils** that use less water, less fertiliser and fewer pesticides whilst reducing nutrient leaching and protecting the aquatic environment
- **supports resilient farming systems** producing healthy food and supporting Australia's food security
- **buffers the effects of climate change** in agriculture by:
  - reducing water loss from soils (improving water use efficiency and reducing cropping risk)
  - protecting soils against wind and water erosion
  - reducing soil temperature fluctuations (increasing root growth and soil biology)
  - reduces synthetic fertilizer demand and carbon emissions from fertilizer manufacture and use
- mulch application suppresses weed growth and can **save more than 30% of irrigation water** depending on conditions
- the composting process **destroys weed seeds and pathogens**, helping to control the spread of weeds and diseases as well as managing biosecurity risks.



## Our Potential

An additional 13 million tonnes/year of organic material is still available to be diverted from landfill. Diverting just an additional 2 million tonnes would:

- create more than **650 new jobs**
- increase turnover by up to \$400 million and an expected **capital investment in excess of \$1 billion**
- **avoid approximately 2 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions** and sequester approximately 1 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e in soils when the compost is applied to land
- save a further **100GL of irrigation water**
- replace **10,000 tonnes of urea, 1,000 tonnes of super phosphate** and **5,000 tonnes of potassium sulphate**
- deliver an **additional \$30 million in farm revenue** due to yield improvement in intensive agriculture.



### Australian Organics Recycling Association

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For more details and references please visit our website.

## Our Communication

Whilst the AORA web site is an industry member's resource the public face of AORA can be found at [compostforsoils.com.au](http://compostforsoils.com.au). The Compost for Soils site provides an extensive resource of the organics industries efforts over the past 15years including many papers on organic reuse.