

# Sustainability Opportunities - Upcoming Technologies

Dana Kirk, Ph.D., P.E.

Michigan State University

Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering Department

Anaerobic Digestion Research and Education Center



## OBJECTIVES

- Research and develop novel waste-to-resource technologies capable to convert organic wastes into value-added fuel and chemical products
- Fulfill commercialization and technology transfer of new waste-to-resource concepts
- Educate the next generation of engineers, scientists and policymakers on waste utilization design and practice

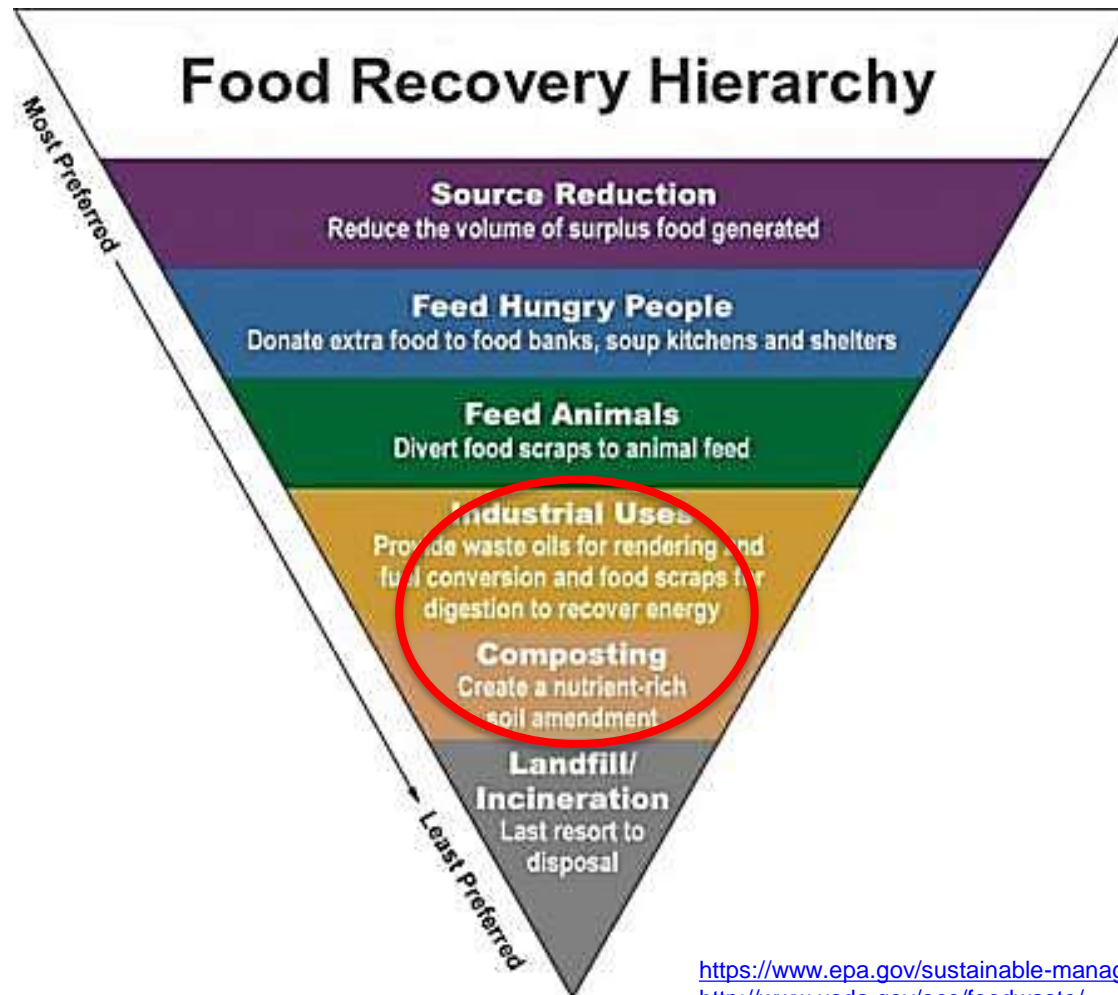






Approximately 40% of the food produced in the U.S. is wasted annually from farm to table

- Largest individual constituent of MSW at 21%
- 0.65 lb/person/day
- 37 million ton/yr (2013)
  - Only 5% beneficially reused
- Equivalent to \$165 billion in lost value
- Worldwide food waste is about 33%



EPA/USDA – National Food Waste Reduction Goal of 50% by 2030

- Disposal bans, yard waste (24), food waste (5)
- Landfill diversion targets (7)
- Renewable portfolio standards (37 )
- Organics recovery programs
  - Massachusetts (2014)
  - Vermont (2014) – commercial food waste, 104 ton/yr
  - Connecticut (2014) – commercial food waste, 104 ton/yr
  - Rhode Island (2016) – commercial food waste, 104 ton/yr
  - New York City (2015) – based on business size
  - California (2016) – commercial food waste, 8 yd/wk
  - San Francisco (EBMUD) – 120 tpd, 4.5 MW CHP
  - Ann Arbor – summer time collection, ongoing study

# Michigan Organic Waste Opportunity

Source	Approx. #	Food Waste Potential (ton/yr)	Assumption
Processors	550 - 700	260,000	1 ton/d, 350 d/yr
Retail	300	20,000	400 lb/d
Hospitals	110	2,000	0.6 lb/d/person
Correctional	31	5,000	0.6 lb/d/person
Universities	105	60,000	0.6 lb/d/person
Schools	930	80,000	0.6 lb/d/person
Food service	35,000	300,000	50 lb/d
Residential	4,540,000	1,000,000	0.6 lb/d/person
<b>Sum</b>		<b>1,727,000</b>	



Source	Approx. #	Food Waste Potential (ton/yr)	Assumption
Processors	550 - 700	260,000	1 ton/d, 350 d/yr

- Landfill disposal fee \$45,000,000 @ \$25/ton
- 40 to 50 MW of baseload electric power potential
- Reduced greenhouse gas emission
- Fertilizer value???

Schools	930	80,000	0.6 lb/d/person
Food service	35,000	300,000	50 lb/d
Residential	4,540,000	1,000,000	0.6 lb/d/person
<b>Sum</b>		<b>1,727,000</b>	

- Challenges
  - Packaging & contamination
  - Seasonality
  - Cleaning agents
  - Consistency
  - Unloading
  - Water content
- Pretreatment
  - Depacking
  - Grinding/maceration
  - Sterilization
  - Other





The Energy Policy Act (2005) required EPA to implement a renewable fuels standard program (RFS)

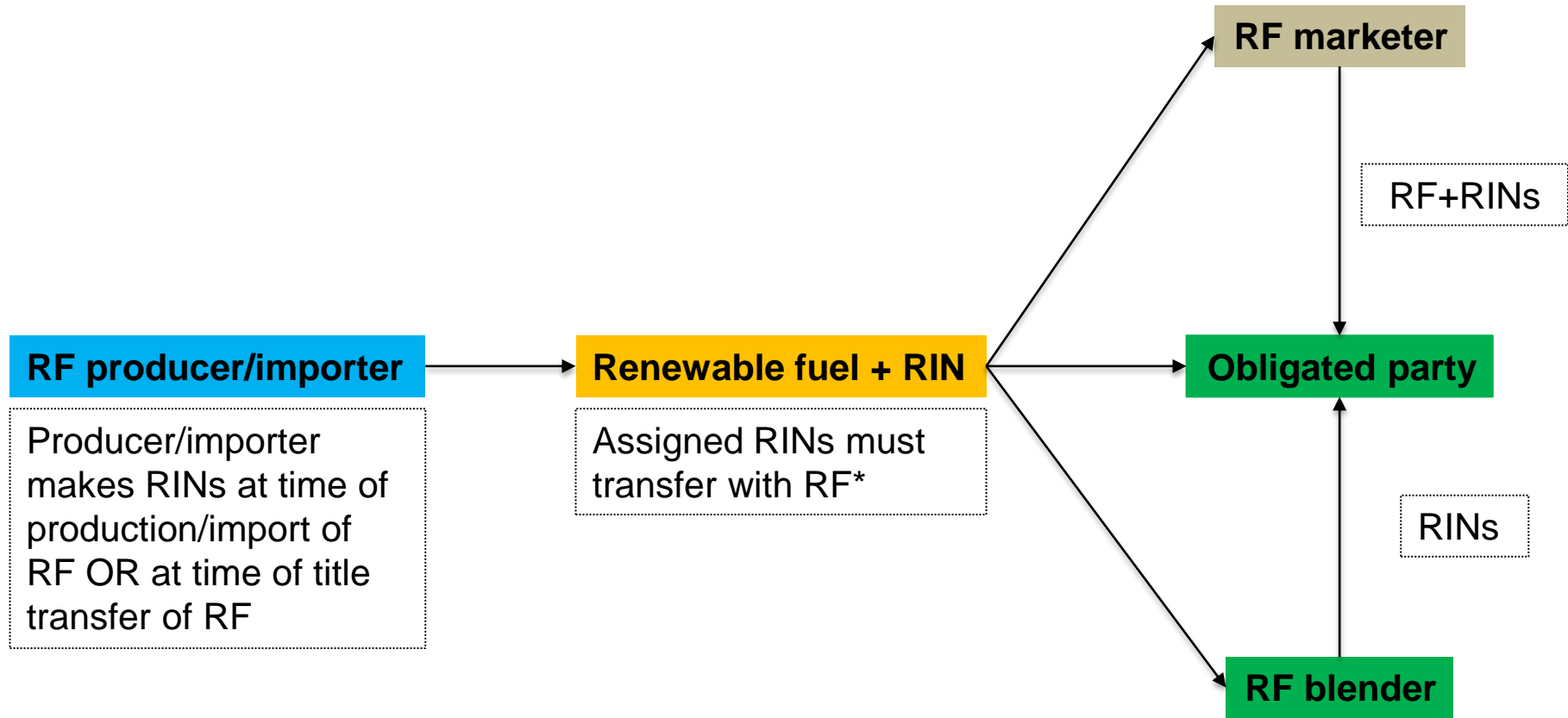
- Version 2 effective July 2010
- Volumetric goals:
  - 36 billion gallons of renewable vehicle fuel by 2022
- Imposed obligations on petroleum refiners and importers called Renewable Volume Obligations (RVOs)
- Created “Renewable Identification Numbers” (RINs):
  - The “currency of compliance”
  - Generated by producers of renewable fuels
  - Used by gasoline refiners and importers to prove compliance

[http://biomassboard.gov/pdfs/tac\\_2015\\_q3\\_dunphy.pdf](http://biomassboard.gov/pdfs/tac_2015_q3_dunphy.pdf)

<http://www.ascension-publishing.com/Disproving-Blend-Wall.pdf>

- Producers & importers generate RINs based on production volume & the Btu content of the fuel
- RINs can ONLY be generated if:
  - Fuel is used for transportation fuel, heating oil or jet fuel
  - Feedstock meets the definition of “Renewable Biomass”
  - Produced under an EPA-approved pathway (or grandfathered)
- Renewable fuels qualify only if produced from “Renewable Biomass”:
  - Products from planted crops & crop residue / trees & tree residue
  - Animal waste material & byproducts
  - Algae
  - Biomass cleared from the vicinity of buildings & other areas to reduce wildfire risk
  - Separated yard or food waste
- Multiple classifications based on fuel and GHG impact

# Renewable Fuel/RIN Transaction Model



\*RINs are fungible; can be transferred with any type of renewable fuel e.g. Today, a 2014 renewable diesel RIN can be transferred with a 2016 ethanol gallon

[http://biomassboard.gov/pdfs/tac\\_2015\\_q3\\_dunphy.pdf](http://biomassboard.gov/pdfs/tac_2015_q3_dunphy.pdf)

- RIN D Code – D5, advanced biofuel
- Must be used for vehicle fuel
- Documented components & pathway
  - Electrical production used for electric cars
  - Upgraded to pipeline quality, converted to compressed natural gas (CNG) or liquefied natural gas (LNG) for use at a fueling station
- Projects need to be registered with EPA and California Air Resources Board to maximize value
- Biogas (77,000 Btu's) has equivalence value of 1





## 4R Principles of Nutrient Stewardship



### RIGHT SOURCE

Matches fertilizer type to crop needs.



### RIGHT RATE

Matches amount of fertilizer to crop needs.



### RIGHT TIME

Makes nutrients available when crops need them.



### RIGHT PLACE

Keeps nutrients where crops can use them.



<http://www.fertikal.be/en/process-distribution>

Dana Kirk

[kirkdana@msu.edu](mailto:kirkdana@msu.edu)

517.432.6530

