

Mulch & Soil Council

2024 Committee List

1. Certification Committee:

The certification committee is charged with oversight of the MSC Certification Program and ruling on issues raised by staff that prevent or settle program conflicts or operational issues involving (or resulting in) policy decisions for the program.

Kay Jeong, Sun Gro Horticulture Canada LTD, Agawam, MA (Chair)

Jessica Bain, Garick LLC, Cleveland, OH

Nicholas Castorano, The Scotts Company, Marysville, OH

Joe Ertel, Oldcastle Lawn & Garden, Atlanta, GA

Steve Liffers, Denali, Davidson, NC

Byron Morgan, Mountain West Bark, Rexberg, ID

Randy Tyre, Waupaca Northwoods Inc., Waupaca, WI

Ricky Urteaga, Kellogg Garden Products, Carson, CA

Brad Volker, Texas Best Mulch, Willis, TX

John Hazard, Webster, Chamberlain and Bean, Washington, DC

Robert LaGasse, Mulch and Soil Council, Shallowater, TX

Lonny Nelson, Mulch and Soil Council, Shallowater, TX

Shelli Williams, Mulch & Soil Council, Shallowater, TX

1A. Subcommittee on All-Natural Products

The charge to this subcommittee is to develop a “Certified All-Natural” option for MSC Certified Products Program.

Kay Jeong, Ph.D., Sun Gro Horticulture Canada LTD, Agawam, MA (Chair)

Tom Carton, Ohio Mulch Supply, Columbus, OH

Gregg Cunningham, The Scotts Company, Matysville, OH

Larry Doose, Sylva Corp., Princeton, MN

Steve Jarahian, Oldcastle Lawn & Garden, Atlanta, GA

Steve Liffers, Denali, Davidson, NC

Ricky Urteaga, Kellogg Garden Products, Carson, CA

Jim Weber, Ohio Mulch Supply, Columbus, OH

John Hazard, Webster, Chamberlain and Bean, Washington, DC

Robert LaGasse, Mulch and Soil Council, Shallowater, TX

Lonny Nelson, Mulch and Soil Council, Shallowater, TX

Shelli Williams, Mulch & Soil Council, Shallowater, TX

2. Honors Committee

The honors committee is charged with recommending candidates for owners from nominations submitted by members and/or the committee.

Byron Morgan, Mountain West Bark, Rexburg, ID (Chair)

Larry Doose, Sylva Corp., Princeton, MN

Steve Liffers, Denali, Davidson, NC

Kent Rotert, Colorbiotics, Ames, IA

Brad Volker, Texas Best Mulch, Willis, TX

Robert LaGasse, Mulch and Soil Council, Shallowater, TX

Shelli Williams, Mulch & Soil Council, Shallowater, TX

3. Standards Committee

The Standards Committee is charged with keeping The Voluntary Uniform Product Guidelines up-to-date and monitoring the industry’s need for uniform product guidelines or practices.

Larry Doose, Sylva Corp., Princeton, MN (Chair)

Jessica Bain, Garick LLC, Cleveland, OH

Tom Carton, Ohio Mulch Supply, Columbus, OH

Nicholas Castorano, The Scotts Company, Marysville, OH
 Mike Lange, Black Gold Company, Oxford, FL
 Kay Jeong, Ph.D., Sun Gro Horticulture Canada LTD, Agawam, MA
 Byron Morgan, Mountain West Bark, Rexberg, ID
 Ricky Urteaga, Kellogg Garden Products, Carson, CA
 Brad Volker, Texas Best Mulch, Willis, TX
 John Hazard, Webster, Chamberlain and Bean, Washington, DC
 Robert LaGasse, Mulch and Soil Council, Shallowater, TX
 Shelli Williams, Mulch & Soil Council, Shallowater, TX

4. Nominations & Elections Committee

The Nominations And Elections Committee is charged with recommending a slate of directors for election at the MSC Annual General Membership Meeting

Steve Liffers, Denali, Davidson, NC (Chair)

Nicholas Castorano, The Scotts Company, Marysville, OH
 Kent Rotert, Colorbiotics, Ames, IA
 Randy Tyre, Waupaca Northwoods Inc., Waupaca, WI
 Robert LaGasse, Mulch and Soil Council, Shallowater, TX
 Shelli Williams, Mulch & Soil Council, Shallowater, TX

5. Transportation Committee

The transportation committee is charged with monitoring and promoting legislative and regulatory proposals that promote the objectives of the mulch & soil industry such as qualifying mulch and soil products as exempt agricultural commodities for shipping purposes.

Jim Weber, Ohio Mulch Supply, Columbus, OH (Chair)

Ken Allen, Oldcastle Lawn & Garden Products, Hope, AR
 Jessica Bain, Garick LLC, Cleveland, OH
 Tom Carton, Ohio Mulch Supply, Columbus, OH
 Sam DeLulo, Woodbed Corp, St. Mary's, PA
 Larry Doose, Sylva Corp., Princeton, MN
 Heather Knight, Midwest Trading Hort Supplies, Maple Park, IL
 TBD, Sun Gro Horticulture Canada LTD, Agawam, MA
 Mike Lange, Black Gold Company, Oxford, FL
 Byron Morgan, Mountain West Bark, Rexberg, ID
 Guenter Woerfel, The Scotts Company, Marysville, OH
 Richard Schweitzer, Special Counsel on Transportation, Washington, DC.
 David Beaudreau, DCLRS, Washington, DC
 David Crow, DCLRS, Washington, DC
 John Hazard, Webster, Chamberlain and Bean, Washington, DC
 Robert LaGasse, Mulch and Soil Council, Shallowater, TX
 Shelli Williams, Mulch & Soil Council, Shallowater, TX

5A. Subcommittee on After Treatment Issues

The sub-committee is charged with identifying diesel after treatment costs & issues for the industry and options to minimize or eliminate the issues through legislative or regulatory relief.

Jim Weber, Ohio Mulch Supply, Columbus, OH (Chair)

Tom Carton, Ohio Mulch Supply, Columbus, OH
 Larry Doose, Sylva Corp., Princeton, MN
 Byron Morgan, Mountain West Bark, Rexberg, ID
 TBD, The Scotts Company, Marysville, OH
 TBD, Sun Gro Horticulture Canada LTD, Agawam, MA
 David Beaudreau, DCLRS, Washington, DC
 David Crow, DCLRS, Washington, DC
 John Hazard, Webster, Chamberlain & Bean, Washington, DC
 Robert LaGasse, Mulch and Soil Council, Shallowater, TX
 Shelli Williams, Mulch & Soil Council, Shallowater, TX

6. Industry Statistics Committee

The charge of The Industry Statistics Committee is to develop surveys and reports that help members conduct business and convey useful data to the industry and interested stakeholders.

Kent Rotert, Colorbiotics, Ames, IA (Chair)

Ben Ballard, Sylva Corp., Princeton, MN

Tom Carton, Ohio Mulch Supply, Columbus, OH

Nicholas Castorano, The Scotts Company, Marysville, OH

Kay Jeong, Sun Gro Horticulture Canada LTD, Agawam, MA

Tom Kohut, Grant County, Petersburg, WV

Mike Lange, Black Gold Company, Oxford, FL

John Hazard, Webster, Chamberlain and Bean, Washington, DC

Robert LaGasse, Mulch and Soil Council, Shallowater, TX

Shelli Williams, Mulch & Soil Council, Shallowater, TX

7. Legislative & Regulatory Activities Committee

The charge of the committee is to identify, monitor and report on legislative and regulatory actions of state or federal jurisdictions that may have a positive or negative impact on the MSC membership and/or industry.

Kay Jeong, Sun Gro Horticulture Canada LTD, Agawam, MA (Chair)

Ben Ballard, Sylva Corp., Princeton, MN

Tom Carton, Ohio Mulch Supply, Columbus, OH

Nicholas Castorano The Scotts Company, Marysville, OH

Greg Cunningham, The Scotts Company, Marysville, OH

Michael Diamond, The Scotts Company, Marysville, OH

Larry Doose, Sylva Corp., Princeton, MN

Rick Mahoney, Garick LLC, Cleveland, OH

Brad Volker, Texas Best Mulch, Willis, TX

Jim Weber, Ohio Mulch Supply, Columbus, OH

John Hazard, Webster, Chamberlain and Bean, Washington, DC

Robert LaGasse, Mulch and Soil Council, Shallowater, TX

Shelli Williams, Mulch & Soil Council, Shallowater, TX

9. Succession Committee

The charge to the committee is to investigate and recommend options for the ongoing management of the Council headquarters office.

Jim Weber, Ohio Mulch, Columbus, OH (Chair)

Jessica Bain, Garick LLC, Cleveland, OH

Nicholas Castorano, Scotts Miracle-Gro, Columbus, OH

Larry Doose, Sylva Corp., Princeton, MN

Joe Ertel, Oldcastle Lawn & Garden, Atlanta, GA

Kay Jeong, Sun Gro Horticulture Canada LTD, Agawam, MA

Kent Rotert, Colorbiotics, Ames, IA

Robert LaGasse, Mulch and Soil Council, Shallowater, TX

Shelli Williams, Mulch & Soil Council, Shallowater, TX

John Hazard, Webster, Chamberlain and Bean, Washington, DC

10. Bulk Measure Committee

The charge to the committee is to investigate the latest technologies and methods to provide the most accurate bulk measurement protocol(s) for the industry.

Ben Ballard, Sylva Corp., Princeton, MN (Chair)

David Boardman, Stockpile Reports, Redmond, WA

Tom Carton, Ohio Mulch Supply, Columbus, OH

Larry Doose, Sylva Corp., Princeton, MN

Erin Gries, Sun Gro Horticulture, Agawam, MA

Tom Kohut, Grant County, Petersburg, WV

Michael Kozak, Prosource, Oakland, NJ

Steve Liffers, Denali, Davidson, NC

Rick Mahoney, Garick LLC, Cleveland, OH

Sean Martini, Britton Ind., Morrisville, PA

Byron Morgan, Mountain West Bark, Rexberg, ID

Dave Rose, A Block Marketing, Arlington Heights, IL.

Kent Rotert, Colorbiotics, Ames, IA

Ricky Urteaga, Kellogg Garden Products, Carson, CA

Nathan Weaver, Michigan Wood Fiber, Zeeland, MI

Kenny Witt, A Block Marketing, Arlington Heights, IL

John Hazard, Webster, Chamberlain and Bean, Washington, DC

Robert LaGasse, Mulch and Soil Council, Shallowater, TX

Lonny Nelson, Mulch and Soil Council, Shallowater, TX

Shelli Williams, Mulch & Soil Council, Shallowater, TX

Disbanded Committees

Bylaws Committee (Disbanded January 2024)

Jim Weber, Ohio Mulch Supply, Columbus, OH (Chair)

Tom Carton, Ohio Mulch Supply, Columbus, OH

Joe Ertel, Oldcastle Lawn & Garden, Atlanta, GA

Robert LaGasse, Mulch and Soil Council, Shallowater, TX

Shelli Williams, Mulch & Soil Council, Shallowater, TX

John Hazard, Webster, Chamberlain and Bean, Washington, DC

Lot Coding Committee (Disbanded January 2019)

Chris Littlefield, Kellogg Garden Supply, Inc., Lockeford, CA (Chair)

Steve Liffers, Swanson Bark & Wood Products, Longview, WA

David Ivy, REA Jet, Walton Hills, OH

Brian Kura, Harvest Consumer Products, LLC, Mooresville, NC

Jim McKinley, Lake Summit Consulting, Zirconia, NC

Ray Turchi, REA JET, Walton Hills, OH

Robert LaGasse, Mulch and Soil Council, Shallowater, TX

Carbon Black Sub-Committee (Disbanded February 2017)

John Wohler, The Scotts Company, Marysville, OH (Chair)

Anthony Brocato, Swanson Bark & Wood Products, Longview, WA

Kathryn Louis, Sun Gro Horticulture Canada LTD, Agawam, MA

Jim McKinley, Lebanon Seaboard, Zirconia, NC

Kent Rotert, Colorbiotics/BASF, Ames, IA

Ralph Spencer, Mulch Manufacturing, Reynoldsburg, OH

Bill Fonteno, North Carolina State, Raleigh, NC

John Hazard, Webster, Chamberlain and Bean, Washington, DC

Robert LaGasse, Mulch and Soil Council, Shallowater, TX

Mulch Blending Sub-Committee (Disbanded July 2016)

Mike Lange, Black Gold Company, Oxford, FL (Chair)
Tom Carton, Ohio Mulch Supply, Columbus, OH
Chris Littlefield, Kellogg Garden Supply, Inc., Lockeford, CA
Kathryn Louis, Sun Gro Horticulture Canada LTD, Agawam, MA
Rick Mahoney, Garick LLC, Cleveland, OH
Byron Morgan, Mountain West Bark, Rexberg, ID
Scott Salmon, Oldcastle Lawn & Garden, Atlanta, GA
Ralph Spencer, Mulch Manufacturing, Reynoldsburg, OH
Bill Fonteno, North Carolina State, Raleigh, NC
Robert LaGasse, Mulch and Soil Council, Shallowater, TX

Weights & Measures HB 133 Editorial (Disbanded February 2018)

John Wohler, The Scotts Company, Marysville, OH (Chair)
Mike Lange, Black Gold Company, Oxford, FL
Kathryn Louis, Sun Gro Horticulture Canada LTD, Agawam, MA
Rick Mahoney, Garick LLC, Cleveland, OH
Byron Morgan, Mountain West Bark, Rexberg, ID
John Hazard, Webster, Chamberlain and Bean, Washington, DC
Robert LaGasse, Mulch and Soil Council, Shallowater, TX

Workers' Comp Insurance Committee (Disbanded April 2016)

Mike Lange, Black Gold Company, Oxford, FL (Chair)
Anthony Brocato, Swanson Bark & Wood Products, Longview, WA
Brian Kura, Harvest Consumer Products, LLC, Mooresville, NC
Ralph Spencer, Mulch Manufacturing, Reynoldsburg, OH
John Hazard, Webster, Chamberlain and Bean, Washington, DC
Robert LaGasse, Mulch and Soil Council, Shallowater, TX