

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Illinois Sustainable Technology Center
Division of The Institute of Natural Resource Sustainability
One Hazelwood Drive
Champaign, IL 61820



Biochar: Production, Properties, & Agricultural Use

Sept. 1, 2010

9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Stephen J. Warner Conference Room
Illinois Sustainable Technology Center

This symposium is an opportunity to learn about the latest biochar research in the Midwest, exchange ideas, and discuss ways to collaborate on future projects. The symposium will feature presentations on biochar production, properties, and use in agricultural environments.

This event is sponsored by the Illinois Sustainable Technology Center. **It is free and open to the public.** However, **registration is required** and interested parties should register on the ISTC website www.istc.illinois.edu. There will be a cost of \$12 for the catered luncheon, or you may bring your own lunch. For those wishing to join us for the catered sandwich/salad buffet luncheon (includes beverage and dessert), please fill in the appropriate box on the registration form. **All registrations are due by Wed. August 25, 2010.** Please e-mail Nancy Holm (nholm@istc.illinois.edu) or call her at 244-3330 with any questions.

Agenda:

- 9 – 9:30 am** **Continental Breakfast (9:05 am - optional tour of ISTC laboratories)**
- 9:30 am** **Welcome and Background on Biochar - Nancy Holm and Kishore Rajagopalan, ISTC**
- 9:50 am** **Catie Brewer** - Iowa State University, Ames, IA - Biochar Characterization and Engineering
- 10:35 am** **Kurt Spokas** - USDA, St. Paul, MN - Impacts of Biochar Additions on Soil Microbial Processes and Nitrogen Cycling
- 11:20 am** **Paul Wever** - Chip Energy, Inc., Goodfield, IL - Biochar Production and Feedstock Effects
- 11:45 am** **Cody Ellens** – Avello Bioenergy, Inc., Ames, IA - Biomass to Biochar and Fast Pyrolysis Oil Fractions
- 12:10 - 1:15 pm** **Catered lunch (12:50 pm - optional tour of ISTC laboratories)**
- 1:15 pm** **Steve Heilmann** - Univ. of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN - Biochar from Hydrothermal Carbonization of Microalgae and Distiller's Grains
- 2:00 pm** **Akwasi Boateng** – USDA, Philadelphia, PA – Physicochemical and Absorptive Properties of Fast Pyrolysis Biochars and their Steam-Activated Counterparts
- 2:45 pm** **Wei Zheng** – ISTC, Univ. of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign – Current and Future Biochar Research at ISTC
- 3:10 – 3:30 pm** **Summary and Discussion - Kishore Rajagopalan, ISTC**