

PRESS RELEASE

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US Biochar Conference Offers Introductory Session Biochar 101 Outlines Basics, Describes Growing Industry

Rohnert Park, California – The US Biochar Conference, to be held July 29 – August 1 at Sonoma State University, in Rohnert Park, California, has announced it will offer a session on the basics of biochar and the industry that is growing up around it. Called “Biochar 101,” the session will include a concise presentation on the basics of biochar -- what it is, what it does, and the current developing exploration, research, and debate over its promise and future.

For researchers, advocates and policy makers who are just being introduced to the topic, presenters Peter Hirst and Alex Dolginow will cover the most important characteristics of biochar and of the industry growing around it. Hirst, consultant and co-founder of New England Biochar, will give an overview of biochar, emphasizing its most important characteristics and their implications. Dolginow, Harvard fellow and implementation manager for agriculture, forestry, open space and adaptation for the Climate Protection Campaign, will expand on these themes using actual examples and actions from Sonoma County.

While conference attendees are spending three days exploring these topics in depth, this session is designed for those who want to get to the heart of biochar in a single afternoon session. Time will be allotted for discussion and questions.

“I’m eager to introduce biochar to anyone who is passionate about sustainability of our food sources and our niche on the planet,” said Peter Hirst. “This introduction will cover the most important things about biochar and its implications for agriculture, energy, and environment.”

Biochar 101 will be offered on Tuesday, July 31, 2012, from 1:15 to 2:30 p.m. at the conference location at Sonoma Mountain Village. To register for the session or for the complete conference, visit <http://2012.biochar.us.com/registration>.

About the US Biochar Conference

The 2012 US Biochar Conference is designed to advance understanding of the economic, scientific, and policy issues related to biochar as an amendment for soils and as an agent for carbon sequestration. To learn more, visit www.2012.biochar.us.com.

Note to Editors:

To arrange for conference press access, contact Oren Wool, oren@biochar.us.com.

For additional information visit the Sonoma Biochar Initiative website at <http://sonomabiocharinitiative.org>.

The Sonoma Biochar Initiative (SBI) is dedicated to promoting biochar education, production, and use. SBI is sponsored by the Sonoma Ecology Center, a Sonoma Valley non-profit working collaboratively to sustain and enhance ecological health.