



## Letter from the Executive Director

This month, I am pleased to announce Tina Metzer as our new Director of Events and Partnerships at USBI. Tina will lead the planning and hosting of the upcoming North American Biochar Conference, coordinate Train the Trainers events, develop and manage key partnerships, and support business development at USBI. Prior to this, Tina has been heavily involved in USBI and in the biochar industry in North America, having been a key player in organizing and hosting the last two North American Biochar Conferences and organizing the Scaling Up Biochar Project.

Beyond that, Tina is a joy to work with and she gets so much done on a daily basis — she is a critical piece of USBI. Thank you for joining USBI, Tina!

Everyone has a biochar intro story. Mine started about a decade ago when an entrepreneur walked into my office with a wild idea: transforming poultry litter into something called "biochar." At first, I thought, "Really? Poultry litter into what?" But after researching, talking to experts, like Tom Miles, Charles Hegberg, and many others, I realized biochar wasn't just a concept — it was an industry waiting to be built. And I was hooked.

Since then, I've remained engaged in the industry, assisting with Scaling Up Biochar and regional initiatives, co-authoring Manure de Force, pxartnering with MASBio at West Virginia University to bring the 2022 Biochar Conference to West Virginia, among other efforts.

My passion has always been ecosystem development, particularly in

economic development and entrepreneurship. I co-founded two national nonprofits, the National Center for Resource Development and RuralRISE Tech, both driven by the need to support nonprofits, educational institutions, and communities in maximizing their impact. Now, in my role as Director of Events and Partnerships at USBI, I'm eager to bring this knowledge and experience to the biochar industry. I'm excited to guide our conference team, spearhead industry-wide initiatives, organize roundtable discussions, build strategic partnerships, and explore regional development that will help shape the future of biochar.

Under the leadership of Myles Gray, alongside his team and USBI's dedicated board members, the organization is making significant strides. Biochar is an industry on the rise, and the momentum in the industry is undeniable. There's never been a more exciting time to be part of this movement.

One of the highlights of the year will be the 2025 North American Biochar Conference: a must-attend event for industry leaders, and innovators.

If you've attended, presented, sponsored, or exhibited, you know this is more than just a conference; it's where the future of biochar takes shape. So, mark your calendar for September 15–18, 2025. Join us, along with the Minnesota conference team as they welcome us to Minneapolis, an innovative hub recognized as a Bloomberg City for its excellence. <u>Submit your abstracts</u>, secure your sponsorship, and <u>plan to attend the 2025 North American Biochar Conference</u>.

I'd love to connect—whether it's about the conference, partnerships, industry opportunities, or simply sharing ideas, contact me <u>tina@biocharus.org</u>.



Myles Gray
Executive Director



**Tina Metzer**Director of Events and Partnerships

## 2025 North American Biochar Conference

Building Sustainable Markets and Driving Innovation Writing Biochar's Next Chapter

Save the Date for September 15–18, 2025 in Minneapolis, Minnesota!

The North American Biochar Conference, organized by USBI, has become the premier gathering for the biochar industry in North America and beyond. For 2025, as

interest and momentum within the biochar community continue to grow, we anticipate an exceptional turnout of over 1,000 attendees and 75+ exhibitors and sponsors.

## Call for Speakers Extended to March 31

Submit Your Abstract

We're looking to bring together the best content on biochar research, practical uses, finance, carbon, policy, and more. Abstracts can be submitted for technical sessions, panels, workshops, and posters.

# Announcing Partnership with Biochar Today

Scaling biochar is a team effort — which is why USBI is thrilled to partner with Biochar Today, a global news source for researchers, industry leaders, and practitioners interested in pyrolysis-based carbon sequestration technologies.

We encourage you to follow Biochar Today and subscribe to receive valuable research insights, industry updates, and real-world applications of biochar regularly.

Read the Latest Articles

## **Industry Highlight**

A biochar company started by a 16-year-old has achieved \$3.5 million in seed round funding

CarbonZero.Eco, a startup tackling regenerative agriculture and CO2 removal through Biochar, emerged from stealth and announced a \$3.5 million seed round that includes investments from managers and executives at Google, Meta, Amazon and the CEOs of several late-stage startups.



The company also revealed it has signed deals worth \$7 million with over 300 almond farms in Colusa County and Yolo County, California to mitigate up to 1.5 million tons of carbon dioxide emissions from waste breakdown. The new funding round will advance the company's mission to help American farmers enhance soil quality, increase crop yields, and generate additional revenues while also removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere by revolutionizing Biochar production at scale.

# Participate: National Biochar Survey

Calling all farmers applying biochar or interested in biochar! American Farmland Trust (AFT) is conducting their first-ever national biochar survey to better understand which farmers are applying biochar and why and where in the U.S., as well as challenges and successes.

Survey responses will inform AFT's work to provide a blueprint for supporting greater adoption of biochar use among farmers.

☐ Open to your submissions through March 8, 2025.

**Share Your Ideas** 

### **Biochar Events Calendar**

Connect and collaborate at in-person or online events!

### February 2025

#### February 27

<u>Unlocking the Power of Biochar Compost:</u> ANZBIG Webinar Online

#### March 2025

#### March 6

<u>The Compost "Overs" Challenge: Is Biochar an Answer?</u>: US Composting Council Webinar Online

#### March 7

**Biochar for Climate Action Masterclass** 

Mexico City & Online (hybrid)

#### March 13Unpacking Biochar LCA, MRV, and Carbon Credit Certification:

International Biochar Initiative Webinar *Online* 

#### March 18

2025 International Biomass Conference & Expo Atlanta, GA

#### March 25-27 | USBI Panel March 25

North American Carbon World: America's premier event on carbon markets and climate policy. Myles Gray (USBI) to lead a panel discussion: Scaling Biochar as a Carbon Removal Technology by Growing End-Use Market Demand.

### **April 2025**

#### April 7-9

<u>US Biochar Coalition's DC Fly-in</u>: stay tuned for details! *Washington, DC* 

#### April 8

Measuring, Reporting, and Verifying Biochar Projects: The Continuous Impact of Audits: International Biochar Initiative Webinar Online

#### April 28-May 2

<u>DC Climate Week</u>: Providing opportunities to engage with policymakers, fund climate solutions, and showcase cutting-edge technologies. *Washington, DC* 

### May 2025

#### May 20-21

<u>Carbon Unbound, East Coast</u>: The Global Business Summit Accelerating Gigaton-Scale CDR

New York. NY

## **Biochar Roundup**



Advancing CDR: From Start-Up to Scale-Up with Robert Höglund and Jason Dodier

#### Watch the recording!

In case you missed GRAIN Ecosystem's live conversation on advancing carbon dioxide removal, tune into the recorded session to explore how CDR technologies can move from early-stage innovation to large-scale implementation.

Stay connected!

#### Visit Our Website

USBI thanks the USDA Forest Service, Wood Innovation Program for continued support of its activities and publications. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

USBI is supported in part by The United States Endowment for Forestry and Communities, Inc. The Endowment is a not-for-profit corporation that works collaboratively with partners in the public and private sectors to advance systemic, transformative, and sustainable change for the health and vitality of the nation's working forests and forest-reliant communities.











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