

Agenda - Biochar Outreach Event
October 28, 2015
10 AM to 2.30 PM

At Sonoma Garden Park, 7th Street East, Sonoma CA

Introductions, Purpose of Meeting, David Morell, Richard Dale and Entire Group [10 - 10.15]

Biochar Overview, David Morell [10.15 - 10.30]

What is biochar? What is pyrolysis? How and why does biochar work so well in the soil?

Biochar Production, David Morell and John Michalek [10.30 - 10.45]

- Adam Retort (using photos to describe it)
- Gasifiers
- Continuous feed systems (RFFI example)
- Smaller Kilns
- Sources and types of feedstock (waste wood, not plantations)

Demonstration: Kiln Production of Biochar, Miles Atchison [10.50 - 11.20]

Uses of Biochar, David Morell [11.30 - Noon]

- Agricultural soil amendment
- Stormwater capture
- Site remediation
- Heat capture from production units

Lunch (participants bring their own sandwich, SEC provides drinks) [Noon - 12.30]

Impacts from Using Biochar, Tony Passantino (or David Morell) [12.30 - 1]

- Soil moisture retention
- Soil health improvement
- Carbon sequestration
- Stormwater runoff reduction/sediment capture

SCBP Field Trials: Actions and Results, Bryan Sesser [1 - 1.15]

- Summarize data from three Sonoma farms (view photos)

Demonstration: SGP Soil Moisture Test, Tony Passantino [1.15 - 1.30]

- View test site, discuss soil moisture test now underway

Conservation Burns and Biochar, David Morell [1.30 - 2]

- Techniques (stack wood, burn from top)
- Summarize burns made to date, view photos (large poster board)
- Potential impacts on air quality improvements and forest fire risk reduction

Conclusions and Next Steps, David Morell [2 to 2.15 or so]

- How to translate biochar “magic” into ongoing effective action?
- Questions and group discussion