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Volume 20 Issue 1

The Georgia Recycling Coalition Newsletter

Summer 2014



Recycling Lives Here!

23rd Annual Conference, **Trade Show & Membership Meeting** August 17-20, 2014 **King & Prince Beach Resort** St Simon's Island, GA

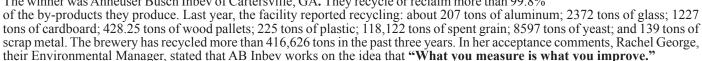
EXHIBITOR EARLY (BEST RATES) REGISTRATION DEADLINE: JULY 14, 2014 SPONSOR COMMITMENT DEADLINE: JULY 14, 2014 EARLY BIRD (LOWEST RATES) ATTENDEE DEADLINE: JULY 14, 2014 **HOTEL RESERVATION DEADLINE: JULY 14. 2014**

Measure Georgia

Gloria Hardegree, Executive Director, Georgia Recycling Coalition

I attended the Metro ATL Chamber of Commerce E3 (Environmental) Awards on Friday, April 4, 2014.

One of the categories was **Measuring Impact**; the winner would be the company or organization that demonstrated measureable improvements of reported goals in making metro ATL more sustainable. The winner was Anheuser Busch Inbev of Cartersville, GA. They recycle or reclaim more than 99.8%



Why can they report these findings?? Because they measure and use the process to gauge success in reaching their goals! And here is an example of how measuring can impact a state:

According to a College of Charleston study, employment in the recycling industry in South Carolina grew from 26,537 in 1995 to 37,440 in 2005. With a total \$6.5 billion economic impact, recycling contributed \$69 million in state tax revenue.

The benefits recycling provides with regard to local economic growth and development, job creation and increasing business competitiveness needs to be more widely known and more highly valued, according to recycling specialists and advocates. As College of Charleston professors Frank Hefner and Calvin Blackwell, authors of a widely cited report, "The Economic Impact of the Recycling Industry in South Carolina," state: "That recycling is beneficial for the environment is probably an uncontested proposition. What is becoming increasingly more obvious is that recycling contributes to the economic health of a state's economy.'

In Georgia, we are measuring disposal, but not recycling. And while data on landfilling shows trending toward lower per capita disposal, we have no evidence as to why this is happening—anecdotally, we can say recycling is working, but without strong metrics to back that up, it's just theory and conjecture. With zero waste goals and plans in the works, we need to get back to measuring—and voluntarily would be preferable, but it will take cooperation on the part of many—local government and private entities included. Our state mapping project has to date identified more than 120 Georgia businesses that use recovered materials to manufacture a variety of products, relying on items including plastic bottles, metals, glass, newspapers, organics, carpet, and tires collected from residential and commercial recycling programs to use as raw materials in their process.

So here is the question: Do you want to attract investment in the local economy increasing and sustaining green jobs; do you want to assist state agencies in securing funding for recycling (via the SWTF) and thereby supporting local programs that collect the feeds stocks for local manufacturers? If the answer is yes (as I am sure it would be), then are YOU willing to step up and help us MEASURE GEORGIA by reporting into a proprietary web based system which is being simplified and streamlined for ease of use as we speak? I hope your answer is YES, because what we measure will be what we improve!

President's Column



The Future of Recycling & Sustainability

Since the 20th century was a time for growth and industrialization of our planet then the 21st century must be a time of creating a new way of thinking about how humans interact with the planet, especially here in America. The United States is about 5% of the world's population but consumes roughly 25% of the world's natural resources. Americans have been conditioned to be consumers and make the economy grow, not think about future generations. When talking to people about recycling and why sustainability it's important, I often hear "I never even think about it".

Well, it's time to start thinking about it. While many believe it would cost too much to turn our economy around, the truth is going green will save green. Or let's consider the impacts to the climate if we don't change the way we live - higher temperatures, rising sea levels, stronger storms, water scarcity, crop decline, and much

As recyclers and pioneers of the environmental movement we should take every opportunity to enlighten others about the impacts of our actions and encourage more sustainable behavior. We have come a long way as humans but must remember we are all a part of the biosphere. Let's just hope in 20 years we'll look back and say, "Do you believe we used to throw this material into the landfill?"

Michelle Wiseman / SP Recycling, Southeast GRC 2014 President

The Georgia Recycling Coalition (GRC) is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization that was formed to complement and coordinate the activities of professionals, organizations, government agencies and individuals related to recycling; to foster communications among those groups; to promote sustainable reduction and recycling programs; and to provide a forum to and from which its membership may enhance recycling efforts in Georgia.

GRC 2014 Board of Directors

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Georgia Recycling Coalition, Inc. P.O. Box 550667, Atlanta, GA 30355

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

GRC 23rd Annual Conference

King & Prince, St Simons Island, GA

Aug 20-22, 2014

Aug 17-20, 2014

Aug. 26-28, 2014

Sept. 16-17, 2014

November 9 - 13, 2014

November 17-19, 2014

GA Environmental Conference

Wastecon

Resource Recycling Conference

SERDC Summit

SWANA GA FALL Conference

Gaylord Texan, Dallas, TX

New Orleans, LA

Jekyll Island, GA

Point Clear, AL

Augusta Marriott, Augusta, GA

GRC IN THE NEWS



GRC at Zero Waste Business Council

GRC's Executive Director, Gloria Hardegree, spoke on a panel at the Zero Waste Business Council Conference in Atlanta in May; the topic was Zero Waste-Georgia Grown. (Pictured l-r): Jeff Clark, National Restaurant Association; Gloria; Abbey Patterson, Atlanta Recycles; Melissa Selem, Ei (moderator); and Steve Simon, Fifth Group Restaurants.

GRC Members Can Earn SWANA GA Re-Certification CEUs

GRC members may now apply for CEU credits for the Georgia Landfill Operator Certification program for participation at GRC sponsored trainings, workshops, seminars, and conferences.

In order to receive the CEU credit Georgia Landfill Operator Certification, GRC members need to send the following items to the Georgia Chapter of SWANA:

- Complete Landfill Operator Application for Recertification form found here - www.gaswana.org/Landfill_ Operator Certification.html
- Provide attendance statement (GRC to provide on request after events)
- Include daily agenda from the GRC seminar, training and/ or conference

EPD has requested that the number of CEUs from non-landfill oriented GRC programs be limited to twenty-five percent (25%) of the total number of hours (30) needed for state recertification.

This material should be sent to the Georgia Chapter of SWANA, 823 Prada Court, Lawrenceville, Georgia 30043.

Afternoon with a RePurpose!

Tuesday August 19, 2014 from 2:00-4:00 Are you inspired by "trash"? Are you addicted to upcycled projects on Pinterest? If so, this workshop is for YOU.

Join Chris McDowell with the University of Georgia (UGA) Material Reuse Program as he assists participants with the creation of an herb box made from reclaimed materials. Each participant will get to go



home with an herb box and herbs. The majority of this reclaimed material came through the UGA Material Reuse Program (www.thematerialreuseprogram.com).

The purpose of the Material Reuse Program is to divert Construction and Demolition (C&D) material from sites on the UGA campus and within the Athens region and actively reuse these "waste" materials on community-based and student projects. Chris McDowell is the Program Coordinator and Founder of this program. Don't miss this opportunity to create a treasure from trash!

Tuesday August 19, 2014 from 2:00-4:00 PM during the 23rd Annual Conference

No additional fee for attendees, but pre-registration required via email notification to GRC: garecycles@mindspring.com

Call2Recycle commends Lowe's for In-store Recycling Center Success

With more than 1,800 stores collecting rechargeable batteries from customers, Lowe's Companies, Inc. has reached a rare milestone in the world of corporate sustainability. Call2Recycle®-North America's first and largest battery product stewardship program — announced recently that Lowe's has recycled more than 3 million

The home improvement company began working

pounds of rechargeable batteries since joining

with Call2Recycle to collect re-chargeable batteries in 2004. Six years later, Lowe's added a first-of-its-kind recycling center near store entrances to increase the

the program.



collection of batteries and also offer customers a free and easy way to properly dispose of cell phones, CFLs and plastic shopping bags; materials that otherwise could be potentially harmful to the environment.

Welcome New Members

Patron Level Sponsor

Republic Services
Brad Martin

Government / Non Profit

Macon Bibb Consolidated Government Larry Dunning

Individual

Kimberly Jenkins
National Management Resource Corp.

Boyd Leake Community Environmental

Daniel Moran Boxresellers

Associate

Kevin Bailey, Pratt Recycling

Shannon Banks, Pratt Recycling

Brian King, Pratt Recycling

Kurt Schmitz, Pratt Recycling

Jacqueline Furlong
Recycling Management Resources

Mike Swint, DiversiTech

Kevin Barkley
Macon Bibb Consolidated Government
(Welcome Back!)

GRC SPONSORS - 2013-2014

PARTNERS

Coca-Cola Recycling LLC
Funds2Orgs, Inc
Georgia Beverage Association
GA Dept of Community Affairs
Mohawk Industries
Novelis, Inc.
Pratt Industries
Shaw Industries Group, Inc.
SP Recycling SE, LLC

SUSTAINERS

American Chemistry Council-Plastics Div
Caraustar Recycling
Cox Enterprises
Green Sense Recycling
GP Harmon Recycling
PepsiCo, Inc
Rubicon Global
Steel Recycling Institute

PATRONS

Cycle Tex, Inc. Delta Air Lines DiversiTech Pull-A-Part LLC TeleCycle, LLC

SPECIAL CONTRIBUTORS

ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITY

The Georgia Recycling Coalition (GRC) is offering advertising in its quarterly newsletter. What better way to get the word out on what your organization is offering to the waste reduction and recycling community? Your ad will be seen by all GRC members and readers of the printed newsletter.

Take a look at our rates, consider the benefits, and give us a call!

RATES: Size: _______ Cost Business Card \$100 1/6 page \$200 1/4 page \$300 1/2 page \$400 Full page \$600

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Georgia Recycling Coalition

DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE:

- 25% discount for all GRC members
- 25% discount to non-members who advertise in 4 consecutive issues
- 50% discount to GRC members who advertise in 4 consecutive issues

GRC MEMBERS RECEIVE ADVERTISING DISCOUNTS!

For more info on placing an advertisement or for membership information, call 404-634-3095.

Georgia Recycling Coalition 23rd Annual Conference Registration Form Circle Appropriate Option/Complete Contact Info Below

ATTENDEE REGISTRATION

Early Bird Rates/Deadline July 14, 2014 GRC Member 295.00 Non Member 350.00 KAB Executive Directors & KAB Affiliate Staff 275.00 (Attendee must be a GRC Member to receive this Discount)

Rates After July 14, 2014		
GRC Member	325.00	
Non Member	400.00	
KAB Executive Directors	300.00	
& KAB Affiliate Staff (Attended must be a CBC Member to receive this	Discount)	

$(Attendee \, must be \, a \, GRC \, Member to \, receive \, this \, Discount)$

One Day Attendance		
ONE DAY-Mon. August 18 ONE DAY-Tues. August 19 ONE DAY-Wed. August 20	200.00 200.00 150.00	
Name:		
Organization:		
Phone:Fax:		
Email:		
Address:		
Address:		
City, State, Zip:		

Conference Cancellation Policy: Refunds less a \$75 administration fee will be made upon written request received prior to August 6, 2014. No refunds will be made after this date. All refunds will be mailed after the conference. Substitute attendees may be made at any time before August 6, 2014 provided written notice is provided to Georgia Recycling Coalition.

23rd Annual Georgia Recycling Coalition Conference August 17-20, 2014 Hotel Registration

King & Prince Resort 201 Arnold Road St Simons Island, GA

Reservations by phone: (800) 342-0212

Group Block: Georgia Recycling Coalition (Block is for Sun Aug 17-Tues Aug 19; check in at 4:00 PM/check out 11:00 AM)

Reservations online:

http://www.kingandprince.com/group-reservations.aspx

Click Group Reservations/Group Code is: recycle (case sensitive)

Room Rates:

Standard	\$98
Resort View	\$115
Ocean View	\$128
Ocean Front	\$138
Villa-2 bdrm (View)	\$399
Villa-2 bdrm (Front)	\$456

GA state sales tax is 5%, Glynn County room tax is 5%, and local tax is 1%, for a total of 11%.

Reservation Deadline: July 14, 2014

Conference Fee Payment Info

Checks made payable to GRC and mailed to: Georgia Recycling Coalition, P.O. Box 550667, Atlanta, GA 30355

Questions (?): (404) 634-3095 or garecycles@mindspring.com FAX # (404) 350-8780

Pay online at

www.georgiarecycles.org

(Click About GRC then GRC Events)
We are able to take credit cards only via
online registration; our staff cannot handle
credit card payments for you.

EARLY BIRD EXHIBITOR REGISTRATION

GRC 23nd Annual Conference Deadline for lowest rate: July 14, 2014

Check Appropriate Option (s)			
GRC Member Rate:	\$550*		
Non-Member Rate:	\$600*		
*Exhibitor Registration includes Rates increase after July 14, 201		e represent	ative.
Additional Exhibitor	Attendee/GRC Member:	\$250**	*
Additional Exhibitor	Attendee/Non-Member	\$300*	*
**Discount over regular attended	e fee; available only before	July 14, 201	4
Exhibitor Organization:			
Attendee Name:			Total: \$
Email:			Check enclosed
Phone:			Please Invoice MeA check is being processed
			Paid online at
Address			www.georgiarecycles.org
Address:			Please fax to: 404 350-8780
City, State, Zip:			OR mail to: GRC
Additional Exhibitor Attendee Na	ame:		P.O. Box 550667 Atlanta, GA 30355
Email:			OR Scan and email to:
Phone:			garecycles@mindspring.com
Address if different from above:_			
Additional Exhibitor Attendee Na	ame:		
Email:			
Phone:			
Address if different from above:_			
	2013 CONFERENCE E	XHIBITOR	S

Cycle Tex Inc • Custom Polymers PET • Caraustar Recycling • General Kinematic/Metal Tech Systems • Metal Conversion Technologies LLC • Newell Recycling • Omnisource Southeast • Pratt Industries • SP Recycling Southeast LLC Strategic Materials • Toter • Tricon Precast Ltd • Waste Management • USAgain • Funds2Orgs, Inc • Sonoco Recycling UNICOR • Dart Container Corp • Shaw Industries Group • Mohawk Industries • YP • Recycling Partners LLC TKO Polymers • VIVA Recycling of SC





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GRC's ANNUAL BENEFIT GOLF TOURNAMENT Tuesday, August 19, 2014 12 Noon - 5:00 PM

Shotgun Start/Captain's Choice/Box Lunch Included Mulligans for sale at registration (cash or check only)

Team Prizes-Overall - 1st, 2nd place

Individual Awards Lady's Longest Drive • Men's Longest Drive Closest to the Pin-Par 3 • Hole in One-Par 3

4 Players & Hole Sponsorship	\$500 🗖
Company	
Player 1	
Player 2	
Player 3	
Player 4	
Individual Player Registration Info:	\$125 🗖
Contact Name:	
Company/Organization:	
Address:	

Method of Payment:

Email: __

Check Enclosed

☐ Check at Registration

Invoice Company at Address Above

City, State, Zip: _____

Pay Online with a credit card at georgiarecycles.org

Phone: _____

(Please fax 404-350-8780 or US mail your registration form)

Checks payable to:

Georgia Recycling Coalition

Mailed to:

GRC P.O. Box 550667, Atlanta, GA 30355

GRC is a 501c3 Non-Profit Organization - Fed ID # 58-1983957

Contact us at: (404) 634-3095 or garecycles@mindspring.com

Owned and operated by The King and Prince Beach & Golf Resort, the award-winning course is renowned for its challenging layout amongst ancient forests, vast salt marshes, dramatic island holes and comfortable clubhouse overlooking the vast lake that adds to the challenge of the course's 9th hole. Originally designed by renowned architect Joe Lee, the King and Prince Golf Course's signature is the group of four spectacular holes gently carved from small coastal marsh islands and accessed by 800-feet of elevated cart bridges. This bold and brilliant design marks the highlight of the back nine, but Lee's genius extends through the entire 18-hole, Par 72 course as it bends around towering oaks, along large areas of salt marshes, and across lakes and lagoons.

GRC 2014 Live Auction "trash f treasure" Donation Form



This year the auction will be All LIVE!
We are looking for special, fun, environmental DEADLINE: and useful items for a live auction.

Here is / are my Donations: Company Name: ___ Email: Phone: I will bring the items with me to conference registration (preferred): I am forwarding to your office: **Shipping Address:** GRC 50 Hurt Plaza. Suite 935 Atlanta, GA 30303 Clip and fax to (404) 350-8780 or US mail to GRC P.O. Box 550667 Atlanta, GA 30355







Be a STAR of the Show!! SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY

www.georgiarecycles.org Click-Recent News/Annual Conference on home page to find the sponsor link

Recycling Lives Here!

23rd Annual Conference, Trade Show and **Membership Meeting** August 17-20, 2014 **King & Prince Beach Resort** St Simons Island, GA

The Georgia Recycling Coalition (GRC) is the 501 c 3 state recycling organization in Georgia. Its mission is to promote & enhance waste reduction and recycling programs & activities in the state. It is comprised of members representing all sectors of the recycling industry. GRC was awarded the Recycling Coalition of the Year for 2008 by the National Recycling Coalition. Atlanta Magazine recognized the Georgia Recycling Coalition and its EcoVille website in the Best of Atlanta December 2009 issue for best Eco Service in its "Thrive" category. In 2011, GRC celebrated its 20th Anniversary and in March 2012 was honored with the Coach Beach Award by the Atlanta Business Characials in its 2013. with the Green Reach Award by the Atlanta Business Chronicle in its 2012 Environmental Awards. GRC was a finalist in the Metro Atlanta Chamber's 2013 E3 Awards in the Making the Connections category.

Sponsor Deadline is July 14, 2014

Tentative Agenda

Recycling Lives Here!

Sund	av. A	lugust 17	1. 2014
/	-,, .		1

3:00-6:00 6:30-8:00	Arrival - Exhibitor Set-Up from 4:00-6:0 Registration Open from 3:00-6:00 Evening Reception with Exhibitors Dinner on Your Own	Delegal Lobby Delegal
8:00-9:00 8:45-9:30 9:30-10:30 10:30-11:00 11:00-12:00 12:00-1:00 1:00-2:00 2:00-2:30 2:30-4:45	Monday, August 18, 2014 Registration/Breakfast @ Delegal Opening Session-Keynote Speaker Plenary Session - Innovative Approaches Networking Session w/Exhibitors Plenary Session - Corporate Responsibility Lunch - Delegal Buffet Plenary Sessions - Organics Recycling Networking Break w/Exhibitors Plenary Sessions 2:30 - 3:45 - Increasing Recovery 3:45 - 4:45 - Promotion & Education Adjourn for the Day Dinner on Your Own	Lobby/Ballroom Lanier Ballroom Delegal Lanier Ballroom Lanier Ballroom Lanier Ballroom Delegal Lanier Ballroom
8:00-9:00 9:00-10:00 10:00-11:30 11:30-12:00 12:00 - 6:00 12:00-2:00	Tuesday, August 19, 2014 Breakfast Buffet GRC Annual Membership Meeting "Spirit of Green Awards" Presentation Plenary Sessions - Packaging Solutions Networking Break with Exhibitors GOLF TOURNAMENT Box Lunch & Breakout Meetings Councils/Special Interest Group Meetings	Delegal Lanier Ballroom Lanier Ballroom Delegal
2:00-4:00 7:00 7:30	 Department of Defense (DOD) Partnership Recycling Program Managers Council G-ROC - Organics Recycling Council College/University Council Workshops - Material Reuse Program Pre-Registration Required Reception - Review of Auction Items Dinner -17th Trash to Treasures Auction Live auction begins at 8:30 	Lanier Breakout I Pre-Function/Ballroom
8:00-9:00 9:00-11:15	Wednesday, August 20, 2014 Buffet Breakfast - Delegal Buffett Plenary Sessions 9:00-9:45 - Handling Challenging Materials 9:45-10:45 - The Sky's the Limit! 10:45-11:15 - Closing Speaker	Lanier Ballroom Lanier Ballroom
Drawing for Weekend Get-Away at King & Prince, an attendee registration to 2015 conference, and other premium door prizes immediately following the closing speaker's presentation		

11:15 Evaluations & Adjourn

Industry News

KAB Helps Increase Recycling Bin Convenience **Nationwide**

In April, KAB announced that Colleges, K-12 schools, nonprofits and local governments will now be better able to advance their recycling efforts thanks to a significant grant made possible by The Coca-Cola Foundation. The winning communities, schools, universities and organizations will receive nearly 4,500 recycling bins. Over 65 percent of the bins are designed specifically for permanent, ongoing use in heavily-trafficked public spaces and events, with the remaining 35 percent to be used by students in collegiate residence halls.

In its 9th year, the Coca-Cola/Keep America Beautiful Recycling Bin Grant Program continues to recognize the significant need for public space recycling bins with over 1,027 applications received. Overall, recycling bins will be used for special event recycling and placed at athletic fields, streetscapes, parks, K-12 schools and local government facilities. Additionally, Coca-Cola has expanded its investment in the bin grant program to include a specific focus on two-year community colleges, with 15 recycling bin grants going to two-year colleges and 28 going to traditional four-year colleges and universities.

Recipients were chosen by Keep America Beautiful based on criteria including the extent of their need, recycling experience and their ability to sustain the program in the future. Special outreach was made to colleges and universities through a partnership with the College and University Recycling Coalition (CURC), a membership organization serving campus recycling managers.

Congrats to Georgia grant recipients:

East Georgia State College in Swainsboro Georgia State University in Atlanta Habitat for Humanity in Atlanta Keep Waycross-Ware Beautiful in Waycross



The Coca-Cola/KAB Recycling Bin Grant Program awards recycling bins directly to recipients and leverages volume buying discounts. Since 2007, the program has placed more than 35,000 recycling bins in over 500 communities across the U.S. A full list of the spring 2014 Recycling Bin Grant recipients and further information about the grant program is available at http://bingrant.org.

PepsiCo Awards Grant to Georgia School

PepsiCo issued a public goal in 2010 to increase the U.S. beverage container recycling rate to 50% by 2018. This



year marks the mid-point in terms of time and progress: beverage recycling rates have increased from 34% to 42% since the goal was issued.

Their K-12 *Recycle Rally* program involves thousands of students at schools in more than 30 states working to become environmental leaders at school, home and in their communities. Through the program, schools earn rewards, gain access to educational tools and connect to a national recycling effort. During the 2013-14 school year contest, students collected more than six million PET and aluminum containers – a total of 306,350 lbs. These efforts enlist the support of community members and parents to help collect, sort and handle the containers; many of the bottles and cans collected come from families and recycling drives and would otherwise end up in a landfill. The program also provides dedicated support to further the Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans with Disabilities' (EBV) mission to provide training in entrepreneurship and small business management to post-9/11 veterans with disabilities resulting from military service.

The hundreds of participating Recycle Rally K-12 schools in more than 30 states across the nation are judged in three size brackets, allowing schools to compete against those with similar enrollments. Each year, the company awards three schools with a \$25,000 grant to use toward green improvements. Past winners have used their prize to help cover costs for constructing outdoor learning environments and various initiatives to reduce their use of paper, water and energy.

This year, a Georgia school in Liberty County is among the winners. Midway Middle School in Midway, GA and the surrounding community collected a total of 226, 499 PET and aluminum containers. Midway's Green Team, an organization of students who work to support the schools' recycling efforts and extend the school's mission of sustainability to the community, along with





advisor Joy Kennedy, spearheaded the school's Recycle Rally program. Throughout the year, the Green Team reached out to local businesses, churches and civic groups to increase awareness of the program and drive recycling efforts of hundreds of students and their families to earn top honors in this year's program contest.

Compost Row ICAW EVENT A SUCCESS!!

GRC's ICAW event this year was a screening of **Dirt** the movie held Friday May 9th at Southface Energy Institute in Atlanta. Participants enjoyed a pre-screening reception including the popular "compost cupcakes"! We were very lucky to have Wayne King, Andy Hull and Britt Faucette to do Q&A after the film; these guys are some of the most knowledgeable and experienced professionals in the industry.

Great food, fun and lots of info, plus compost related door prizes including "vintage" 2012 ICAW T-shirts rounded out the evening. A great event--thanks to ERTH Products, Whole Foods Market, Live Thrive Atlanta, EcoVision Environmental, Orbis, Busch Systems, and Farmer D Organics for their donation and sponsorship support! And to Southeast Green, Look Up Atlanta and Green Chamber of the South for promotional support.

Posters, vintage T-shirt door FRECE Prizes, and fun!



Wayne King of ERTH
Products LLC, Andy Hull
of Filtrexx and Dr. Britt
Faucette were on hand
for discussion and O&A

following the screening.

Compost cupcakes with gummy worms were a hit!

Compost Rules Amendments PASSED!

AFTER 5 Years of work by our EPD, Stakeholders including GRC and SWANA GA CHAPTER, plus many operators and industry leaders in our state, the **Proposed Amendments to Rules for Solid Waste Management, Chapter 391-3-4, Pertaining to Composting, Mulching and Anaerobic Digestion Facilities PASSED UNANIMOUSLY FOR ADOPTION BY THE GA DNR BOARD OF DIRECTORS!!** GRC was well represented and spoke on behalf of their adoption earlier. Thanks to GA EPD and our friends and colleagues Jeff Cown and Stephanie Busch for literally thousands of hours work to make this a reality. Now onwards and upwards toward growing our organics recycling industry!

So, why is compost use important in Georgia? Read this excerpt from an article in LaGrange News (June 2014) by Brian Maddy, Troup Co Extension Agent

If you were passing through the Piedmont of Georgia 100 years ago on a train and someone asked what your general impressions of the landscape were, you might say the prevalence of Georgia red clay. Hill top to hill top, road beds, farm yards, front yards were all the color of Georgia red clay. The streams were all muddied after a rain in the same color. The same red tint would be in your mind's eye. Our poet laureate, Sidney Lanier, wrote poems with descriptions of the red clay hills. Our farming practices of the time were to plant from fence row to fence row cotton and corn, the two biggest money crops for Georgia farmers. Unfortunately, plowing up all the land exposed the topsoil to punishing rains which washed it downstream and silted up the rivers and lakes in the Piedmont.

Now if you look out your windshield of your car as you drive across Georgia the most prevalent color is now green. My father once complained that all you see along the roads are trees. We've made a lot of improvement from 100 years ago. The farmers and highway departments have embraced soil conservation and changed the landscape of Georgia. One problem still remains: most of the 25 inches of original topsoil is still gone. So what should we do? Under prairie conditions, Mother Nature takes 1,000 years to build one inch of topsoil and under forest conditions, 10,000 years. We can't wait that long. We can speed up soil making by using a method called composting.

Compost is what's left of organic matter – dead leaves, stems and roots – after microbes have thoroughly decomposed it. The presence of organic matter is what makes topsoil, topsoil. Organic matter also is what makes the soil dark in color. What is good stuff to compost? Leaves, grass clippings, twigs, chopped brush, straw, old sawdust, vegetable plants, culled vegetables from the garden, coffee grounds, vegetable peelings, fruit peelings and egg shells all make good compostable organic material.

It may take over a thousand years for Mother Nature to make an inch of topsoil but you sure can speed up the process with composting.

SPOTLIGHT ON PROGRAMS

Keep North Fulton Beautiful Kicks-Off New Program Recycling Home Medical Equipment and Supplies

Items will be refurbished and provided to people with injuries and disabilities.

Sandy Springs Recycling Center, in partnership with the Rotary Club of Sandy Springs, is now collecting home medical equipment and supplies. All of the items will be donated to Friends of Disabled Adults



and Children (www.fodac.org), a statewide and national provider of home health care equipment—mobility aids and daily living devices for people with disabilities and the newly injured.

Donate used equipment or medical supplies and FODAC's team of volunteers will refurbish & customize the equipment to fit the person in need. FODAC is a non-profit that provides over 5000 home medical equipment items to the public each year at no cost.

A kick-off event in April included volunteers from the Rotary Club to assist donors. Items accepted include wheelchairs, walkers, hospital beds, canes, crutches, lifts, power chairs, and shower seats. Home medical equipment only; no institutional items please. No sharps, pharmaceuticals, or expired items.



"Art in Motion — Great Gwinnett Stream Cleanup" Turns Trash into Treasure

Bright and early on the morning of May 17, 60 volunteers scoured the banks of Duluth's Bromolow Creek in search of treasure for "Art in Motion - Great Gwinnett Stream Cleanup". A joint CLEAN & BEAUTIFUL initiative of Gwinnett Clean & Beautiful,



Gwinnett County Department of Water Resources, and Hudgens Center for the Arts, "Art in Motion" was designed for a dual purpose: 1) to remove litter and illegal dumping from the Bromolow Creek watershed, and 2) to collect and inventory unusual objects for use in future art projects at the Hudgens Center for the Arts.

"We are literally turning trash into treasure," explained Connie Wiggins, Executive Director for Gwinnett Clean & Beautiful. "This is a prime example of the power of repurposing where 'one man's trash' receives an entirely new lease on life. The most interesting items collected – which include old tires, sections of fire hose, corrugated plastic tree tubes, PVC pipe, scrap metal, wooden pallets, and even an old bucket – will be used to engage high school juniors who have been selected as smART Scholarship students at The Hudgens Center for the Arts." Over and above the items reclaimed for the Hudgens Center smART Program, the efforts of "Art in Motion" resulted in the collection of 2,500 pounds of litter. In just two hours, dozens of volunteers removed 41 bags of trash and 25 bags of recyclables from the banks of Bromolow Creek.



Member Spotlight

USAgain 2000 LLC is celebrating their 15th year of providing Textile Recycling services to the residents



of the State of Georgia. USAgain has helped divert over 54,600,000 pounds of textiles from landfills within Georgia, and helped improve our environment by the reduction of over 380,220,000 pounds of Greenhouse Gasses, and landfill space by over 345,994 cubic yards, or over 26,614 garbage truck loads.

USAgain 2000 LLC provides over 1,200 Textile Recycling containers and works with many Georgia Counties, Cities, Keep America Beautiful Members, Public and Private Schools, Universities and Colleges to help educate students, faculty and staff in the importance of recycling.

USAgain is a founding member of the Zero Waste Business Council, and are members of SWANA, GRC, GACS.

Join the GRC & "Get In The Loop"

The Georgia Recycling Coalition, Inc. (GRC) is a non-profit organization whose mission is to complement and coordinate the activities of professionals, organizations, government agencies and individuals related to recycling; to foster communications among those groups; to promote sustainable reduction and recycling programs; and, to provide a forum to and from which its membership may enhance recycling efforts in Georgia.

Please choose a membership category, complete the information below, and return to: Georgia Recycling Coalition, P.O. Box 550667, Atlanta, GA 30355

If you have any questions, or need additional information, call (404) 634-3095.

I would like to join at the following level:		
,	☐ Partner	(\$3,025 or more)
	☐ Sustainer	(\$1,525 or more)
	☐ Patron	(\$775 or more)
	☐ Business/Trade Association	(\$375)
	☐ Government/Non-Profit	(\$175)
	□Individual	(\$75)
Name:		
Street Address:		
City, State, Zip:		
Phone:	Fax:	. Email:
I would like to serve on the following GRC ☐ Education ☐ Programs	☐ Membership Development	☐ Communications Special Events



Dated Material

P.O. Box 550667 Atlanta, Georgia 30355 404.634.3095 Fax 404.350.8780 www.georgiarecycles.org garecycles@mindspring.com

