



GREEN SHEET

JUNE 2023

Welcome to GRC's monthly update!

Latest News

Gwinnett EPD Grant to Expand Glass Recycling



Gwinnett County officials are getting help from Georgia EPD to open 10 new glass recycling sites across the county. County commissioners voted recently to accept a **\$175,110 grant** from EPD to expand the county's glass recycling program. Gwinnett will provide \$135,000 as a local match for the grant. The EPD funding is a Recycling, Waste Reduction and Diversion Grant available through the state's Solid Waste Trust Fund Grant Program. "With this grant, the county seeks to expand the glass recycling program to become an ongoing program that supports the Board of Commissioners' Strategic Priority of Sustainability and Stewardship," Gwinnett County Solid Waste Management and Gwinnett Clean and Beautiful officials wrote in the grant application last year. "As additional drop-off locations are provided, it becomes more convenient for residents to recycle glass, and glass recycling is projected to increase, diverting tons of materials from landfills." Started as a pilot in 2021, the glass recycling program has recycled more than 250 tons; the added sites will increase capacity as they open one new drop off site every month through 2024.

EPD Announces FY24 Grants

Georgia EPD is pleased to announce \$3.5M in Solid Waste Trust Fund (SWTF) Grant funding for FY24 to support recycling, waste diversion, and scrap tire abatement and reuse. For updated information including all application materials, information webinars, and FAQs, visit www.epd.georgia.gov/solid-waste-trust-fund-grant-program

RWD Grant

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) plans to announce the second year of the Recycling and Waste Diversion (RWD) Grant in late fall/early winter and anticipates offering \$2M for state FY24. The RWD Grant provides financial support to projects in Georgia to reduce solid waste, recover valuable materials, support manufacturing, and encourage innovation.

New!! Tire Products Grant

The Tire Products (Tire) Grant will launch in Summer 2023 and offer \$1M for projects that incorporate scrap tire-derived products into paving, trail, and playground surfaces, or that identify innovative uses for these products through research. The Tire Grant provides financial support to projects in Georgia that reduce solid waste, support manufacturing and market development for scrap tires, and encourage innovation. Awarded grant funds will pay for the direct costs related to the incorporation of tire-derived products into projects that would normally utilize new or virgin materials, or for research projects to support scrap tire innovations. More information to come soon!

Scrap Tire Abatement Reimbursement (STAR) Program

The Local Government Scrap Tire Abatement Reimbursement (STAR) Program reimburses local governments for the direct costs associated with recycling tires abated in their communities. Eligible projects include right-of-way cleanups, scrap tire collection events, and local government led scrap tire abatement projects. While the program is non-competitive, local governments must apply and be approved before beginning their project.

Glass Recycling Foundation Grants Available



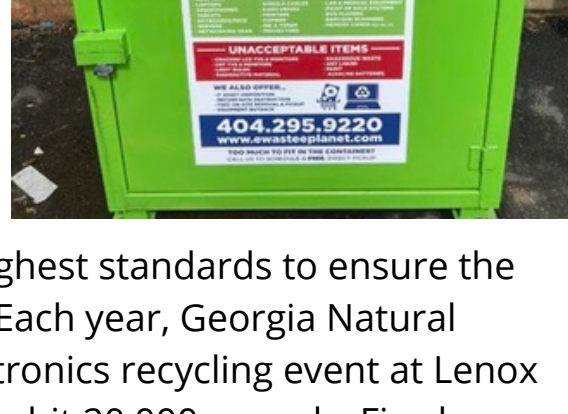
Glass can be recycled endlessly, however only one third of glass is currently recovered for recycling. The Glass Recycling Foundation (GRF) is making efforts to increase glass recycling in the U.S. by providing grants that increase glass recycling by upgrading equipment for cleaning recycled glass, providing collection containers for glass drop-offs, supporting pilot projects, developing resident education, and other glass recovery related projects.

The GRF released its 2022 Impact Report highlighting nearly \$200,000 in grants that supported projects diverting almost 600 tons or 1,200,000 pounds of glass from landfills. The grants were made possible by donations from **Anheuser-Busch Foundation**, **Corona**, the **Glass Packaging Institute**, and **Diageo**. "Over nine million tons of glass go to landfills each year in the U.S.," said Scott DeFife, president of GRF and president of the Glass Packaging Institute. "This valuable material is being lost. We need to invest in our collection and sorting infrastructure to close the gap and get more recycled material into containers and fiberglass."

The GRF is opening the application period for the next round of grants on May 17, 2023. Eligible grantees include non-profit entities, municipal governments, public waste management districts, glass collectors, material recovery facilities (MRFs), glass beneficiaries, and manufacturers. Applications must be submitted by July 7, 2023. "Many communities and recyclers recognize the benefits of recycling glass but struggle to do so because of a lack of funding," said Laura Hennemann, secretary of GRF and senior vice president of sustainability and corporate affairs at **Strategic Materials Inc.** "Donations from stakeholders in the glass recycling value chain make it possible for the GRF to support efforts that create long-term sustainable programs for glass recycling." For more information, visit www.glassrecyclingfoundation.org/grants

eWaste ePlanet Reports Earth Month Success

Every day is Earth Day at **eWaste ePlanet**! In just four weeks: they partnered with approximately 125 commercial properties, hosted four e-Drives for cities, and were on-site for eight tabling events. This collaboration and team effort concluded in recycling around **900,000 pounds** of electronics, almost doubling weight from the previous year. The week of April 17th, they were seen all around metro Atlanta visiting office buildings, presenting for Lunch-n-Learns, and offering recycled swag. Receiving their R2.v3 certification in December 2022, all can be assured that their processes and facility are up to the highest standards to ensure the most eco-friendly, secure service is provided to clients. Each year, Georgia Natural Gas and eWaste ePlanet partner to host a city-wide electronics recycling event at Lenox Mall; this year their goal for the April 22 and event was to hit 20,000 pounds. Five hours later, they had collected **29,374 pounds**!



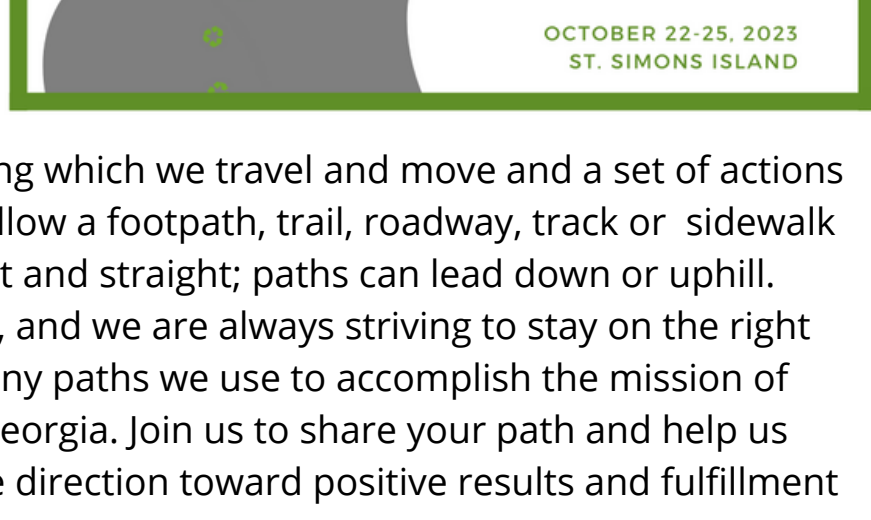
Atlanta Ranked in Top 10 Cities for Textile Recycling in the US!

See the full list at waste360.com

GRC News

Mark Your Calendar for GRC's Annual Conference!

Georgia Recycling Coalition's **32nd Annual Conference, Trade Show and Membership Meeting** will be held on October 22-25, 2023 at the King & Prince on St. Simons Island. Join us to explore the path forward for growing and sustaining recycling in Georgia.

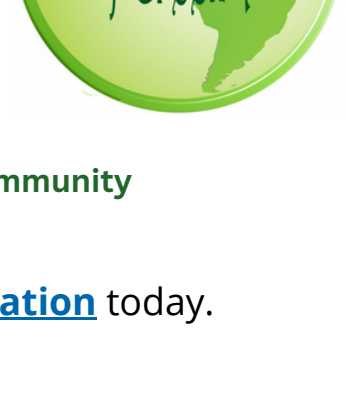


Path is defined as a route or course along which we travel and move and a set of actions that lead to a goal or result. You may follow a footpath, trail, roadway, track or sidewalk daily! Some paths are winding, some flat and straight; paths can lead down or uphill. Paths are diverse and often challenging, and we are always striving to stay on the right path! This October, we'll explore the many paths we use to accomplish the mission of sustaining and expanding recycling in Georgia. Join us to share your path and help us establish best practices to lead us in the direction toward positive results and fulfillment of our common goals.

Call for Presentations Open!

We are seeking presenters who would like to share their innovations, solutions, programs, and projects toward this goal. The annual GRC conference is an opportunity for anyone in the recycling and sustainable materials management industries to connect, learn what's on the horizon, and leave refreshed and motivated. We have prepared a guide that provides helpful information; we invite you to review the guide and then complete the proposal form by **June 15, 2023**. [Learn more](#) about the session topics and formats.

Click [here](#) to submit your proposal idea today!



Spirit of Green Awards 2023 Nominations Open

Get the recognition you deserve by applying for the Spirit of Green Awards. Categories include:

- **Volunteer of the Year**
- **Outstanding Institutional Program**
- **Outstanding Corporate Leader**
- **Hall of Fame**
- **Outstanding Government/Community Program**

Applications due this summer, so check out the [application information](#) today.

Connie Burns Scholarship - Apply Today!

Georgia college and university students are encouraged to apply for the 2023 Connie Burns Scholarship. Eligible candidates must be currently enrolled as a part-time college or university undergraduate or graduate student pursuing a degree in environmental science, engineering or other suitable major related to recycling, waste reduction, or environmental sustainability. Deadline to submit the application is August 15, 2023. [Learn more and apply today!](#)

Renew your membership today!

GRC members received renewal notices for the July 2023 through June 2024 Member Year in May. Please take the time to review your renewal notice. Considering upgrading your membership to a sponsor level? Check out the benefits of these added value memberships on our web site. If you joined recently, you were sent a pro rata renewal invoice. Contact GRC with questions at garecycles@mindspring.com. Don't delay; renew your membership today. **Deadline to renew is June 30, 2023.**

GRC's Newest Members!

Kimberly Keinat, Associate Member
Republic Services

ARROW WASTE, Business Member
George DeVries

SEMCO, Patron Sponsor
Leonard Robinson

Kevin Camantigue, Individual Member
Forsyth County

Fayette County, Government Member
Phil Mallon

Georgia Recycling Coalition 2023 Board of Directors

Carliss E. Bates
City of Savannah
Sanitation Department

Page Beckwith
Keep Newnan Beautiful

Fiona Bell
Novelis

Jason Johnson
Fulton Metals Recycling

Deena Keeler
Emory University

Denise Plemmons
Athens-Clemmons
Recycling Div.

Mandy Renova
Pratt Recycling

Scott Terrell
Jacobs Engineering

Mason Towe, Vice-President
University of Georgia

Kimberly White, President
Keep Cobb Beautiful

Karen Wilson
Greif Recycling

Chris Witherspoon, Treasurer
Rubicon

Susan Wood, Secretary
GEFA

GRC 2022-2023 Sponsor Level Members

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Georgia Beverage Association
Greif Recycling

Mohawk Group
Novelis, Inc.
Pratt Industries

Shaw Industries, Inc.
The Coca-Cola Company
Waste Eliminator

Sustainers

American Chemistry Council
GFL Environmental

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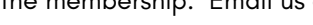
WestRock Recycling
WM

Patrons

Ameri-Green Env. Recycling
Cortland
Emory University
eWaste ePlanet LLC

Georgia Container Inc.
Luck Stone Atlanta
Stephens
Newnan Utilities
NAIMA

Pull-A-Part, LLC
Republic Services
Strategic Materials, Inc.
SEMCO



We would love to hear from you! Please send us releases, captioned photos and other great news that you want to share with the membership. Email us at garecycles@mindspring.com