



Welcome to GRC's monthly update!

National News

The Recycling Partnership Launches Recycle Check

The Recycling Partnership (TRP) recently launched Recycle Check, a package-specific labeling platform providing up-to-date recycling information directly to U.S. consumers.

The platform offers the ability to enter a zip code or allow location permissions and receive a clear, yes-no answer about



whether to recycle a specific item where you are – in seconds. Recycle Check is also designed to complement existing labeling systems. TRP and GreenBlue are collaborating with early adopters to pilot use of the How2Recycle® label and the Recycle Check QR code together on product packaging. The Partnership is also working closely with the Consumer Brands Association to offer Recycle Check through its SmartLabel program, widely used by brands on thousands of products. [Learn more](#)

EPA Releases: Composting Food Scraps in Your Community: A Social Marketing Toolkit



This new toolkit is a resource for states, territories, local governments, tribes, and nongovernmental organizations who wish to create composting campaigns in their communities. More specifically, it is for an organization that wants to (1) launch a new food scrap composting program, (2) increase participation in an existing food scrap composting program, or (3) reduce contamination in their compost collection stream. It is designed to assist agencies that offer curbside collection or drop-off locations for residential food scraps. The toolkit includes a planning process that uses social marketing principles to ensure campaigns are tailored to their local communities needs. [Learn more and access the toolkit and download customizable templates.](#)

Register 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.



Registration has officially opened! The response to our Call for Presentations was incredible. Stay tuned for updates on agenda and speakers. [Register](#) today!

Call for Nominations to GRC Board of Directors

The Georgia Recycling Coalition (GRC) is calling for nominations for its 2024-2026 Board of Directors. We are seeking candidates committed to providing time and resources toward governing our Coalition. According to the GRC by-laws, all Directors must be voting members in good standing at the time of the election and during tenure of office. Only one employee of a particular business entity or government agency may be a Director at any given time, unless otherwise provided by the Board. Directors will be elected for three (3) year terms and can serve only two (2) consecutive terms. Directors will be elected at the annual membership meeting to be held at the King & Prince on St. Simons Island on Tuesday October 24, 2023.

Deadline to submit nominations will be September 15, 2023. The term of office for new directors will begin January 1, 2024. If interested in running for the board, please email garecycles@mindspring.com for guidelines.

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.

Thanks to the majority of you who have renewed already! Just a reminder that members are able to renew online or save/print a copy of the invoice as well as renew via check/US mail. Contact GRC with questions at garecycles@mindspring.com

Welcome to GRC's Newest Members!

Fayette County
Phil Mallon

Keep Haralson Beautiful
Gail Priest

Brad Dunning
Mark Dunning Industries

Nathan Dumas, Monroe County Solid
Waste Management

*GRC congrats Nathan on his new position
and sends our best wishes to Dana
Renaud on her retirement from Monroe
County.*

Waste and Recycling Workers Week Recap

In celebration of Waste and Recycling Workers Week, GRC highlighted our hometown recycling heroes throughout the week.



Brian Horkman, a driver with the Forsyth County Department of Recycling & Solid Waste, was a First Responder for 26 years as well as a volunteer firefighter, so caring and thinking fast on his feet are part of his DNA. One day while hauling glass, he witnessed a train collide with a tractor trailer. He immediately stopped his truck and ran to help, comforting the driver until the paramedics arrived.

William Dickey manages a warehouse of eight employees. As the company grows and faces new operational challenges, William demonstrates his ability to successfully manage change and add value to his team and the company.

William once shadowed the overnight team at State Farm Arena to build rapport with their contamination sorting team and share

insights. He worked from 10pm - 6am with a smile, building connections with counterparts and gathering knowledge to share with his team. "My time at CompostNow has made me feel extremely connected to my greater Atlanta community. Knowing that I have had a part helping to close the nutrient loop for urban farms that I actively purchase food from has been great."



Amy Hartline has worked for Dalton-Whitfield for five years as the Recycling Education Coordinator and director for Keep Dalton-Whitfield Beautiful. Whether she is in the classroom, planting tree seedlings with local preschool students, picking up litter, or overseeing recycling education for the County, Amy meets each aspect of her job with enthusiasm and professionalism. She also serves on the Georgia Recycling Coalition's Communication Committee donating her time to increase awareness about the importance of recycling to Georgia's economy and environment. Working with Amy in Dalton is another hometown hero, Wesley Pilcher. He is known for his amazing work ethic and being a great team player. According to Amy, "He not only comes in and works hard every day, but he also brings a big smile and a great attitude."

In Memory of Member Dawn Smith



Last month we lost a beloved member and long-time recycling industry professional. Mary Dawn Smith, 67, of Powder Springs, GA, died Sunday, June 25th, 2023. A memorial service will be held at 2:00 PM Friday, July 14, 2023 at Mayes Ward-Dobbins Funeral Home Macland Chapel in Powder Springs, GA, with Barry Lancaster officiating. The family will receive friends from 1:00 - 2:00 PM prior to the service. Ms. Smith is preceded in death by her parents, Julian Evander and Mary Dorothy Parks, and one brother, John Parks. Dawn is

survived by her daughter Michelle Smith of Powder Springs, GA; two brothers, Julian Parks of Rego Park, NY, Andrew Parks of Durham, NC; aunt, Brenda Richardson of Fayetteville, NC; and several nieces and nephews. She attended North Carolina School of Arts, and UNC Chapel Hill where she received her Bachelor of Music. Dawn worked in the paper industry for 31 years, at Carastar and Pratt Industries. Her passions in life were her dogs, gardening, history, and traveling. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in her name to ASPCA.

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-Clarke County 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

Partners

Brightmark
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

PepsiCo, Inc.
Rubicon

WestRock Recycling
WM

Patrons

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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

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