

Spotlight on Glass Recycling in Georgia

Gwinnett Adds 10 Glass Drop Off Sites

Gwinnett County and Gwinnett Clean & Beautiful, in partnership with Ripple Glass, have added ten new sites to provide residents with the opportunity to drop off glass for safe and sustainable recycling.

"One of our strategic priorities is to promote sustainability and stewardship, and the expansion of our glass recycling program aligns with that priority," Gwinnett County Chairwoman Nicole Love Hendrickson said. "We listened to our residents and have more than doubled the number of glass recycling drop-off sites in the county — allowing community members to take an active role in our work collective vision for a more

County residents can drop off empty and rinsed glass jars and bottles of any color at the 13 locations. Gwinnett County officials said labels can remain on the glass. Ripple Glass Senior Vice President of Sustainability and Corporate Affairs Laura Hennemann said, "The demand for recycled glass in Georgia for fiberglass insulation and glass container manufacturers is incredibly strong. We

sustainable Gwinnett."

need more glass from residents to support local jobs, businesses and the environment." **Learn more** about glass recycling in Gwinnett.

Strategic Materials/Ripple Glass and Gwinnett Solid Waste/Gwinnett Clean & Beautiful are long-time member supporters of GRC.





Industry News

Outlook on Paper Recovery

In January, The Recycling Partnership a report, <u>State of Recycling</u>, <u>The Present and Future of Residential Recycling</u>, saying only 21 percent of residential recyclables are recycled in the U.S., including 7 out of 10 cardboard boxes and 3 out of 4 tons of mixed paper. Read more about the report and the issues, cost, and outlook for paper recycling in 2024 in Recycling Today's article on <u>Addressing paper recovery, cost in the new year</u>.

How2Recycle and How2Compost Labels

Did you know some items can qualify as both recyclable and compostable in an industrial environment - certified by BPI?

As a consumer, this gives you more opportunities to avoid sending materials to the landfills. For example, if paper bag pictured below is clean and dry, recycle it in your curbside bin. If this bag is food-soiled or soggy, compost it in



municipal collection or drop-off collection options in your community. Look for the label the next time you're shopping!

Learn more information about dynamic labeling.

Partnership Develops Lower Carbon Cup

What does it take to make a refillable, recyclable, lower-carbon aluminum cup? Collaboration.

Novelis worked with Ball Corporation and Alcoa to create a cup made of 90% recycled aluminum from Novelis and 10% primary metal supplied by Alcoa from the ELYSIS™ process, an R&D technology that eliminates direct greenhouse gas emissions from the aluminum smelting process.

But it's more than just a cup. It's proof of what is possible when companies that are committed to reducing carbon emissions work together. Creating alignment across the aluminum value chain will advance circularity and reduce emissions, helping the entire aluminum industry on the path to decarbonization.

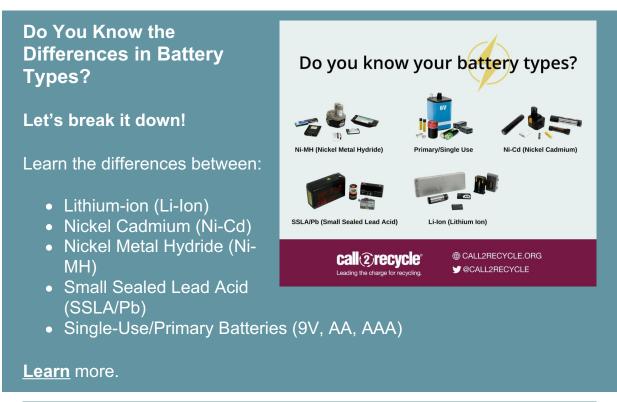
Want to learn more about the partnership, watch the <u>World Economic Forum 2024 Ball Aluminum Cup</u> video now.

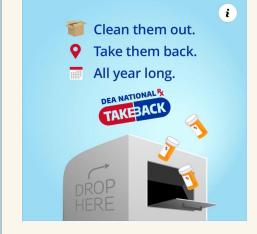
NexTREX Provide Film Plastic Guidance

Most clean and dry polyethylene (PE), labeled as #2 or #4, plastic film and bags are recyclable at participating retail and local drop-off locations. These materials are not normally accepted in curbside programs because they can get caught in the machines that sort other valuable recyclables like paper, cans, and bottles. And bags are generally too dirty after their trip in the back of the recycling truck to be recycled, even if they are collected at the recycling facility.



For more info on film plastics accepted and those not plus downloadable graphics, visit NexTrex.





Check out DEA's website to find out what medications are accepted and where to take back your medications all year long!

To find nearest location, click here.

Member News

Rubicon Offers Candy Wrapper Recycling Box

Valentine's Day is right around the corner. Looking for a great program for your office, community, or school to help keep wrappers out of the landfill? Rubicon is offering a custom candy wrapper recycling box.

Learn more at <u>www.rubicon.com/trash-or-treasure/</u>



For the past two years, the Elbert County 4H club, in partnership with Keep Elbert County Beautiful (KECB), has collected candy wrappers for recycling after Halloween. This year, the kids collected enough wrappers to fill two boxes! A local bank, in partnership with KECB, offers year round collection in the county.



This site collected an additional box of wrappers. The groups are expanding to collect wrappers at Valentine's Day, too. Way to go!

Team Up for Compost Pilot

The Athens-Clarke County government is working with the University of Georgia on a composting pilot project. Some 400 homes along Athens' Prince Avenue corridor are taking part in the pilot, targeting Boulevard, Normaltown, and parts of the Cobbham Historic District. The University of Georgia's New Materials Institute is providing steel containers for the pilot. In addition to individual containers, the pilot will provide three dropoff locations for other residents. The three-month long project ends the first week in May.



Athens-Clarke County staff member delivering compost collection carts to the pilot program participants.

Did you know that you can reduce your carbon footprint by composting?

Composting versus landfilling organics helps to reduce methane emissions in landfills. Compost benefits our soils, helping to grow stronger, more resilient plants. This allows for more carbon absorption, also called carbon sequestration.

Composting makes a huge impact in reducing your carbon footprint!

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