

GEORGIA RECYCLING COALITION MONTHLY NEWSLETTER - OCTOBER 2025



SHAPING THE FUTURE CONFERENCE

October 27-29, 2025 | Jekyll Island Club Hotel | Jekyll Island, Georgia

Still Time Left to Register! Don't miss your chance to join us to explore how we can shape the future of recycling in Georgia, while minimizing negative impacts via innovation, collaboration, fresh perspectives and an outlook that leads us to stabilize and grow the industry.

[Register and Reserve Room
Today](#)

Conference Exhibitor and Sponsor Opportunities Available

Sponsorships provide opportunities to feature your company, non-profit, trade association, or government services. All sponsors receive recognition onsite as well as in promotional/outreach materials posted on social media and the conference and hosts' websites.

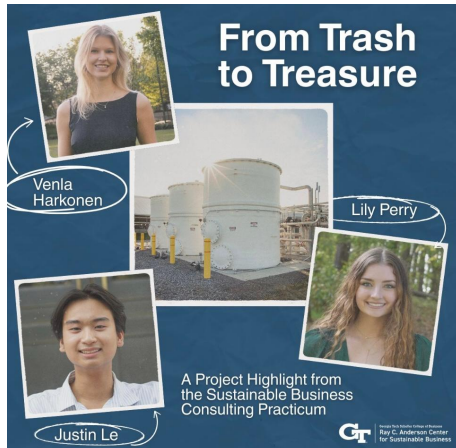
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Member News

Welcome New Members

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Brightmark Partners with GA Tech on Waste Reduction

How do you turn waste into energy? BRIGHTMARK, a member of the Drawdown Georgia Business Compact, worked with Georgia Tech Scheller College of Business students to explore renewable natural gas solutions. Together, they uncovered ways to transform underutilized waste streams into profitable, climate-positive energy. It's programs like the Sustainable Business

Consulting Practicum, taught by Michael P Oxman and Robert Lax, that are supporting Georgia's journey to net zero by 2050. [Read full story from GT](#) on the project.

Renew Your Membership Today

For those still pending, please renew as soon as possible and, as always, let us know if we can assist or be of further service. Thank you for your support as we work together to fulfill our mission. If you received a lapsed notice, no worries...we can reinstate your membership on receipt of dues.

Industry News



North American Insulation Manufacturers Association (NAIMA) Releases Survey Results

According to a survey of manufacturers by the North American Insulation Manufacturers Association (NAIMA), US manufacturers used more than 2.2 billion pounds of recycled glass in 2024 to make fiberglass insulation. "We continue to advocate for more glass recycling to increase sustainability. We would use even more

recycled glass if it were available," said Curt Rich, president and CEO of NAIMA. Learn more about the benefits of using recycled glass in making insulation:

www.insulationinstitute.org

Congressional Recycling Caucus Re-Assembles

The Congressional Recycling Caucus, originally founded in 2006, has been reactivated. This bipartisan group is dedicated to advancing policies that address ongoing challenges in recycling, emphasizing economic growth and environmental protection. The caucus aims to modernize recycling



infrastructure, expand access -- especially in underserved and rural communities -- and reinforce the US position in the global circular economy.

[Read more.](#)

SWANA Release Report on Contamination

The Solid Waste Association of North America's (SWANA) Applied Research Foundation (ARF) has released a new report, Best Practices for Reducing Curbside Recycling Contamination and Code Enforcement, providing waste and recycling managers with guidance to improve recycling quality while addressing enforcement challenges. The report examines the challenge of contamination in curbside recycling programs, referring to materials placed in bins that are not accepted by the local recycling program, and offers practical strategies to reduce contamination. The report includes data on the costs of contamination as well as strategies for outreach and enforcement. [Read full article](#) from Waste Advantage magazine.

Handling Black Plastics with Technological Advancements

Here's the deal with black plastics: We can't innovate our way out of a market problem. These are still perfectly usable materials. Technical solutions exist to sort and reclaim them. "I'm encouraged by all the innovation in this space to develop recycle-friendly pigments and new optical sortation sensors. These technologies are helping us capture more material that would otherwise be lost to the waste stream," said Megan Byers with the Association of Plastics Recyclers. "But black plastics won't be recycled at scale until product manufacturers buy them consistently at a price that justifies the investment and effort. For that to happen, we probably need policy interventions." [Read full article](#) from Packaging Dive.

International Compost Awareness Week Poster and Bookmark Contest

Each year, the International Compost Awareness Week Committee holds a poster contest to pick a design for the annual poster. Submit your poster design using this year's theme: **"Compost! Feed the Soil that Feeds Us"**



While the poster contest is for high school students, college students, and adults, there is a bookmark contest for children in Grades 3–8. [Learn more](#) about the poster and bookmark competition. **Deadline to apply is November 14th.**

Links for the Latest News and Views

- [Increasing Participation](#)
- [Tariff Impact](#)
- [Batteries Plus/Dallas Cowboys](#)
- [Every Can Counts - SweetWater 420 Fest Highlights](#)

SweetWater 420 Fest in Atlanta collected 60,000 cans and aluminum cups

for recycling over three days. Recycled cans redeemed for scrap value, with proceeds donated to Habitat for Humanity.

- **Mercedes Benz Stadium Touted on Green Sports Day**
- **Green Sports Day Details**

Calendar of Events

October 27-29, 2025

GRC 34th Annual Conference

Jekyll Island, GA

October 27-29, 2025

E-Scrap Conference

Grapevine, TX

November 12-15, 2025

RCon (formerly WasteCon)

Columbus, OH

2025-2026 Sponsors

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