



May 2026

On the Road Again: Join Us for GRC's Roadshow Series in Newnan Featuring Yamaha Motors and Newnan Utilities' Compost Facility



Join the Georgia Recycling Coalition in Newnan for a dynamic, in-person learning experience that brings sustainability full circle. We'll begin at **Yamaha Motor's** Newnan facility for an inside look at their manufacturing operations and commitment to environmental stewardship. From waste reduction to operational efficiency, you'll see firsthand how sustainability is integrated into industry.

Following the tour, attendees will enjoy lunch and networking with peers. The tour experience continues with a guided visit to **Newnan Utilities'** biosolids compost facility,

where organics are transformed into a valuable resource.

Space is limited! Register today! GRC members receive a discounted price. Not a member, join today.

Register now>> <https://tinyurl.com/39kskf9w>

Annual Membership Campaign

Our annual renewal campaign is underway! GRC has been *Making Connections* since 1991, so this year we celebrate 35 years of promoting and enhancing recycling and waste reduction in Georgia. From our meager beginnings to the great organization we've become, all should be proud of the accomplishments we've made over decades! On May 1st, members received renewal reminders and associated invoices to make renewal more efficient for members. Deadline is July 1st; there is a grace period to August 1, 2026 to allow for internal finance cycles to accommodate your dues payments. Those who joined mid-year received an email and a direct invoice from our payment system with your dues prorated based on when you joined during the previous member year. Thank you for your continued support of GRC and our mission and goals—we have lots of great events and new features in store for the coming July 2026-June 2027 Member Year!

Questions? [Email us.](#)

Made to Be Recycled in Georgia Grant Announced

MADE TO BE
REMADE
GeorgiaBev



This week, the **Georgia Beverage Association**, **Made to be Remade Georgia** and the **Keep Georgia Beautiful Foundation** announced the Made to be Remade Georgia Community Grant Program application period is now open. Made to be Remade Georgia is a sustainability initiative by the Georgia Beverage Association and major beverage companies (Coca-Cola, PepsiCo, Keurig Dr Pepper) to ensure bottles and cans are recycled into new products rather than landfills. It focuses on improving local recycling infrastructure, education, and access to achieve a circular economy. The program supports nonprofit and community-based organizations that are advancing recycling and environmental sustainability programs that strengthen Georgia communities.

Eligible organizations may apply for grants typically up to \$25,000, with select projects considered for higher amounts based on scope and impact. Applications are reviewed by the Made to be Remade Board and all submissions must be completed through the online application portal.

Key details:

- Application deadline: **June 27, 2026.**
- Who can apply: Georgia-based 501(c)(3) organizations (and qualifying governmental entities using funds for charitable purposes).
- Focus areas: Recycling and environmental sustainability.
- Funding range: Most grants are \$25,000 or less.
- Apply [here](#).

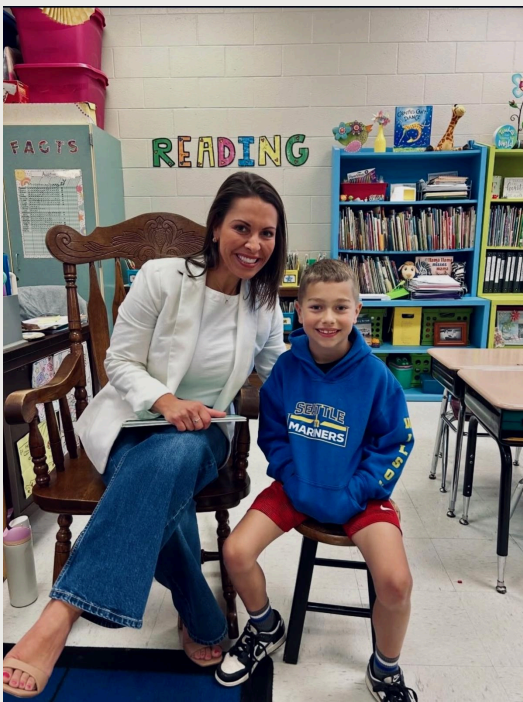
Spotlight: GRC Members Celebrate Earth Month



GRC Member **City of Mableton** hosted its first ever (and so clever) **Earth Week Bingo challenge** (pictured left) to celebrate Georgia Cities Week and Earth Day.

Participants were asked to complete eco-friendly activities (like picking up litter, using reusable bags, or visiting local trails) for a chance to win a City Gift Pack.

Great Job **Emily Ryan** (GRC Board Member) and **Julia!**



Greif's **Karen Wilson** (pictured above) spent an afternoon with a class at Friendship Elementary reading *The Day the Trash Came Out to Play* and talking about recycling.

GRC Board Member **Rachel Musetti** and **Stephanie Busch** exhibited at Cobb Sustainability Forum, sponsored by GRC Member **Keep Cobb Beautiful**. GRC members **Kimberly White**, **Dawn Smith**, and **Emily Dempsey** did a fantastic job organizing this annual event which brings together sustainability-focused organizations and businesses within Cobb County with members of the public for hands-on learning opportunities, demos, and education.



GRC Earth Month Event Recap

GRC's Earth Month Celebration event was incredibly enriching and inspiring! Attendees from across the state joined us for an afternoon behind-the-scenes tour of Keep North Fulton Beautiful's Recycling Center and finished the evening networking at **Pontoon Brewing**. It was a perfect day to reflect, celebrate, and talk about what happens next for recycling in Georgia. Thanks to **Taylor McCleskey** with **Full Circle Electronics**; **Jason Johnson**, **Fulton**

Metals Recycling; and GRC Board Member Jamey Moran, Ripple Glass for speaking to the attendees about how materials recycled. Special thanks to **Colleen Sanjurjo, Keep North Fulton Beautiful**, for hosting the tour at her incredible recycling facility.



Legislative Update

- **Recycling Study Committee** - the **Senate Study Committee** on Improving and Increasing Recycling, by Senator Bo Hatchett (R-Cornelia), was created to evaluate and recommend improvements to Georgia's recycling systems, with a focus on market viability, infrastructure, and policy changes.
- **Solid Waste Trust Fund (H.B.956)** broadens the authorized uses of the Solid Waste Trust Fund to include comprehensive implementation and enforcement of solid waste management programs statewide. **Bill passed and sent to Governor on April 6th. [Learn more.](#)**



GRC Art Contest Winners Unveiled

GRC highlighted our Recycled Art Contest Winners during Earth Week. Here are the amazing winning designs. Be sure to check out GRC's social media for more information about each artist and what they had to say about how recycling is working in Georgia.

Georgia Recycling Coalition
Recycled Art Contest



Congratulations to
Minseo Kim
Mill Creek High School - Gwinnett County
1st Place Winner - Ages 14-19 Category

Georgia Recycling Coalition
Recycled Art Contest



Congratulations to
Chelyn Park
DeKalb School of the Arts - DeKalb County
2nd Place Winner - Ages 14-19 Category

Georgia Recycling Coalition
Recycled Art Contest



Congratulations to
Minseong Kim
Duncan Creek Elementary School - Gwinnett County
1st Place Winner: Ages 11-13 Category

Georgia Recycling Coalition
Recycled Art Contest



Congratulations to
Anh Nguyen
Coleman Middle School - Gwinnett County
2nd Place Winner: Ages 11-13 Category

Georgia Recycling Coalition
Recycled Art Contest



Congratulations to
Harshitha Senthil Selvan
Settles Bridge Elementary School - Forsyth County
1st Place Winner: Ages 8-10 Category

Georgia Recycling Coalition
Recycled Art Contest



Congratulations to
Aarush Suhas
Mashburn Elementary - Forsyth County
2nd Place Winner: Ages 8-10 Category

Georgia Recycling Coalition Recycled Art Contest



Congratulations to
Cheyenne Ocasek
Home School - Pickens County
1st Place Winner: Ages 5-7 Category

Georgia Recycling Coalition Recycled Art Contest



Congratulations to
Snow Adams
Home School - Decatur County
2nd Place Winner: Ages 5-7 Category

MRF Best Practices Guide Released

Ch... ch...ch... changes! Yes, change is happening at a fast pace, The recycling industry is constantly evolving. Given that reality, the Closed Loop Partners' Center for the Circular Economy, in collaboration with American Beverage and with support from Resource Recycling Systems (RRS), published a first-of-its-kind **MRF Best Practices Guide**. The new guide equips MRFs with ways to optimize recovery rates, increase material quality, maximize throughput, extend equipment life and foster resilient, high-performing teams. [Read full article from Resource Recycling.](#)

News: Quick Links to Recycling Articles

[Chaz Miller Shares Status of Markets and Factors Impacting Them | Waste 360](#)

[War Impact on OCC | Packaging Dive](#)

[SC Releases State Waste Characterization Study | Recycling Today](#)

[Aluminum Markets Transition | Recycling Today](#)



GRC OG's Reunite at Celebration

Longtime GRC supporters and leaders, now retired, Nancy Womack (formerly with Caraustar and Greif), Lisa White (formerly with SP Newsprint and Westrock), and LuAnn Chambers (formerly with SP Newsprint and Greif) recently celebrated with former

GRC member Edie Yongue, retired from Keep Clayton County Beautiful, at the 60th wedding anniversary party for Edie and her husband Henry.

Calendar of Events

May 3-9, 2026	ICAW 2026	
May 13, 2026	GRC Roadshow Series Featuring Yamaha Motor and Newnan Utilities' Compost Facility	Newnan, Georgia
May 20, 2026	SWANA GA Road-E-O	Dublin, Georgia
June 15-20, 2026	Waste and Recycling Workers Week	

2025-26 Sponsors

PARTNER LEVEL	SUSTAINER LEVEL	PATRON LEVEL
Brightmark	American Chemistry Council	Emory University
Coca-Cola Company	GFL Environmental	Luck Stone Atlanta Stephens
Georgia Beverage Association	Pepsico	NAIMA
Greif Recycling	Pratt Industries	Newnan Utilities
Mohawk	Smurfit Westrock	Republic Services
Shaw Industries Group	Waste Eliminator	Sibelco
	Waste Pro	
	Waste Wiz Consulting	
	WM	

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Georgia Recycling Coalition
www.georgiarecycles.org

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