CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS

Speaker abstracts are being sought for the GRC 26th Annual Conference.

Subject Areas include, but not limited to:

- Funding Mechanisms
- Measuring Success
- Collection Innovation
- Reducing Contamination
- Corporate Sustainability
- Processing Improvements
- Sustainable Materials Management
- Beyond the Bin
- Innovative Education Outreach
- Marketing Strategies
- Waste Reduction Initiatives
- Market Development
- Tools & Toolkits
- Climate Change & Recycling
- Organics Innovation
- Away from Home

Submit to GRC at garecycles@mindspring.com by April 14, 2017.

GRC 26TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
SEPTEMBER 17-20, 2017

MARK YOUR CALENDAR... 26TH Annual Conference

September 17-20, 2017
King & Prince St. Simon’s Island
Registration Opens in May

Last year we celebrated 25 years as a vibrant state recycling organization. This September, we will be Taking Aim at the Next 25! What lies ahead will be innovative and often challenging, but we are on a path to continue growing and sustaining recycling as an environmental solution and economic driver in Georgia. So plan now...mark your calendar. Submit a proposal to speak, volunteer to work on the Program Committee, procure a unique and cool piece for the auction, hone your skeet shooting skills and get ready to take aim at determining the next steps for recycling in our state and how GRC will hit the target!
It is my great pleasure and honor to be given the opportunity to serve you as the 2017 Georgia Recycling Coalition President. Through my 20-plus years of involvement with GRC, I have watched this organization grow and evolve into a world-class, informational power-house. For 25 years, it has continued to provide members with up-to-date environmental information, recycling assistance and market education. But, even more importantly, it has united a diverse group of industries, businesses, governments and individuals to come together for one common goal.

As you know, the recycling industry has seen better times. Due to market fluctuations, processing challenges, contamination and now a rocky political climate, it is harder than ever for recycling infrastructures to gain and maintain financial strength and consistency. As members, we have seen first-hand how GRC provides effective programs, discussions and opportunities for members to learn and grow both professionally and personally. Therefore, I would like to challenge you this year to help the organization as much as it has helped you. We all know the many benefits we have received throughout the years, so don’t keep them a secret. SHARE them, so we can continue growing, educating, engaging and succeeding.

Again, thank you for this wonderful opportunity to work alongside such a knowledgeable and dedicated group. I look forward to a fantastic year of growth, success and exploration! And, I look forward to seeing you in September at the Annual Conference at St. Simons Island.

Marla Prince
2017 GRC President
GRC in the News

2017 Board & Officers

At our annual meeting last September, two new board members were elected to serve beginning Jan. 1st 2017; they are Sherri Collins, of Pratt Recycling Savannah and Silverio J. (Sil) Colalancia of Novelis Inc. Three members were re-elected to serve a 2nd term, including Karen Byrd, Caraustar Recycling; Jeff Foote, Green Spirit Farms of GA; and Peggy Whitlow Ratcliffe, Live Thrive Atlanta.

At the Board of Directors annual planning meeting in December, the following were elected as Officers for 2017:

Marla Prince, Waste Management President
Cale Caudell, University of Georgia Vice President
Karen Byrd, Caraustar Recycling Secretary
Jeffrey Foote, Green Spirit Farms GA Treasurer

Special thanks to three board members who completed two consecutive terms: Stephanie Busch, Todd Redmon of Shaw Industries Group, and Michelle Wiseman, Atlanta Mayor’s Office Sustainability.

A full list of 2017 board members is included in this publication.

Board Member Profile

Jeffrey Foote Named Executive Vice President of Sustainability at Tree Zero

TreeZero, the only company that offers premium 100 percent tree free, carbon neutral paper in North America, announced Jeff Foote as executive vice president of sustainability. Foote, who initially joined TreeZero in an advisory role in March 2016, spent 20 years at The Coca-Cola Company in key leadership roles, developing and implementing sustainability goals and objectives across multiple functions including strategy and innovation. He currently serves on the board of the Georgia Recycling Coalition.

TreeZero will be launching a newsletter encompassing insight from Foote, curated content focused on sustainability along with best practices from around the globe. Foote, also an investor in TreeZero, said he joined the management team because of the difference the company is making in sustainability. “Thousands of public companies, colleges and universities, and government agencies are developing and implementing sustainable sourcing programs to help them achieve public commitments to reduce impact on deforestation, cut their carbon footprints and eliminate waste. Purchasing and using TreeZero paper is an easy solution for any organization to add as part of its comprehensive, sustainable sourcing strategy.”

Congrats to our board member on his new role!

New Member Spotlight

Diversified Plastics (DPI) has understood the importance of “Made in America.” Having been in business for over 30 years, we have introduced a new product to our already diverse product line; plastic front load waste and recycling containers. The front load container molds, acquired from a Canadian based company, producing 2, 4, 6, and 8 cubic yard containers tested for over 8 years in harsh Canadian weather, have proven their durability and functionality in waste collection applications.

DPI front load containers are manufactured with recyclable polyethylene plastic material that is proven environmentally friendly. Being rust resistant and easy to clean, these containers drastically reduce refurbish costs. DPI offers the best warranty in the industry on commercial containers, 5-year warranty unlike the standard 2-year currently offered. DPI stands by its container durability and product design: one-piece mold construction, curbed mold design, double-walled components, extra ribbing for additional strength and durability not seen in other containers. All of these features improve the overall, safety, performance and handling of the DPI front load containers.

DPI’s capabilities extend far beyond other rotational molders giving waste haulers and municipalities opportunity to obtain containers designed specifically for both standard and unique waste and recycling applications. Contact them: www.dpiroto.com
Welcome New Members

Business
Blue Goblin LLC
Ben Hirokawa
Charity Recycling Service
Andrea Burroughs
Diversified Plastics Inc.
Scott Oaks

Government/Non-Profit
re:loom - Lisa Wise

Individual
Teresa Stickels
City of Milton
Trina Matta
GreenBlue
Bruce Battle
Burton Energy

Associate
Justin Baldis
Roswell Recycling Center
William Howell
Roswell Recycling Center

GRC SPONSORS - 2016-2017

PARTNERS
Caraustar Recycling
Coca-Cola Company
Georgia Beverage Association
Novelis, Inc.
Pratt Industries
Shaw Industries Group, Inc.

SUSTAINERS
American Chemistry Council-Plastics Div.
GA Dept. of Community Affairs
PepsiCo, Inc.
Rubicon Global
WestRock Recycling
Waste Pro

Patrons
Advanced Disposal
Cox Enterprises
Cycle Tex. Inc.
Delta Air Lines
No. American Insulation Manufacturers Assoc.
Pull-A-Part, LLC
Republic Services

SPECIAL CONTRIBUTORS
The Turner Foundation
NatureWorks, LLC

ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITY

The Georgia Recycling Coalition (GRC) is offering advertising in its quarterly newsletter. What better way to get the word out on what your organization is offering to the waste reduction and recycling community? Your ad will be seen by all GRC members and readers of the printed newsletter.

Take a look at our rates, consider the benefits, and give us a call!

RATES:
Size: ____________________ Cost
Business Card $100
1/6 page $200
1/4 page $300
1/2 page $400
Full page $600

DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE:
• 25% discount for all GRC members
• 25% discount to non-members who advertise in 4 consecutive issues
• 50% discount to GRC members who advertise in 4 consecutive issues

GRC MEMBERS RECEIVE ADVERTISING DISCOUNTS!

For more info on placing an advertisement or for membership information call 404-634-3095.
Save the Date:  April 27, 2017, for 'A CHaRMing Evening'

Please join LiveThrive Atlanta for A CHaRMing Evening on Thursday, April 27, 2017, from 6:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. at Venkman’s. Emcee for the evening is Lois Reitzes of WABE. The evening includes drinks, appetizers and awesome entertainment by Yacht Rock Revue.

The evening feature will be the announcement of the lucky winner of a 2017 BMW i3 sponsored by Global Imports BMW.

For more information or to purchase event and raffle tickets, please visit charmbmw.org. Proceeds will benefit Atlanta’s Center for Hard to Recycle Material (CHaRM). CHaRM is your one stop shop for recycling items that cannot be placed in your blue recycling cart such as household hazardous waste, paint, electronics, styrofoam, etc.

Dogwood Festival:  Eco-Village 2017
April 7-9  Piedmont Park  ATL, GA

- FRIDAY: Noon - 11 pm
- SATURDAY: 10 am - 11 pm
- SUNDAY: 10 am - 6 pm

Each year, the festival hosts an award-winning Green Festival Initiative in partnership with Live Thrive Atlanta. Throughout our entire footprint, they focus on sustainable operations like requiring food vendors to use only recyclable and compostable serving ware and the use of bio-diesel and/or bio-fuel for all generators at the event. Since the inception of the Green Festival Initiative, they’ve been able to divert nearly a ton of trash from landfills and have educated hundreds of thousands of attendees about how to take home eco-friendly practices and make them part of daily life.

GRC will be involved; please email garecycles@mindspring.com to set up a time to volunteer.
Thanks to Bobby Purdum, center front row, for the grand tour of the Hall County Recycling Center at the GRC semi-annual training meeting.

We toured and sampled the latest greatest craft beer at the Left Nut Brewing Company in Gainesville. The brewery is located inside a historic building in Chicopee Mills, and across from historic Chicopee Mill Village. Erected in 1927 by Johnson & Johnson as a textile mill, this building was the nation's first modern, light-filled mill building with all the latest conveniences. The mill and village are registered in the National Register of Historic Places.

Tonya Randell with More Recycling, formerly Moore Recycling Associates was one of our featured speakers. She currently serves as Program Manager for the Wrap Recycling Action Program, a public/private partnership to increase plastic bag and film recycling in the US.
Food and Beverage Carton Recycling Celebrates 60 Percent Household Access!

Carton recycling is now officially considered mainstream. The Carton Council of North America has reported that 60 percent of U.S. households can recycle food and beverage cartons through local recycling programs. With the 60 percent recycling level reached, the Carton Council says it now has the approval of the Federal Trade Commission to place the standard “Please Recycle” logo on cartons. In heralding its recycling figures, the Carton Council notes that when it was formed in 2009 only 18 percent of households could recycle their cartons. The council also notes that Feb. 1, 2017, it will launch a new consumer-facing website and a national digital education campaign designed to engage consumers and encourage them to recycle their cartons.

Virtual Resource Center for Reducing Wasted Food Launched

A broad based partnership was recently launched creating a new national virtual resource center dedicated to reducing food loss and waste: Further with Food: Center for Food Loss and Waste Solutions is the product of a public-private collaboration among the U.S. EPA, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, Feeding America, the Food Marketing Institute, the Grocery Manufacturers Association, the Innovation Center for U.S. Dairy, the National Consumers League, the National Restaurant Association, the Natural Resources Defense Council, the World Resources Institute, and the World Wildlife Fund, with additional funding and support from the Keystone Policy Center and the Rockefeller Foundation. The web site is: https://furtherwithfood.org/

Trex is Certified 100% Post consumer Content

Trex, a manufacturer of high-performance wood-alternative decking and railing headquartered in Winchester, Virginia, has announced that its linear low-density polyethylene (LLDPE) pellets have achieved certification with the International Code Council (ICC). The recognition certifies that the Trex Spartan and Trex Cardinal lines of LLDPE pellets contain 100-percent-postconsumer content. “Trex LLDPE pellets are an ideal material for plastic product manufacturers to incorporate into their manufacturing process as a means of increasing both the recycled content and cost efficiency of their products,” says Dave Heglas, senior director of material resources for Trex. “With this certification, companies can be assured that using Trex pellets can help meet their recycled content requirements and sustainability goals, while reducing their reliance on virgin and off-spec resin.” Trex says it currently has four lines dedicated to recycled pellet production, making it one of the leading producers of recycled LLDPE pellets in the country.

New Plastics Economy

The New Plastics Economy is an ambitious, three-year initiative to build momentum towards a plastics system that works. Launched in May 2016, the three-year initiative has been designed to develop a plastics system that works. According to the organization, the Initiative seeks to apply the principles of the circular economy, bring together key stakeholders to rethink and redesign the future of plastics, starting with packaging, and work to develop new strategies to increase recycling rates and introduce new models for making better use of packaging.

Coca-Cola has pledged to boost its recycling rate of plastic packaging from 14% to 70% by 2025, as part of the New Plastics Economy, a global “rethink” and reshaping of the system behind how plastic is recycled.

The Initiative is led by the Ellen MacArthur Foundation in collaboration with a broad group of leading companies, cities, philanthropists, policymakers, academics, students, NGOs, and citizens. With 40 members and growing, companies like Coca-Cola, Dupont, Proctor & Gamble, Unilver, and MARS are involved. http://newplasticseconomy.org/about
Cox Enterprises Conservation Center Recycles Tires Using Pyrolysis

Cox Enterprises, Atlanta, announced that its Golden Isles Conservation Center in Nahunta, Georgia, is using an Italian pyrolysis technology that uses organic materials, such as wood chips, to generate heat, breaking down tires into their original components to produce synthetic oil, carbon black, synthetic gas and steel.

In addition to providing an environmental solution, the facility is making a positive impact on the local economy, according to Cox. Construction on the facility began in 2016 and has infused $5 million into Georgia’s economy, with one-third of the amount going directly to Brantley County, Georgia-based companies. The facility is bringing five full-time jobs to Nahunta, which has a population of approximately 1,000. A community open house will be held in April for local residents to tour the facility.

Sonoco Products Company Plans Fairburn, Georgia, Packaging Center

Sonoco Products Company, one of the largest global diversified packaging companies, will invest $20 million in a new packaging center in Fairburn, Georgia. The company plans to create 130 full-time and 465 part-time jobs. The packaging center will support Duracell’s new North America battery packaging operation and will be located in Duracell’s recently leased facility at 5000 Bohannon Road at Shugart Farms Industrial Park.

Sonoco’s new facility will install and operate state-of-the-art primary packaging equipment, provide all packaging materials and services, and produce retail merchandising displays which will also be packed out at the same facility. Full production is expected in the fourth quarter of 2018. Sonoco currently operates eight manufacturing centers and three recycling centers in Georgia, employing more than 300 full-time associates.

Compost Leaders Envision City-Wide Composting For Atlanta

Members of Food Well Alliance’s latest Working Table gathered for another engaging meeting as they continue to work to find solutions to scale community-based composting in Metro Atlanta. Leaders from organizations including City of Atlanta Mayor’s office of Sustainability, Choose Goodness, CompostWheels, Georgia Recycling Coalition, Georgia Restaurant Association, Mercedes Benz Stadium, NatureWorks, Republic Services, Southern Green, Terra Nova Compost, Truly Living Well, and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency collaborated to identify challenges concerning the local community-based composting ecosystem during the February 3 meeting. The group prioritized those challenges under four key segments within the compost ecosystem: food residuals, haulers, compost producers and end users. Some of the key challenges members identified for food residuals, haulers and compost producers included contamination, financial viability, land access and regulatory uncertainty.

During the convening, members acknowledged that community-based composting operations are often located on urban farms and community gardens, but noted they also can be stand-alone operations on vacant lots within communities.

The Community Composting Working Table’s goal is to provide a shared vision and a set of recommendations to scale and support community-based composting. In the coming weeks, the recommendation from the Working Table will be shared with the broader community in a white paper, and will also help to inform Food Well Alliance’s 2017 grant-making strategy.
FUNDING NOW AVAILABLE FOR FOAM RECYCLING PROGRAMS

Grant program funds foam polystyrene recycling equipment, awareness

The Foam Recycling Coalition has opened its grant submission process to support increased recycling of packaging made from foam polystyrene. The FRC, part of the Foodservice Packaging Institute, seeks applicants looking to start or strengthen a post-consumer foam polystyrene recycling program.

“In the past two years, the Foam Recycling Coalition has awarded nearly $225,000 in grants to communities in the United States and Canada” said Lynn Dyer, president of the Foodservice Packaging Institute. “Almost one million more people can now recycle foam polystyrene directly due to these investments.”

Both public and private organizations involved in managing residential curbside recycling programs or material recovery facilities are eligible to apply for funding. This initiative helps fund infrastructure for the collection, processing and marketing of products made from foam polystyrene. It targets post-consumer foam polystyrene products, which includes foodservice packaging (i.e., cups, plates, bowls, clamshells, cafeteria trays) and other types of packaging, such as egg cartons; meat trays; and protective packaging (used when shipping electronics and other fragile items).

The FRC distributes up to $50,000 for each grant. Grant amounts are determined on a case-by-case basis dependent upon equipment needs. Although no cash match is required, additional costs may be incurred by the grantee for related items such as site preparation, provision of conveying system, electrical infrastructure, freight and other installation costs. Grantees also must commit to collecting, processing and marketing foam polystyrene for a minimum of three years, which includes reporting on the volumes to FRC.

Formed in 2014, the Foam Recycling Coalition focuses exclusively on recycling foodservice packaging made from foam. Its members include Americas Styrenics; Cascades Canada ULC; CKF Inc.; Chick-fil-A; Commodore; Dart Container Corp.; Dyne-A-Pak; Genpak; Hawaii Foam Products; INEOS Styrolution; NOVA Chemicals Corp.; Pactiv Foodservice/Food Packaging; and TOTAL Petrochemicals & Refining USA.

Applications must be submitted by April 17, 2017 for priority consideration. The FRC will announce grant recipients throughout the year. Further information and grant application are available at www.recyclefoam.org.

Rinse, Recycle, Repeat Competition

GARNIER HAS PARTNERED WITH TERRACYCLE AND DOSOMETHING.ORG TO EXPAND THEIR SUSTAINABILITY COMMITMENT AND TO KEEP BEAUTY “EMPTIES” OUT OF LANDFILLS

Nearly half of Americans don’t regularly recycle their beauty and personal care products. That’s a major reason these items account for a significant amount of landfill waste. This is one easy, impactful way to recycle empty beauty and personal care products (aka empties!) and encourage others to do the same? Make fun and creative bins for bathrooms.

Sign up for facts on recycling and tips on keeping beauty and personal care items out of landfills. Plus, you’ll be entered for the chance to win a $5,000 scholarship. Open to students age 25 and younger

To enter:
• Make awesome recycling bins to gather empty beauty product containers
• Snap a photo of your creative bins
• Place your bin in the bathroom and start collecting
• Become eligible for weekly Garnier products, $100 giveaways, and the $5,000 scholarship

Contest ends April 30, 2017
https://www.dosomething.org/us/campaigns
Commodities Column

US Plastic Film Recycling
Rate Increased in 2015

Thirty-four million more pounds of plastic wraps, bags and other film packaging were recycled in 2015, a 3 percent increase relative to 2014, according to “2015 National Post-Consumer Plastic Bag & Film Recycling Report,” which the American Chemistry Council (ACC) released during the Plastics Recycling Conference, organized by Resource Recycling, March 6-8 in New Orleans. Nearly 1.2 billion pounds of these materials were recycled in 2015. This marks the 11th consecutive year of increases and the highest annual collection of plastic film since the survey began. Plastic film recycling—a category that includes flexible product wraps, bags and commercial stretch film made primarily from polyethylene (PE)—has increased nearly 84 percent since the first report was issued in 2005, the ACC says.

Glass Recycling: “no glass markets” & “low pricing” Myths

Looking for solutions to restore glass recycling opportunities in Georgia is a primary goal of our organization; along with that will include the need to restore the faith of communities and their citizens in participating in recycling as an environmental positive and an economic driver for all of Georgia. Whether it’s increased technology in single stream MRFs, expanded drop off options, or separate collection at the curb, GRC will assist in facilitation of glass recycling to support this goal.

Georgia HAS markets for glass recycling; specifically five (5) manufacturers are seeking glass, including two (2) Bottle to Bottle plants and three (3) Fiberglass insulation facilities. Other viable markets include: aggregate, foam glass, pipe bed, water filtration and concrete applications. As with all “commodities” there are specifications and expectations of quality by the industries procuring recovered glass.

The issue has never been markets; the problems encountered for the last year have exacerbated by low market prices of all commodities plus extensive contamination issues and the costs associated with that scenario. And yes, with the current technology in most MRFs glass breakage has caused equipment and quality issues: a very imperfect scenario that we must now work to improve.

“Poor value is often misinterpreted as poor markets.”
There is a direct tie of pricing based on quality that created today’s friction point.
Keep America Beautiful (KAB) and the United States Composting Council (USCC) announced that they, along with five other participating nonprofits and government agencies, recommend designating green as the voluntary container color standard for organics collection containers. This initiative was simultaneously announced at the USCC’s 25th Annual Conference in Los Angeles and at the Keep America Beautiful National Conference in Washington, D.C., both taking place through Jan. 26.

The voluntary standard has been established to address one of the key barriers to more effective recycling and organics collection, beyond convenience. Key factors supporting the recommendation of green as the preferred container color for organics collection containers are:

1) A distinct, consistent color for organics containers provides a visual cue for program participants that studies indicate will likely increase recognition of the purpose of the container and the quality of recovered material;
2) A distinct color that is different from the color used for trash and recycling collection containers can increase recovery; and
3) Consistency in messaging across jurisdictions - including the use of container color - helps to minimize confusion and contamination.

The initial organizations joining Keep America Beautiful and USCC in recommending this voluntary standard include: the City and County of San Francisco, GreenBlue, National Recycling Coalition, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Seattle Public Utilities and the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources. Additional organizations are expected to join the “Organics Collection Container” working group and support adoption of the voluntary standard throughout the year.

“Education and identification of containers and proper ways of recycling food scraps is critical to one of the compost manufacturer’s biggest challenges: contamination. This project will help to clarify organics containers and capture more organics for composting,” said Frank Franciosi, USCC Executive Director.

The Composting Council Research & Education Foundation is pleased to announce the winner of the International Compost Awareness Week (ICAW) Poster Contest. Out of over 200 entrees from all over the world and all ages, Ursula Gutowski’s design was chosen. Ursula is a designer from Niles, IL.

Using this year’s theme of Compost! Healthy Soil, Healthy Food, Ursula’s design will be turned into a poster and sent across the country to help promote ICAW held May 7 - 13 this year. For more information on ICAW and how to participate, go to compostfoundation.org.

The Composting Council Research & Education Foundation Announces the Release of the Just Published . . .

The Compost & Climate Connection: A Land Manager’s Guide to Organics

Exploring the topic of how to manage food scraps, yard trimmings and other organic materials and the impact that can have on climate change, the Composting Council Research & Education Foundation (CCREF) released The Compost & Climate Connection. This new publication, a companion to The Soil & Water Connection, provides a clear explanation of how ‘wastes’ can be looked at as resources in the fight against climate change.

Written by Dr. Sally Brown, Dr. Britt Faucette (of Georgia!) and Katie Kutz, and edited by other CCREF Trustees and staff, this publication is filled with informative, scientific research on the why and how of taking organic waste out of landfills and using it instead to enrich our soil resources as a way to sequester carbon, while making our soils more resilient to climate change. Filled with four- color photos, charts and illustrations, The Compost and Climate Connection should be of interest to those working in the compost manufacturing industry, backyard composters, teachers and educators or anyone looking for the most up-to-date resources on this vitally important subject. The Compost & Climate Connection is available for sale on the CCREF website: compostfoundation.org/store. Part of the publication is also available to read digitally on the website.
Dated Material

Join the GRC & “Get In The Loop”

The Georgia Recycling Coalition, Inc. (GRC) is a non-profit organization whose mission is to complement and coordinate the activities of professionals, organizations, government agencies and individuals related to recycling; to foster communications among those groups; to promote sustainable reduction and recycling programs; and, to provide a forum to and from which its membership may enhance recycling efforts in Georgia.

Please choose a membership category, complete the information below, and return to:
Georgia Recycling Coalition, P.O. Box 550667, Atlanta, GA 30355
If you have any questions, or need additional information, call (404) 634-3095.

I would like to join at the following level:

- Partner ($3,500 or more)
- Sustainer ($1,750 or more)
- Patron ($875 or more)
- Business/Trade Association ($400)
- Government/Non-Profit ($200)
- Individual ($100)

Name: __________________________________________
Street Address: __________________________________________
City, State, Zip: __________________________________________
Phone: ____________________ Fax: ____________________ Email: ____________________

I would like to serve on the following GRC committee:

- Education
- Programs
- Membership Development
- Communications
- Special Events

P.O. Box 550667
Atlanta, Georgia 30355
404.634.3095
Fax 404.653.0478
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