

Waste Management

Kathy Reed
Keep North Fulton Beautiful

Peggy Whitlow Ratcliffe
Live Thrive

Todd Redmon, Treasurer
Shaw Industries Group Inc

Michelle Wiseman
City of Atlanta Sustainability
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and ideas on increasing organics recovery at home.



The GRC group on tour at the Shaw Reclaim to Energy Facility.



Russ Delozier of J & J Flooring related the importance of Zero Waste to Landfill to attendees.



Tom Mills and his compost enthusiasts took over the Mohawk Light Lab to create compost rollers.

Recycling Partnership Releases Curbside Recycling Study



The [2016 State of Curbside Report](#), released Tuesday, Dec. 13, was written by the nonprofit group The Recycling Partnership with grant funding from the U.S. EPA. The project's lead researcher was Cody

Marshall of The Recycling Partnership (see the related [question-and-answer piece](#) with Marshall). He and other experts gathered data on recycling programs in 465 cities across the U.S., making sure to include the 250 most-populous cities and each state capital. In all, the communities represent 29 percent of the homes in the U.S. that could potentially receive curbside recycling service.

Their report points to steps communities can take that are likely to significantly increase recycling weights. But the report also demonstrates that other oft-discussed strategies, such as collecting recycling on a weekly basis, may not boost recycling weights all that much.

Tis the Season to Donate!

Cleaning out the closets this season to make room for new things coming your way!? Don't forget to donate clothes and household items for a good cause: helping those with kidney disease. American Kidney Services offers home pickup and drop off opportunities. AKS is a local, non-profit Atlanta charity that strives to help kidney disease sufferers who are in financial need. In conjunction with American Kidney Fund, they take your used clothing donations and used household goods and turn them into direct monetary support for patients struggling to pay bills and rent because the cost of their medical care.

"American Kidney Services (AKS) has been at CHaRM recycling facility since April 2, 2015. As a recycling facility it's very important to provide as many recycling opportunities as possible as we strive for zero waste. Partnering with AKS was a perfect fit and our customers love the convenience it provides", said Peggy Whitlow Ratcliffe, Executive Director of Live Thrive that operates the Atlanta CHaRM. For more info, visit <http://www.akspickup.org/>



(L-R) Greg Grisham of AKS, Peggy Whitlow Ratcliffe and Adam Quick of CHaRM, and Ed Zito of AKS cut the ribbon to begin service at CHaRM Atlanta.

Global Plastics Industries Join Hands to Combat Marine Litter

On December 12th seven new signatories were added to the [Declaration of the Global Plastics Associations for Solutions on Marine Litter](#), or the Joint Declaration. "Plastic producers from around the world are coming together to keep used plastic out of the environment, and to further improve the sustainability of these energy and resource efficient materials", said Callum Chen, Secretary General of the Asia Plastics Forum. "Together, as a united, global industry, we're involved in hundreds of [marine litter](#) prevention programs in all regions of the globe," added Chen. "But there is still much to do. Growing our ranks helps further grow our work."

The Global Declaration was launched in March 2011 at the 5th International Marine Debris Conference. To date, the Declaration has been signed by 69 plastics associations from regions across the globe. Recognizing their important role in fighting marine litter, these plastics associations have launched and are supporting projects in six key areas aimed at contributing to sustainable solutions. The [six focus areas](#) of the Global Declaration are **education, research, public policy, sharing best practices, plastics recycling and recovery, and plastic pellet containment**. In May, leaders from plastics organizations across the globe announced that there were approximately [260 projects planned, underway or completed](#).

Whatever You Celebrate This Season, do it with joy, peace and love...Happy Holidays, Season's Greetings, Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Feliz Navidad, Happy Kwanza, Joy to the World, and the best for a healthy, happy and prosperous New Year!



Thank you for your continued support of our great state recycling organization!

Sincerely,

Gloria Hardegree
Georgia Recycling Coalition