



**Georgia
Recycling
Coalition**

June 2021

Our mission is to complement and coordinate activities relative to recycling, to foster communications among professionals, organizations, government agencies and individuals, and to promote and enhance reduction and recycling programs throughout the state.

Welcome to GRC's monthly Green Sheet Electronic Update! We hope you find the information helpful.

Please send us releases, captioned photos and other great news that you want to share with the membership; email us at garecycles@mindspring.com

*Did you know? This year is GRC's 30th Anniversary-- Founded in 1991
Recycling is Essential for Georgia and we are #RecycleStrong*

Advanced Plastics Recycling Growing in Georgia



BRIGHTMARK
REIMAGINE WASTE

Brightmark, the global waste solutions provider, announced this month that it will build the world's largest advanced plastics recycling and renewal facility in Macon-Bibb County, Georgia. The total investment is expected to be more than \$680 million in a new plant intended to fully utilize the 5.3 million square-foot site, which will employ a state-of-the-art and proprietary plastics renewal process that sustainably recycles all plastic waste (Types 1-7) that has reached the end of its useful life. These include items that cannot readily be recycled (Types 3-7), such as plastic film, flexible packing, Styrofoam, plastic beverage cups, car seats and children's

toys. Brightmark's proven breakthrough closed loop solution converts the plastic waste directly into useful products, including renewable fuels and wax, and is also capable of creating the building blocks for new plastics, enabling a circular economy in the plastics industry.

Welcome New Members

Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA)-Government

EF Block of GA- Business

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



30TH ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE

Georgia Recycling Coalition
Better Together-Essential for Georgia

OCTOBER 24-27, 2021 | KING & PRINCE BEACH RESORT | ST. SIMONS ISLAND, GA

Biden seeks record budget of \$11.2B for EPA in 2022



President Joe Biden's proposed budget to fund the federal government in fiscal 2022 seeks a record \$11.2 billion in spending for the Environmental Protection Agency, including \$10 million for the Sea Our Seas 2.0 Act's Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling pilot grant initiative. The proposal also aims to establish an assistant administrator of environmental justice position at the EPA.

Hefty Energy Bag Program



Julie Barwig (L) of Keep Smyrna Beautiful and Kimberly White (R) of Keep Cobb Beautiful launch Smyrna program.

Plastic utensils, plastic food wrap, foam to-go containers, plastic pet food bags and plastic veggie/fruit bags are all examples that are hard to recycle but accepted in the Hefty Energy Bag Program expanding in Cobb County and now available in the City of Smyrna.

Gwinnett County to Expand & Improve Curbside Recycling

EveryBottleBack.org



The Coca-Cola Company

Keurig
DrPepper

PEPSICO

AMERICAN
BEVERAGE
ASSOCIATION

The American Beverage Association in partnership with Gwinnett County, The Recycling Partnership and Georgia Beverage Association announced that Gwinnett County, Ga., is the latest recipient of a recycling system investment under Every Bottle Back, a sustained effort to reduce the beverage industry's use of plastic and keep its bottles out of the environment.

The county has been awarded \$100,000 to encourage residents of unincorporated Gwinnett County to request free curbside carts and fund a recycling awareness campaign to increase recycling rates and decrease contamination. Additionally, a grant totaling \$15,000 has been committed to the City of Norcross to improve the quality of the community's recycling stream, which brings the total regional investment through Every Bottle Back to \$115,000

Clean Earth Reaps Big Results

Clean Earth recently announced it recycled 94% of total materials processed in 2020, more than 4 million tons, including remediation of 3.27 million tons of contaminated soil. Examples include:

283,000 tons of hazardous waste

109,000 tons of fuel

14.3 million pounds of electronics

6.6 million pounds of batteries

15.7 million pounds of aerosol cans

Clean Earth is a new member of GRC; for more info visit:

<https://www.cleanearthinc.com>

Glass Updates



GEORGIA GLASS RECYCLING FORUM

Check our newest web site addition: a full Glass Recycling Resources page including the recordings from sessions of our May 2021 **Georgia Glass Recycling Forum** as well as resources and success stories; more to come as glass recycling options increase.
www.georgiarecycles.org

Arglass CEO on New Georgia Plant

Arglass Yamamura opened its Georgia plant in December 2020 with the goal of creating the most eco-friendly glass manufacturing facility in North America, and the company plans to support industry initiatives spearheaded by the Glass Recycling Foundation and the Glass Packaging Institute, such as ensuring the industry has a steady supply of quality cullet, said Arglass CEO Jose Arozamena. "We believe that having more active members in GPI pushing together to communicate the strengths and benefits of glass is the only way to grow the US glass market for everyone," said Arozamena. Full Story: [EXCLUSIVE ARGLOSS INTERVIEW | Glass Worldwide Magazine](#)

Glass Recycling Coalition Announces First Gold Certification

The [Glass Recycling Coalition](#) (GRC) announced [FCC Environmental Services](#) as a recipient of a gold-level certification for two material recovery facilities (MRFs) based in Dallas and Houston, Texas. FCC

Environmental Services becomes the first gold designation for MRFs in Texas and for MRFs without integrated glass beneficiation in the country, and the eighth and ninth MRFs to hold this certification in the country.

The free certification program recognizes MRFs with additional equipment and operational procedures to clean up glass in both single- and dual-stream systems, producing more marketable and higher-quality glass. GRC's website currently hosts an interactive map showing MRFs, glass processors, and end markets across the country. GRC certified MRFs are noted on this map along with public recognition of this certification. Learn more about the Glass Recycling Coalition and apply for MRF Glass Certification at www.glassrecycles.org.

Ellars Memorial Dedicated



On Friday, May 21, 2021, Keep Marietta Beautiful held a tree dedication ceremony for Joan Ellars, the past Executive Director of the KAB affiliate. Joan served in this role for decades before retiring in December 2019 and passing away in April 2020. This tree is located in the Marietta City Cemetery, a place where Joan spent a great portion of her professional career beautifying the cemetery and giving people tours they will never forget!

APR Announces Demand Champion Growth

The Association of Plastic Recyclers (APR) recently reported its

Demand Champions program generated more than 175 million pounds of new demand for post-consumer recycled resin (PCR) during the past year. Launched in 2016, it increased PCR demand by 6.8 million pounds and in the 2nd year by 25.9 million pounds.

Consumers Remain Committed to Recycling

The recycling industry has faced many challenges over the last few years, yet consumers are still overwhelmingly (95%) supportive of recycling. According to research commissioned by the Carton Council of North America, 74% think recycling is important and people should make it a priority. This represents a 13% increase from 2015 when 61% said they were supportive of recycling. An additional 21% said people should do what they can to try to recycle. More info here:

[Consumers Remain Overwhelmingly Positive Towards Recycling - Waste Advantage Magazine](#)

Georgia Recycling Coalition

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2020-2021 Member Year

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