



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

In times like these, community is crucial. We thank you for your continued support of GRC. We are proud to stand with you in the efforts to keep recycling essential in Georgia, as well as taking on the great challenges ahead of us together.

Dedicated Fee Requirements Bill Passes - [House Bill 511](#)



House Bill 511, sponsored by [Rep. Bert Reeves \(R-34\)](#), would ensure that fees collected by the state for a specific trust fund are truly dedicated to their intended purpose. Last year, a constitutional amendment (Amendment 1) was approved by 82% of Georgia voters that allowed the state to establish rules and conditions ensuring a true dedication of fees. HB 511 seeks to achieve that. This legislation has a significant bearing on trust funds such as the solid and hazardous waste funds, which for years have had dollars diverted from the environmentally important programs. The bill would also establish additional conditions around the dedication of funds to the newly established Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program. **HB 511 passed the Senate 51-0 on March 17th and goes to the Governor for signing.**

GOT FOAM –want to recycle it in your community?



In Georgia we have three entities that received previous grants and are processing/selling foam (polystyrene); Athens-Clarke County CHaRM, Chatham County (Savannah), and Live Thrive Atlanta’s CHaRM.

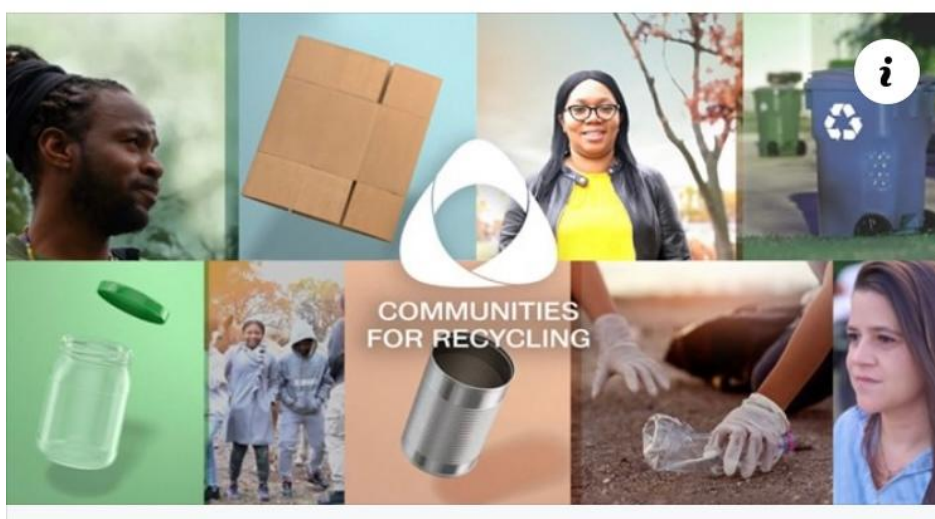
The Foam Recycling Coalition opened its grant submission process to support increased recycling of packaging made from foam polystyrene including foodservice packaging (i.e., cups, plates, bowls, clamshells and cafeteria trays) and other types of packaging (i.e., egg cartons, meat trays and protective packaging used when shipping electronics and other fragile items).

This initiative helps fund infrastructure for the collection, processing and marketing of products made from foam polystyrene. **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.

Both public and private organizations involved in managing residential drop-off and curbside recycling programs or material recovery facilities are eligible to apply for funding. **Applications must be submitted by Friday, May 28, 2021** for priority consideration. The FRC will announce grant recipients throughout the year.

Further information and grant application are available at www.recyclefoam.org.

Facebook and The Recycling Partnership Launch Free Digital Tool



In honor of Global Recycling Day on March 18th, The Recycling Partnership launched [Communities for Recycling](#), an innovative national initiative to provide Americans with real-time, personalized, and hyper-local recycling information through Facebook's Messenger experience. The initiative is the result of a collaboration between The Recycling Partnership, Facebook, and leading consumer packaged goods brands like PepsiCo.

[Communities for Recycling](#) is a national initiative with the purpose of helping individuals have an impact at the local level when taking on recycling as a global challenge. Through a special program within the personalized Facebook Messenger experience, people in Atlanta and Fort Worth can find out if and how to recycle common items like plastic bottles, cardboard, and metal as well as learn more about the recyclability of less commonly recyclable items like yogurt cups, pizza boxes, and egg cartons by typing questions into the Messenger experience to get real-time recycling guidance in their location. The digital tool was launched this month to Atlanta and Fort Worth Facebook and Instagram users in both English and Spanish, and The Recycling Partnership intends to expand the experience to additional U.S. communities later this year as it launches a national database that includes accurate recycling information, including accepted materials for thousands of communities nationwide.

For more information about how to recycle more, better where you live, work, play, and learn, visit communitiesforrecycling.org or connect with us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

Global Recycling Day-March 18, 2021



Individuals around the world came together to celebrate the fourth annual Global Recycling Day. ISRI) joined in the celebration, calling on businesses, communities, policymakers, and individuals to increase their commitment to recycling and recognize recycled commodities as an important resource. The theme of this year's Global Recycling Day was 'Recycling Heroes', recognizing recyclers, along with the other people, places, and activities that that have continued to support the recycling effort during the pandemic.

“On Global Recycling Day ISRI wants to take this opportunity to recognize recyclers across the world who work tirelessly to ensure manufacturers have the commodity-grade material needed to feed operations,” said Robin Wiener, president of ISRI. “We salute you for all you do to make ISRI, the industry, and the world a better place.”

Throughout the pandemic the recycling industry has provided the recycled metal, paper, plastics, and other commodity-grade materials needed to feed critical U.S. manufacturing operations that produce the rebar, wiring, tubing, transportation, packaging, and other key materials that are needed for everything from construction of new hospitals to the manufacture of new hospital beds, ventilators, toilet paper and other essential supplies needed to keep Americans safe and the economy running during this critical period.

“ISRI is proud to play a leading role once again in Global Recycling Day,” continued Wiener.

“As a society, it is imperative that we recognize the critically essential role of recycling in environmental protection, resource conservation, the global economy, and beyond.”

ICAW Posters/Sticker Available for Event Planners



If you are making plans for an event or observance (live or virtual) and need posters/stickers, contact us at garecycles@mindspring.com with US mail contact info. Limited quantities available-first come/first served.

Gwinnett Household Hazardous Waste Event Highly Successful



On February 20th Gwinnett Clean & Beautiful and Gwinnett County Department of Water Resources served 1,077 cars filled with Gwinnett neighbors that came to Gwinnett County Fairgrounds to take part in the first Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day of 2021. At the end of the four-hour event, the two organizations along with dozens of volunteers, several Gwinnett police officers and representatives from MXI – a leading provider of regulated waste transportation and management services – had collected 111,874 pounds of household hazardous waste for recycling or disposal.

Between items collected and the number of cars funneled through the event, this year's Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day marks one of Gwinnett County's largest events of its kind to this date.

"We were thrilled with the turnout – particularly considering the fact that we're still in the midst of a pandemic," said Schelly Marlatt, Executive Director of Gwinnett Clean & Beautiful. "I was particularly proud to see members of our Green Youth Advisory Council hard at work. These are high school students who volunteered their time and talents to support our efforts on a Saturday morning. We are happy we created this opportunity for our neighbors to rid their homes of chemicals, paint, pesticides and more that they no longer needed.

Items collected at the free February event included spray pesticides, automotive products, cleaners, spray paint, auto batteries, household batteries, cooking grease, fire extinguishers, lighter fluid, fluorescent bulbs, insecticides, latex paints, lawn care products, oil-based stains, propane cylinders, paint strippers, weed killers and more. The next Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, July 22, 2021.

Athens-Clarke to Pilot Commercial Organics Collection



Athens-Clarke County (ACC) Unified Government has long taken a forward-thinking approach to sustainable solid waste management, offering a well-established community recycling program, Center for Hard to Recycle Materials (CHaRM), commercial composting, and staff that support local businesses with waste reduction and zero waste strategies. ACC Solid Waste Department will soon begin piloting a commercial compost collection route serving local businesses like Chick Fil-A and Chef Peter Dale's Maepole.

Chef Dale took his low-waste mission to a new level by making it the

focus of their brand and involving their customers in the composting process with labeled bins and material that is compostable from the food to its packaging. Restaurants like Dale's were some of the first in Athens to regularly and effectively begin composting. He worked closely with Joe Dunlop, waste reduction administrator for Athens Solid Waste Department, on the Maepole project. Now, according to Dunlop, the city has been able to set up a commercial compost collection route that serves 30 customers, including local Chick-fil-A's. Dunlop recently got the go-ahead to make this route full-time.



Thanks to our members that are participating in GRC's #RecycleRightGA education campaign! It's not too late to join and receive the free resources, including videos and social media content.

New content is posted each week. Be sure to follow GRC on social media and share the posts with your followers. Check out our videos, including the recently released aluminum video highlighting Novelis, available at <https://tinyurl.com/satb6fkc>

To learn more and download the free materials, go to georgiarecycles.org/programs/recycle-right/

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