

Pratt Opens Plant in Austell

Last month, Governor Brian Kemp, joined Pratt's Executive Global Chairman, Anthony Pratt, to celebrate the official opening of Pratt's supersheet plant in Austell!

Pratt is America's 5th largest corrugated packaging company and the world's largest, privately-held 100% recycled paper and packaging company. The new paper plant represents an enormous milestone for one of the largest, recycled content manufacturers in the state!



Photos courtesy of Pratt Industries



Joint GRC/SWANA-GA Chapter's Power of Partnership Conference - Call for Proposals

Still a few days left to submit a proposal to present! We are planning an exciting program for the first joint conference! Exhibitor and Attendee registration, as well as sponsorship opportunities opens later this month. We look forward to seeing you in September!

Submit proposal by June 15th!

GA EPD Announces Recycling Waste Reduction Grants

The following eight grantees were recently selected for a total of \$1,887,998.

GRANTEE	DESCRIPTION
Chattooga County	Equipment: Shredder
City of Centerville	Infrastructure: New Recycling Center
City of Griffin	Equipment: Baler
City of Johns Creek	Infrastructure: Glass Recycling Drop-off
City of Thomasville	Equipment: Forklifts, Balers, and Loading Dock
Floyd County	Equipment: Shredder
Georgia Institute of Technology – Office of Sustainability	Equipment: Composting Vessel
Newton County Solid Waste Management Authority	Equipment: Recycling Bins

^{*}Grantees in italics are recommended for award, and their agreements are pending execution.

Membership Renewals Due July 1st!

It's time to renew your membership! Thanks to those who have already renewed.

Your membership helps GRC continue to promote and enhance recycling and waste reduction in Georgia. Members who renew by July 1st receive reduced conference registration fees.GRC provides a grace period to August 1st for organizations with July-June fiscal years.

Thank you for continuing to support GRC and our mission in Georgia! **Questions?** Email us.

Industry News

Glass Recycling Foundation Grant Application is Open!

The Glass Recycling Foundation's grant application period is open! Don't miss this opportunity to apply for funding to expand or enhance your local program. Deadline to apply is July 10th!

Apply Today!

Glass Recycling Foundation Releases Impact Report

The Glass Recycling Foundation (GRF) continues to make efforts to increase glass recycling in the U.S. by providing grants that assist with upgrading equipment, providing collection containers for glass dropoffs, developing resident education, and other glass recovery related projects.

The GRF released its 2023 Impact Report highlighting over \$150,000 in grants that supported 11 projects diverting nearly 1,660 tons or over 3.3 million pounds of glass from landfills. This equates to more than 7.5 million glass bottles that were recycled as a result of the GRF's local engagements. The grants were made possible by donations from Anheuser Busch Foundation, Diageo, Legacy Marketing (Corona), and Wine and Spirit Wholesalers.

"Donations from brands, manufacturers, and others that utilize recycled glass bottles and containers enable the GRF to provide support to those that are trying to improve glass recycling," said Laura Hennemann, secretary for the GRF and SVP of Sustainability and Corporate Affairs at Strategic Materials, Inc. "Ensuring glass is prioritized and kept in local recycling programs is key to continuing to grow the industry and provide a much-needed feedstock for responsible manufacturing. The GRF is excited to support those organizations that are passionate about keeping glass on the infinite recycling loop."

Read Full Impact Report

Plastic Recycling Data Report

Recyclers recovered just over five billion pounds of post-consumer plastic for recycling in the United States (U.S.) in 2022 with the vast majority staying in North America to be processed and remanufactured into new products, according to new data released today by the Association of Plastic Recyclers (APR), ISRI, and the U.S. Plastics Pact. Prepared by Stina Inc., and based on surveys conducted by Stina Inc. and the National Association for PET Container Resources (NAPCOR), the 2022 U.S. Post-consumer Plastic Recycling Data Dashboard details U.S. sourced post-consumer plastic recovered for recycling.

North American reclaimers acquired 93.7 percent of plastic recovered for recycling in the U.S. while export overseas fell to 6.3 percent. Although total volumes recovered were down by 1.4 percent (71.2 million pounds), U.S. reclaimers acquired 21.4 million pounds more U.S. sourced post-consumer plastic over 2021, for a total of 4,307.8 million pounds or 85.9 percent of the total.

The 2022 data shows that the five billion pounds of plastic recovered in 2022 include Bottles (2,784 million pounds, 55.5 percent of total); Non-Bottle Rigids (1,111.8 million pounds, 22.2 percent of total), Film (1,110.3 million pounds, 22.1 percent of total) and "Other Plastics" (11 million pounds, 0.2 percent of total).

Read full story from The Association of Plastic Recyclers or view **dashboard** with detailed data.

The Association of Plastic Recyclers Updates the Design® for Recyclability Recognition Program

The Association of Plastic Recyclers (APR) recently announced updates to the APR Design® for Recyclability Recognition Program, adding new packaging components that are now eligible for Preferred Design Recognition (PDR.) There are several different paths to achieve APR Design® Recognition, including PDR, but all paths confirm that a package or packaging component has met the highest criteria for recyclability according to the APR Design® Guide. PDR is now available for 24 packaging components, including the following new items:

- Blow Molded PET Bottles and Containers
- PET Packaging Constructs
- Natural and Colored HDPE Bottles and Containers
- Mono-Material PE Stretch and Collation Shrink Films

APR Design® Recognition helps component and packaging manufacturers meet clients' goals for recyclable packaging. It provides third-party validation that a package or packaging component's design is compatible with the North American recycling system. Read more.

Georgia News

Second CHaRM Facility Opens in Metro Atlanta

Live Thrive has announced their 2nd Atlanta CHaRM center will open June 12th in DeKalb County's Belvedere Park. Their first site has been operating in the City of Atlanta since 2015. **Read the full story** from *Decaturish.com*

Additionally, Live Thrive recently received a\$25,000 grant from The American Beverage Association. Funds will be used to purchase a new baler at the site, which will be an important drop-off facility for residents who do not have access to recycling services at home. In addition to accepting everyday recyclables like beverage bottles and cans to be remade into new ones, CHaRM accepts items often landfilled rather than recycled like mattresses, bicycles, paint, etc. The new investment will provide more than 300,000 households with an additional drop-off site for recyclables and will also support community outreach to residents on what types of materials can be recycled at the new facility.

UGA Zero Waste Event





On Friday, April 19, the Office of Sustainability partnered with UGA Athletics and a team of students to reduce waste at the UGA softball game. More than 1,200 fans attended generating 289.86 pounds of waste.

Through UGA's zero waste efforts, 73.4% of materials at the event were composted or recycled!

Congrats to UGA on a job well done!



ACC Compost Pilot Is A Success!

Earlier this year, the ACC Solid Waste Department and UGA New Materials Institute partnered to collect organic materials in the Normaltown, Boulevard, and Cobbham neighborhoods. The pilot program was successful, Athens-Clarke

County and UGA officials told county commissioners last month, and

they want to continue it community-wide next year.

About 400 of 2,200 households in the area participated in the free program, which ran from February to early May. "We continued to get inquiries after the registration deadline, so there's a lot of interest out there," ACC Waste Reduction Administrator Joe Dunlop said at a May 14 work session. "The reactions were overwhelmingly positive."

Read full story at Georgia Public Broadcasting (gpb.org)

Member News



Call for Presentations Now Open! Learn More!

Scholarship Application Open

Calling all Georgia college students interested in pursuing careers in the waste

reduction, recycling, composting or sustainability fields. The Connie Burns Scholarship gives you the opportunity to apply for funds as well as a trip to our annual conference in September.

Help GRC spread the word to colleges/universities in your communities and encourage any candidates you may know to apply.

Learn more about the scholarship or apply online today!

SPIRIT of GREEN Awards Application Now Open - Apply Today!

Want to be recognized for your hard work and success or know a company or person who deserves recognition?

Check out the simplified online application for the 2024 awards. Apply or nominate someone today! Nominations due July 15, 2024.

Award Categories:

- GRC Volunteer of the Year A GRC member who has provided the organization with value-added benefits toward achieving its mission
- Outstanding Institutional Program May include college, university, military installations, or campus/industrial entities
- Outstanding Government/Community Program A local program that exemplifies comprehensive and sustainable components and practices
- Outstanding Corporate Leader A business that has implemented exemplary waste reduction/recycling programs for its industry
- Hall of Fame An individual who has contributed to GRC's success over an extended period of time

Apply or Nominate Someone Today!

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