



## International Compost Awareness Week (ICAW) 2025 Poster Revealed



The ICAW 2025 Poster Contest winner is Abbie Sawyer from Athens, Georgia. Her incredible winning entry was chosen from hundreds of entries received from throughout the world; entries were received from 73 different countries. This year's theme is "Sustainable Communities Begin with Compost!"

***Congratulations to Abbie!***

### Meet the Artist

Abbie is an artist, nature enthusiast, and Compost Education Specialist for the Athens-Clarke County Solid Waste Department. As Abbie explained, her poster design was carved out of linoleum, hand-printed, and digitized to add color and text. The top of the poster shows off the skyline of Athens, Georgia, with the green roof of City Hall visible in the left corner.



When asked what ICAW and this year's theme meant to her, she said, "Communities rely on organic recycling on all scales. Whether you compost garden scraps in a three-bin system or generate tons of compost in an industrial facility, you make a difference! It's time for us to embrace decay and rot on."

## ICAW 2025 Bookmark Announced



For the first time, the ICAW Committee introduced a new bookmark contest. It was open to children ages 10 - 13. Olivie Mak, an eighth grader from the Pacific Northwest, created the winning bookmark!

In addition to having a compost bin in her backyard, she loves reading, skiing, drawing, and her dog.

Congratulations to the Olivie on winning the contest!



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## Industry News

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### New Resources Available for Plastics Recycling

Check out this [resource](#) from the **Association of Plastics Recyclers** for updated information regarding plastics recycling.

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### Pizza Box Recycling Quandary Continues

Did you know that nearly 75% of people in the U.S. have access to recycling used pizza boxes in their local community? To help educate the general public, Pizza Hut has partnered with pizza box supplier Smurfit Westrock to raise awareness about pizza box recycling.



Approximately 3 billion pizzas are sold each year in the U.S.

[Learn more](#) about Pizza Hut's recycling efforts or find local guidelines for pizza box recycling.

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### It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year.... Except for the Waste!!

You've heard the data before... waste generation increases during the holidays with both materials headed to the landfill and those that can be recycled increasing by 25% from Thanksgiving to New Years Day. An estimated one million tons per week is generated.



Make your holiday season eco-friendly! Discover practical tips to reduce waste, recycle wrapping paper, and compost food scraps while celebrating sustainably.

Check out these resources from [Keter Environmental](#), [Roadrunner, Brightly](#), and [Georgia Tech](#).

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## Member News

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### City of Newnan Adds New Glass Drop-Off Site

Keep Newnan Beautiful celebrated America Recycles Day 2024 in a “glassy” way! Partnering with Ripple Glass, they held a kickoff event for their new glass collection drop-off program. The event included food, music, family fun, and giveaways, including t-shirts and a Ripple bag for residents to bring glass to the drop-off collection site.

Glass drop-off sites continue to grow in Georgia. Is your community ready to get glassy? **Contact GRC** for information and resources to start your drop-off program!



GEORGIA RECYCLING COALITION

## Art Contest

WHAT RECYCLING MEANS TO ME

Help us celebrate America Recycles Day in Georgia by showcasing your talents!

Open to students age 5-19. Prizes awarded to winners in each age category.

Deadline to submit entry form is 01/15/24.

CALLING ALL ARTISTS!

In celebration of America Recycles Day, the Georgia Recycling Coalition is excited to announce its America Recycles Day Art Contest for students ages 5-19. Help us celebrate America Recycles Day in Georgia by showcasing your talents! Tell us what recycling means to you in the form of a photograph, sculpture, painting, drawing, or poem.

We are also asking our members and partners to promote the contest in their community. Promotional materials are available.

[Learn more](#)



[Learn more](#) about Bring One for the Chipper, including locations and dates for collection in your community.

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## Calendar of Events

January 27-30, 2025

**Compost 2025**

Phoenix, AZ

February 16-19, 2025

**SE Recycling Conference**

Miramar Beach, FL

March 24-27, 2025

**Carolina Recycling Association Conference**

Wilmington, NC

March 24-26, 2025  
**Plastics Recycling Conference**  
National Harbor, MD

April 29-May 1, 2025  
**SWANA SE Meeting**  
Mississippi

May 5-8, 2025  
**Waste Expo**  
Las Vegas, NV

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