

# GREEN SHEET

MARCH 2025



## Safety Spotlight

### Safety Focus: 2025

As reported earlier this year, the waste & recycling industries have become increasingly unsafe, especially for our workers. **GRC will make this a focus of this year's programs by providing opportunities and resources to assist members and the general public in working together toward increased health and safety.**

Our Georgia members are working to raise the bar on addressing this issue. Here are just two examples:

**SAFETY TIP:**  
LITHIUM-ION BATTERY  
USE & DISPOSAL

Always practice safe battery use and disposal, especially for toys and household items containing lithium-ion batteries.

**Find a disposal site near you:**  
[Call2Recycle.org](https://www.call2recycle.org) (1-877-2-RECYCLE)  
[Earth911](https://www.earth911.com) (Use Lithium-ion batteries in the search bar.)

**NATIONAL BATTERY DAY**

**KEEP OUR HEROES SAFE!**

**BATTERIES GO BOOM!**

Don't put batteries in the trash or recycling. Take them to **CHAaRM** for FREE!

**DON'T TRASH IT. CHaRM IT!**

[ACCGOV.COM/BATTERIES](https://www.acccgov.com/batteries)

## Safety Summit

The FREE safety seminar will go beyond best

## How safe are your operations?

Prevent injuries and fatalities.



Learn Safety Strategies to Empower Teams and Save Lives

Join us March 20, 2025

FREE VIRTUAL SAFETY SEMINAR



practices and provide actionable tools and information to reduce improper behavior that contributes to fatalities, injuries, and collisions.

[Learn more and register...](#)

## SWANA Call for Action on Hazardous Materials

SWANA has released a statement calling for emergency action on responsible end-of-life (EOL) management for hazardous products. The waste and resource management industry faces rising facility and truck fires due to lithium-ion batteries, compressed gas cylinders, and other improperly disposed items. These products often lack EOL plans, clear labeling, and consumer education on safe disposal. "We are facing an emergency threat to the safety of our workers facilities, and equipment," says SWANA CEO & Executive Director, Amy Lestition Burke, MA, FASAE, CAE.



[Read more...](#)

## Mark Your Calendar for GRC's Safety Webinar

Make plans to join us on April 17th for our safety webinar featuring David Biderman, Consultant; Ryan Fogelman, Fire Rover; Anne Germain, NWRA; and Denise Young, Athens-Clarke County Solid Waste Department. Hosted by Mason Towe, UGA Office of Sustainability.

Want to learn more about safety issues facing our industry? Check out these articles.

- [Waste Today Magazine: Battery Fire Threatens Workforce](#)

## Member News

### **New Member Spotlight: Yamaha Motor Corporation**



Yamaha Motor Corporation, USA (YMUS), is a recognized leader in the outdoor recreation industry. Yamaha Motor Manufacturing Corporation of America (YMMC) employs more than 2,000 metro Atlanta residents to design and build recreational vehicles at its Newnan manufacturing facilities. These facilities manufacture all of the world's Yamaha golf cars and Side-by-Sides, as well as most of its WaveRunners and ATVs. YMMC takes pride in contributing to the local economy while producing innovative products that deliver unparalleled experiences to customers. YMUS has a corporate office in California, two corporate offices in Georgia, facilities in Wisconsin and Alabama, and factory operations in Tennessee and Georgia.



### **Welcome New Members**

**Government Level**  
**City of Mableton**  
**Emily Groth**

**Individual**  
**Bethany Harris**  
**UGA Center for Urban Ag**





## CHaRM Update

In January, CHaRM Atlanta was nationally featured in an article in *Waste 360*. We applaud the continuing success of this program, now with two locations in metro Atlanta.

GRC is planning a tour of the newest DeKalb County location later this spring. Date and details coming soon!



Want to learn more about CHaRM? [Read the full Waste 360 article now.](#)

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## Made to Be Remade Campaign Launched

The Georgia Beverage Association, in collaboration with House Speaker Jon Burns and House Natural Resources & Environment

Chair Lynn Smith, has launched the Made to be Remade initiative. This innovative campaign aims to boost the recycling of beverage containers and encourage increased engagement in recycling programs across Georgia.

**MADE TO BE  
REMADE**  
GeorgiaBev



**Discover more** about this new initiative to boost the recycling of beverage containers in Georgia and become a Made to be Remade Partner today!

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## “Playoff Green” Made a Difference in Atlanta



College Football Playoff is an iconic celebration—the culmination of a season of hard work for student-athletes, coaches, athletic departments, teachers, bands, and their communities. But the action wasn’t just on the field; it was a January weekend full of sustainability wins, thanks to the collaboration between Playoff Green, incredible local partners, and some of the most forward-thinking venues in sports and entertainment! Here are a few highlights:

- Joined Trees Atlanta for MLK Day of Service to plant trees and honor Dr. King’s legacy.
- Playoff Green volunteers were out in full force—teaching fans about sustainability and waste recovery.
- Partnered with local nonprofits, including Second Helpings Atlanta, Atlanta Habitat for Humanity ReStore, Lifecycle Building Center, and Sustainable Fashion Week Atlanta to donate food, materials, and more—keeping valuable resources out of the landfill.
- Worked directly with existing zero-waste operations at Mercedes-Benz Stadium and State Farm Arena and partnered with Waste Eliminator at an event with the Georgia World Congress Center Authority to establish a dedicated waste sorting operation, ensuring materials were properly managed and diverted from the landfill.

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We would love to highlight your local successes in our news.  
[Share](#) your story with us today!

## Industry News

### Cities Forgo Wrecking Balls

Cities across the country are forging a new path for deconstruction of old buildings instead of demolishing them the traditional way. Mountains of used bricks, shingles, window frames and even perfectly good appliances are tossed into landfills when a building is

demolished to make way for a new one. But cities across the country are starting to recognize the problem. From Boulder to Pittsburgh, new ordinances require contractors to “deconstruct” old buildings instead of demolishing them the traditional way. [Read more...](#)

This is not a new concept in Georgia with at least two organizations in the state addressing the reuse of building materials. Check out these organizations:

- [LifeCycle Building Center in Atlanta](#)
- [Re:Purpose Savannah](#)

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## **US Senate EPW Committee Passes Recycling Legislation**

The U. S. Senate’s Environment and Public Works committee recently passed legislation to reauthorize the U.S. EPA’s Brownfields Program and the Strategies to Eliminate Waste and Accelerate Recycling Development (STEWARD) Act that would improve recycling and composting systems.

[Learn more](#) about the details of these bills and the groups supporting them as we monitor action to get them finally passed.



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## **ICYMI: Additional Industry Insight and News**

- [AJC article discussing Coke and impact of tariffs](#)
- [Look at aluminum and steel import tariffs](#)
- [Coldplay to make albums from recycled plastic](#)

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## **Calendar of Events**

March 20, 2025

**GRC Facility Tour of Waste Eliminator**

March 24-27, 2025

**Carolina Recycling Association Conference**  
Wilmington, NC

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

April 16, 2025  
**Georgia Composting Council-Compost Connect**  
Dublin, GA

April 17, 2025  
**GRC Safety Webinar**

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

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

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## GRC 2024-2025 Sponsor Level Members

### **PARTNER LEVEL**

Brightmark  
Coca-Cola Company  
Georgia Beverage  
Association  
Greif Recycling  
Mohawk  
Novelis  
Pratt Industries  
Shaw Industries Group

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American Chemistry  
Council  
GFL Environmental  
Pepsico  
Rubicon  
Smurfit Westrock  
Waste Eliminator  
Waste Pro  
WM

### **PATRON LEVEL**

Emory University  
Luck Stone Atlanta Stephens  
NAIMA  
Newnan Utilities  
Republic Services  
Strategic Materials

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