

# GRC Member News

## April 2025

### Register for GRC's Safety Webinar

Safety issues are at the forefront as we face increased incidents and injuries to workers. Safety is a focus for GRC in 2025; please join us to hear from a panel of industry professionals on why events are occurring and how we address reducing potential harm to workers, equipment and facilities, as well as outreach to inform our citizens. Register by April 10th. Confirmation and link to the event will be sent on April 14th to all registrants. [Click here to register now!](#)

# SAFETY WEBINAR

presented by the Georgia Recycling Coalition

April 17, 2025 • 10:30-11:45 AM

Hear experts discuss safety issues facing the recycling industry from battery handling to fire incident suppression and best practices for protecting workers, citizens, and equipment.

Webinar is FREE! Participants must register by April 10th.



**David Biderman**  
President  
Biderman Consulting, LLC



**Anne Germain**  
Chief of Technical & Regulatory Affairs  
National Waste & Recycling Association



**Ryan Fogelman, JD/MBA**  
Vice-President and Partner  
Fire Rover



**Denise Young**  
Waste Reduction Coordinator  
Athens-Clarke County SW Department

# Waste Eliminator Tour Recap



Thanks to Jude Skove, Michael Patterson and other staff at the Waste Eliminator Norcross recycling facility for hosting a tour of their MRF and C&D Recycling facility in March for GRC members. We appreciate the hospitality and the great information shared, including the very important relationship-building they do with their customers.



Mark Your Calendar!



GRC 34th Annual Conference  
October 27-29, 2025  
Jekyll Island Club • Jekyll Island, GA

## Member News

### New Board Members Elected

GRC is delighted to welcome two new members to our Board of Directors. **Emily Groth**, with the City of Mableton, is taking the government seat vacated by Kimberly White of Cobb County who termed out after serving two consecutive terms. Emily serves on the GRC Education Committee. **Beyonca Padgett** of Greif Recycling assumes an At Large Seat recently vacated by Karen Wilson, whose job responsibilities have taken her in a new direction. Beyonca continues to serve on the GRC Program Committee, where she has played an integral role as committee co-chair for several years.

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

## Industry News

### EPA & DOE to Hold Battery EPR Kickoff

On April 7, 2025, EPA and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) are hosting the first virtual meeting to kick off conversations to develop an extended battery producer responsibility framework. EPA and DOE

will share background and context around the framework initiative, and speakers will provide an overview of the extended producer responsibility policy landscape and key principles. Participants will then be able to provide input to inform this process.

[Register for Battery EPR Meeting](#)

## Foam Recycling Grants 2025 Application Period Opens



The Foodservice Packaging Institute's Foam Recycling Coalition announced that its grant program is now open for 2025, offering a major opportunity to expand foam polystyrene recycling across the United States. Since its inception, the grant program has enabled over 13 million additional residents to recycle foam polystyrene like cups, egg cartons, takeout containers and packaging materials. Facility operators, non-profits and solid waste authorities are encouraged to apply for grants of up to \$50,000 to help establish or enhance foam polystyrene recycling in their communities.

The 2025 application period is open now through April 15, 2025. Eligible entities must engage in operating a material recovery facility, manage residential curbside recycling programs, or manage a drop-off or convenience site recycling program.

[Learn more and apply for grant today!](#)

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## ICYMI: Additional Industry Insight and News

- [The Sustainability Label Paradox: Why Consumers Don't Read What They Claim to Value](#)
  - [Industry Value Increasing \(wastedive.com\)](#)
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# Help Us Celebrate Food Waste Prevention Week!

GRC is thrilled to announce our partnership with Food Waste Prevention Week, taking place April 7-13, 2025! To facilitate the sharing of the national campaign, our RecycleRightGA partners will receive an email with the social media post each day next week. Joining forces with more than 600 public and private organizations, we are proud to support the mission of reducing food waste in our homes, workplaces, and communities. Together, we can inspire action and create meaningful change.



## Why Food Waste Prevention Matters:

- **Save Money:** A family of four can save between \$1866-\$3000+ per year by reducing wasted food.
- **Conserve Resources:** Wasted food means wasted labor, land, water, and energy used in its production and transportation.
- **Improve Food Access:** Safe and nutritious food could be better utilized to improve food access in our communities.

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## Calendar of Events

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

May 6-8, 2025

**Keep Georgia Beautiful Foundation Conference**

Brasstown Valley

May 12-15, 2025

**ReMA THE SHOW**

San Diego, CA

May 14-26, 2025

**TN Environmental Show of the South**

Chattanooga, TN

May 21, 2025

**SWANA GA Road-e-o**

Dublin, GA



*3 weeks  
until Earth Day!  
4.22.25*

*Visit [georgiarecycles.org](http://georgiarecycles.org) for inspiration and ideas for celebrating Earth Day!*

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**Free Resources Available for ICAW 2025**

Help promote International Compost Awareness Week (ICAW) 2025 in your community. The week-long event is set for



May 4–10, 2025. Learn ways you can participate and download the manual with tips and tools to make celebrating ICAW even easier.

Learn more about how to participate and celebrate ICAW in your community.

## GRC 2024-2025 Sponsor Level Members

### PARTNER LEVEL

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

### SUSTAINER LEVEL

- 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

## GRC 2025 Board of Directors

**Carliss E. Bates,  
Vice-President  
City of Savannah  
Sanitation Department**

**Page Beckwith  
Keep Newnan Beautiful**

**Emily Groth  
City of Mableton**

**Jason Johnson  
Fulton Metals Recycling**

**Deena Keeler  
Emory University**

**Marla Prince, President  
WM**

**Mandy Renova**

**Kimberly Scott  
Novelis**

**Scott Terrell  
Jacobs Engineering**

**Mason Towe  
University of Georgia  
Office of Sustainability**

**Karen Wilson  
Greif Recycling**

**Chris Witherspoon,  
Treasurer**

**Denise Young  
Athens-Clarke County  
Recycling Division**



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