

GEORGIA RECYCLING COALITION MONTHLY NEWSLETTER - AUGUST 2025



SHAPING THE FUTURE CONFERENCE

October 27-29, 2025 | Jekyll Island Club Hotel | Jekyll Island, Georgia

Registration Now Open! Join us to explore how we can shape the future of recycling in Georgia, while minimizing negative impacts via innovation, collaboration, fresh perspectives and an outlook that leads us to stabilize and grow the industry.

Make Your Hotel Reservations Early! Hotel deadline for group rate is Friday, September 26, 2025.

[Register and Reserve Room
Today](#)

Conference Sponsor Opportunities Available

Sponsorships provide opportunities to feature your company, non-profit, trade association, or government services. All sponsors receive recognition onsite as well as in promotional/outreach materials posted on social media and the conference and hosts' websites.

[Secure a Sponsorship
Spot](#)

A Little History About Our 2025 Venue

During the Gilded Age in America (1870's to early 1900's, a period of rapid industrialization and vast wealth accumulation), the Jekyll Island Club was often referred to as "The Millionaire's Club". It became the winter retreat of some of the wealthiest individuals in the US. Originally a hunting destination, a group of elite became founding members of the very exclusive Millionaire's

Club. JP Morgan, William Rockefeller, Joseph Pulitzer, Cornelius Vanderbilt II, William K. Vanderbilt, and John Jacob Astor IV were all among the founders.

Its history is fascinating; the Federal Reserve was formed there, and the first transcontinental telephone call was made there. In 1886 the club was founded, with the main building being finished in 1888. It's now a hotel on state park land surrounded by the historic "cottages" built by the founders. They have also turned other historic houses on the property into little shops and there is a chapel with stained glass designed by Louis Tiffany. The island is a state-owned sanctuary for wildlife, native vegetation, beautiful marshes and beaches along with its remarkable history.

A promotional poster for the Georgia Recycling Coalition Recycling Awards. The background is dark with a close-up image of a green fern frond on the right side. The text is in white and light green. The title 'GEORGIA RECYCLING COALITION RECYCLING AWARDS' is at the top in light green. Below it, in white, is the text: 'Want to be recognized for your waste reduction and recycling efforts or know a company, non-profit, government agency, school, or person in Georgia who deserves recognition?'. Further down, in white, is 'Apply or nominate someone today!'. At the bottom, in light green, is 'DEADLINE TO APPLY: SEPTEMBER 10TH!'.

Want to be recognized for your hard work to increase recycling or know a company, local government, school, or person in Georgia who deserves recognition?

[Learn more](#) about the awards. Ready to apply? Submit application using the simplified [online form](#) for the 2025 awards. **Nominations due September 10, 2025.**

SCHOLARSHIP
OPPORTUNITY
AVAILABLE

GEORGIA
RECYCLING
COALITION

APPLY TODAY!

DEADLINE TO APPLY:
SEPTEMBER 10TH

College and university students are encouraged to apply for the Connie Burns Scholarship (up to \$1000). Applicants must be currently enrolled as an undergraduate or graduate student at a college or university in Georgia and pursuing a degree in environmental science, engineering or other major related to recycling, waste reduction, or environmental sustainability. The deadline to submit the application is September 10th. Members are encouraged to share the information in their community.

For more information and to complete the application, go to: <https://www.georgiarecycles.org/programs/connie-burns-scholarship/>

Member News

Membership Renewals Due July 1st !

We reached our grace period deadline on August 1st for renewal of the July 2025-June 2026 member year. Thanks to the majority who have completed those renewals. Special thanks to our sponsors who have generously supported GRC for another year. For those still pending, please renew as soon as possible and, as always, let us know if we can assist or be of further service. Thank you for your support as we work together to fulfill our mission.

Welcome New Members

Government

City of Douglasville, Corey Jackson
Keep North Fulton Beautiful, Colleen Sanjurjo

Individual

Keane Dolin, Greif Recycling
Patsy Avant, GA EPD-Athens Office

Associate

Ivus Duvall, Floyd County Government
Laurene Hamilton, Cox Enterprises
Emily Dempsey, Cobb County
Hayley Dowell, Cobb County
Sharon Royston, City of Atlanta
Terez Chapmen, City of Atlanta

Industry News

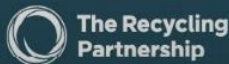


SWTF Grants Open August 11th

Applications for the FY26 Recycling and Waste Diversion (RWD) and Tire Products (Tire) Grants will be accepted online through the SWTF Grant Program Administration Portal starting August 11, 2025 through September 30, 2025. The RWD Grant supports a wide range of projects, including recycling and waste diversion infrastructure, hub and spoke development, hard-to-recycle materials, recovery of additional materials, waste reduction, and innovation. Awardees from previous RWD and Tire Grant cycles are eligible to apply in the FY26 cycle if have completed the terms of their previously awarded agreement. Check out the resources for the SWTF Grant Administration Portal, the GA EPD online tool for applications and reporting. EPD will accept only applications submitted in the Portal. [Learn more...](#)
Questions? Email swtf.grant@dnr.ga.gov

Cultivating Investment in Recycling and Circular Local Economies (CIRCLE) Act

LEARN MORE



CIRCLE Act Introduced

July marked a pivotal a moment for recycling in America. The Cultivating Investment in Recycling and Circular Local Economies (CIRCLE) Act was officially introduced by Congressman Tom Suozzi and Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick; it could transform the way we recycle. The CIRCLE Act proposes a 30% Recycling Infrastructure Investment Tax Credit to accelerate private and public investment in recycling systems, from collection to processing.

Specifically:

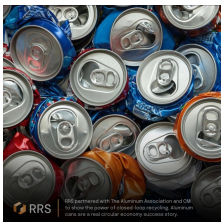
- \$8.8 billion in new materials for American manufacturing
- \$11 billion in wages from almost 200,000 new jobs across the nation
- \$9.4 billion in savings for local municipalities through lower landfilling costs
- 710 million metric tons of emissions avoided

It's time to act to ensure every American has access to recycling and to incentivize the critical upgrades our system needs. We are losing 37 million tons of recyclable materials every year. And that's not just waste - it's a lost opportunity. An investment in recycling infrastructure returns real dividends to American communities and companies. It strengthens supply chains, boosts domestic manufacturing, and reduces reliance on imported materials. That kind of investment pays off for business, for the environment, and for the U.S. economy. We need bold leadership. And we need your support.

Check out [The Recycling Partnership's full announcement](#) to learn how we can build the better recycling system that America deserves.

Expanding Recycling Access and Participation Webinar

Join FPI on August 28th to learn about actionable pathways, resources, and tools to expand the accepted materials list in your recycling programs. Hear real-world stories from recycling professionals who have already successfully navigated that path. Walk away with tools to help you engage with the key stakeholders in your local circular economy and resources to improve resident outreach and education. Registration is FREE! [Register now!](#)



Aluminum Cans: From Recycling Bin to New Can in Just 60 Days

Earlier this year, Resource Recycling Systems (RRS) partnered with the Aluminum Association and Can Manufacturers Institute to study one of the most successful circular systems in the U.S.—the aluminum beverage can.

The result: A 97% closed-loop recycling rate and a turnaround time of less than two months. This is what strong infrastructure and real demand can achieve. [Learn more...](#)

News and Views

- [Recycle Batteries at Lowe's](#)
- [Athens Police Warn Residents on Battery Danger](#)
- [US Leads World in Trash](#)
- [PureCycle Update](#)
- [Latest updates to ReMA's ISRI Specifications include paper cups - Recycling Today](#)

- [Oregon's Extended Producer Responsibility \(EPR\) Launched July 1st](#)
- [Oregon Delays Extended Producer Responsibility Provision for Verification](#)
- [Recycling Aluminum to Offset Tariffs](#)
- [Amazon Sustainability](#)

Calendar of Events

August 20-22, 2025
Georgia Environmental Conference
 Jekyll Island, GA

September 17-19, 2025
SWANA GA Fall Conference
 Jekyll Island, GA

Sept. 16–18, 2025
BPI National Conference
 Atlanta, GA

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

October 27-29, 2025
E-Scrap Conference
 Grapevine, TX

November 12-15, 2025
RCon (formerly WasteCon)
 Columbus, OH

2024-2025 Sponsors

PARTNER LEVEL	SUSTAINER LEVEL	PATRON LEVEL
Brightmark	American Chemistry Council	Emory University
Coca-Cola Company	GFL Environmental	Luck Stone Atlanta Stephens
Georgia Beverage Association	Pepsico	NAIMA
Greif Recycling	Rubicon	Newnan Utilities
Mohawk	Smurfit Westrock	Republic Services
Pratt Industries	Waste Eliminator	Sibelco
Shaw Industries Group	Waste Pro	
	WM	

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