

GEORGIA RECYCLING COALITION MONTHLY NEWSLETTER - JULY 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.

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Member News

Membership Renewals Due July 1st !

Thanks to so many who have renewed already for the July 2025-June 2026 member year. If not, there's still time—we implemented a grace period until

August 1st to accommodate various fiscal calendar payment scenarios. Renew today and let us know if you need assistance in getting your renewal handled. garecycles@mindspring.com

Welcome New Members

Individual

Bina Jayapaul-Philip, Individual
Elaine Culbertson, Gregory Jeffreys, and Brittany Smith (UGA Associates)

Industry News

2025 Glass Recycling Foundation Grant Has Opened!

Attention municipalities, nonprofits, and public MRFs! This is your chance to get funding for projects that strengthen the glass recycling supply chain or educate the public. Fundable project types include:



- Drop-off or hauling infrastructure
- Processing equipment
- Public education campaigns

Apply by July 16th.

ARGLASS Expansion Announced

ARGLASS, glass manufacturer in Valdosta, announced an expansion to increase their productivity and create more good jobs in the region. [Read more...](#)



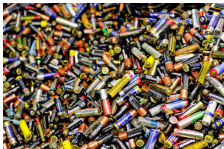
SWTF Grants Opening Soon

The next grant cycle for Recycling and Waste Diversion (RWD) and Tire Product (Tire) Grants will begin accepting applications in August 2025. Eligible applicants include cities, counties, and public authorities, agencies, commissions, and institutions. The Scrap Tire Abatement Reimbursement (STAR)

Grant, which is non-competitive, is open all year round, and provides up to \$75,000 in funding for each eligible applicant per state fiscal year. 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...](#)

Repurposed-Season 3-- Aluminum!

Have you seen REPURPOSED Season 3? It highlights the impact of recycling aluminum in our country and globally. Click on image to watch the video from Sierra International.



Portland Battery Recycling Program

In continuing our efforts to increase recovery and ensure better safety for citizens and our workforce, we will be providing info on innovative approaches to address these issues. [Learn more](#) about Portland's battery recycling program which diverted 20 tons of batteries this past year.

Chemical Recycling Perspectives

The following statement by Greg DeKunder, VP of Nova Circular Solutions, provides his perspective on an [article](#) from Bain & Company.

"I recently read Bain & Company's 2025 research on chemical recycling of plastics. It's a timely reminder of the complexity—and urgency—of building a truly circular plastics economy. The report underscores the potential of chemical recycling technologies like pyrolysis to address hard-to-recycle plastics, particularly polyolefins. But it also makes clear that commercial viability is still a work in progress, with challenges around scale, cost, and regulatory clarity.

At NOVA Chemicals, we believe that both mechanical and chemical recycling are essential to achieving circularity. Each plays a distinct and complementary role. Today, we've chosen to lead in mechanical recycling because it's here now, scalable, cost-efficient, and—critically—we're using our innovation to improve the quality of recycled materials so they can meet the performance needs of packaging. This isn't an either/or conversation. It's a both/and.

We need both—innovation and action.

How do you see mechanical and chemical recycling evolving together? What's needed to accelerate progress across the value chain?"

Purple Heart Medal Found in Scrap Yard Is Reunited with Soldier's Family

An unbelievable discovery at a scrap yard and extra investigative effort from the recycling employees resulted in a Purple Heart being reunited with a soldier's family. [Watch](#) this amazing and inspiring story.



ICYMI: Additional Industry Insight and News

- **Salvagers rescue high-end household and luxury items left by college students after they move out of apartment building**
- **What to do with all those T-Shirts you've collected over the years?**

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

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