

# GEORGIA RECYCLING COALITION MONTHLY NEWSLETTER - SEPTEMBER 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 Exhibitor and 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](#)

[Reserve a Booth](#)

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## GEORGIA RECYCLING COALITION RECYCLING AWARDS

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?

Apply or nominate  
someone today!

**DEADLINE TO APPLY:  
SEPTEMBER 10TH!**



**Deadline is this week to apply!** 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.**

### **Connie Burns Scholarship Deadline is September 10th!**

Please share our environmental scholarship opportunity in your community. 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.**

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

## Member News

*Welcome New Members*

**Business**

### Individual

Michael Patterson, Waste Eliminator  
Alisha Richey, Cortland

### Associate

Sharon Royston, City of Atlanta  
Terez Chapman, City of Atlanta  
Elise McDonald, Cobb County



## Call for Nominations for GRC Board of Directors

The Georgia Recycling Coalition (GRC) is calling for nominations for its 2026-2028 Board of Directors. We are seeking candidates committed to providing time and resources toward governing our Coalition. According to the GRC by-laws, all Directors must be voting members in good standing at the time of the election and during tenure of office. Only one employee of a particular business entity or government agency may be a Director at any given time, unless otherwise provided by the Board.

Directors will be elected for three (3) year terms and can serve only two (2) consecutive terms. Directors will be elected at the GRC annual business meeting on Monday October 27, 2025. The term of office for new directors will begin January 1, 2026. Nominations should include the following:

- A letter of nomination signed by a GRC member in good standing
- A 1-page resume or brief paragraph format bio of the nominee; and
- A brief statement by the nominee describing their interest and qualifications.

All nominations must be received in writing by GRC, P.O. Box 550667, Atlanta, GA 30355 or email a PDF of package in entirety to: [garecycles@mindspring.com](mailto:garecycles@mindspring.com) by no later than 5:00 PM on September 30, 2025.

## Renew Your Membership Today

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. If you received a lapsed notice, no worries...we can reinstate your membership on receipt of dues.

## Industry News

### SWTF Grants Open August 11th

A reminder to our member that 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 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. 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](mailto:swtf.grant@dnr.ga.gov)

## Congressional Recycling Caucus Re-Assembles

The Congressional Recycling Caucus, originally founded in 2006, has been reactivated. This bipartisan group is dedicated to advancing policies that address ongoing challenges in recycling, emphasizing economic growth and environmental protection. The caucus aims to modernize recycling infrastructure, expand access -- especially in underserved and rural communities -- and reinforce the US position in the global circular economy.



[Read more.](#)

## Links for the Latest News and Views

- **Chaz Miller on Markets**
- **The Future of Trash Collection**
- **5 Hard Truths that Cut Through the Noise by Keefe Harrison**

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## Calendar of Events

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

## 2025-2026 Sponsors

## **PARTNER LEVEL**

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

## **SUSTAINER LEVEL**

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

## **PATRON LEVEL**

Emory University  
Luck Stone Atlanta Stephens  
NAIMA  
Newnan Utilities  
Republic Services  
Sibelco

## **GRC 2025 Board of Directors**

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

**Page Beckwith**  
Keep Newnan Beautiful

**Emily Groth**  
City of Mableton

**Jason Johnson**  
Fulton Metals Recycling

**Jeff Lipscomb**  
Peachtree Waste

**Jamey Moran**  
Ripple Glass

**Danny Morgan**  
Greif Recycling

**Marla Prince, President**  
WM

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University of Georgia  
Office of Sustainability

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



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