

Georgia Recycling Coalition

Green Sheet Update



Welcome to GRC's monthly Green Sheet Electronic Update! We hope you find the information helpful.

Please send us releases, captioned photos and other great news that you want to share with the membership; email us at garecycles@mindspring.com

In This Issue

[Keep Newnan Beautiful Salutes Holidays with Recycled Content Tree](#)

[Skeggs Retires in Rome/Floyd County](#)

[GRC Board Elects 2016 Officers](#)

[Mark Your Calendar](#)

[Measure Georgia](#)

[Wasted Food Awareness to Action](#)

[Industry Issues Webinar](#)

[USAgain Winners of 9th Annual ARD Challenge](#)

[North Fulton Schools Bag Collection Contest Results](#)

[WasteCap At Southface Energy Institute](#)

Quick Links

[Join the GRC](#)
[About Us](#)

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Georgia Recycling Coalition 2015 Board of Directors

Kevin Barkley, Vice President
Macon Consolidated Government

Ralph Brooks
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Stephanie Busch

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Keep Newnan Beautiful Salutes Holidays with Recycled Content Tree



A 12 foot holiday tree constructed of over 700 recycled/recyclable plastic bottles is featured in Greenville Street Park. Keep Newnan Beautiful paid tribute to its green roots by creating the environmentally friendly tree in partnership with Niagara Bottling Company. The "Green Tree" represents a joyous salute to the treasured surrounding environment.

Skeggs Retires in Rome/Floyd County



More than 22 years after being hired in the spring of 1993, Rome-Floyd County Recycling Center Director Mark Skeggs is retiring. "I don't know how we're going to make it without him," Public Works Director Michael Skeen said during a going-away party Tuesday.

During his time at the recycling center, Skeggs has processed 250 million pounds of recycled material and increased the lifespan of the Walker Mountain Landfill by at least two years, Skeen added. Skeggs, who took over as director in December 2008, worked six days a week for 10 hours throughout much of his career with the county. Skeggs said he will miss the work and the people. One of the accomplishments he is most proud of is getting a sorting line installed, so prison inmates could hand-sort the recycled material.

Another proud memory he has is seeing the level of recycled materials and public participation increase over the years. Skeggs said he still plans to drop in from time to time, to help out and offer advice.

County Manager Jamie McCord said, "I appreciate Mark's contributions. He's been there a long time." Skeggs' former boss, Marta Turner, said she hired him in 1993 and "it was the best hire I ever made." She said Skeggs is a committed, caring, tough and smart person, but most importantly he is a real friend. "They're losing a good man," Turner said.

GRC Board Elects 2016 Officers

Wayne King
ERTH Productions

Christina Pedelty, Secretary
Caraustar Recycling

Marla Prince
Waste Management

Kathy Reed
Keep North Fulton Beautiful

Peggy Whitlow Ratcliffe
Live Thrive

Todd Redmon, Treasurer
Shaw Industries Group Inc

Michelle Wiseman, President
Pratt Recycling

At its annual board strategic planning meeting earlier this month, the GRC board of directors elected the following officers for 2016:

President	Kevin Barkley	Macon Bibb Consolidated Government
Vice President	Marla Prince	Waste Management
Secretary	Stephanie Busch	
Treasurer	Todd Redmon	Shaw Industries Group

Thanks to our 2016 leaders for their time and commitment to GRC!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



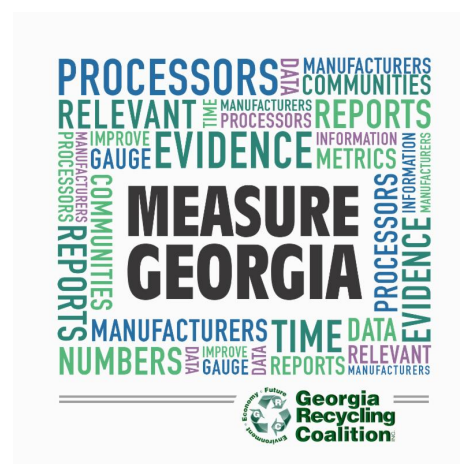
Don't miss this 25th Anniversary celebration!

GRC 25th Annual Conference, Trade Show & Membership Meeting
September 18-21, 2016
King & Prince Beach Resort
St Simon's Island, GA

MEASURE GEORGIA

There are many economic and environmental benefits to recycling. Reporting data relative to recycling activities will:

- Help recycling businesses and markets grow - and therefore create and sustain jobs that contribute to the state's economic growth;
- Assist businesses in making effective and efficient solid waste management decisions;
- Recognition for businesses for their waste reduction and recycling efforts; and,
- Collectively helping Georgia advance recycling for economic and environmental benefit to its citizens and the health of our state



Set up an account and get started today; if you need technical assistance, just ask-we can garecycles@mindspring.com

Local Government:

<https://connect.re-trac.com/registration/georgia-community>

MRF:

<https://connect.re-trac.com/registration/georgia-mrf>

End Users:

<https://connect.re-trac.com/registration/georgia-end>

Wasted Food Awareness to Action



In 2011, the Food Waste Reduction Alliance was formed by three national food chain powerhouses: the Grocery Manufacturers Association (food and beverage companies), the Food Marketing Institute (retailers) and the National Restaurant Association (food service groups).

The Alliance's three main goals are to: reduce the amount of food

wasted; increase the amount of safe, nutritious food donated to those in need; and recycle unusable food waste (by methods such as composting), diverting it from landfills.

Did You Know?

- ▶ 25 - 40% of food grown, processed and transported in the US will never be consumed;
- ▶ The FWRA estimates that in 2010 alone, 60 million tons of food waste was generated in the US;
- ▶ Of that 60 million tons, the FWRA estimates nearly 40 million went to landfill;
- ▶ The U.S. Department of Agriculture estimates that nearly 50 million Americans, including 16 million children, are food insecure.

To learn more: <http://www.foodwastealliance.org/>

WEBINAR ON IMPORTANT INDUSTRY ISSUE



**Sustainable
Materials Management**



CHANGING HOW WE THINK ABOUT OUR RESOURCES FOR A BETTER TOMORROW

Thursday December 17th at 1:00pm - 2:30pm EST

Managing "Recycling" Contamination: What works and what is a Waste

[Register Here](#) for the FREE webinar or at Registration URL:
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6211563766742745346>

Webinar ID: 115-528-659

This webinar builds on previous webinars where we discussed how to recycle right with tactics and tools to improve residential recycling. This webinar will take a look at how to effectively minimize contamination in the recycling stream.

Join us to hear what needs to be done to clean up your recycling from a private recycling company, a municipal district and a state regulator. We all know the importance of developing a clean recycling product for the end markets, but the quality of the end product is dependent on the quality of the recycling stream arriving from businesses and households. With more materials allowed in the recycling container, confusion has increased. Learn what can be done to reduce the contamination and developing winning strategies that will leave everyone happy.

USAgain Announces Georgia Winners of 9th Annual ARD Challenge

Georgia Schools recycled a total of 2,500 pounds of textiles



Clothing recycler USAgain announced the winners of the 2015 America Recycles Day Challenge for Georgia schools, including Burnett Elementary in Suwanee (1st Place), Newton County Theme School in Covington (2nd Place) and Spelman College in Atlanta (3rd Place). America Recycles Day Challenge is USAgain's annual clothing recycling competition for schools that encourages students to collect clothing for recycling and re-use. USAgain places and services collection bins at each participating school, which all receive revenue based on total pounds collected. The competition started on October 15 and culminated with America Recycles Day on November 15

"This friendly challenge encourages students to learn more about recycling and its impacts on the planet," said USAgain CEO Mattias Wallander. "It's a great way for schools to engage with students and their communities about the importance of keeping textiles out of landfills, while raising money and reducing carbon footprints at the same time." USAgain commends all 17 schools in Georgia that participated in the recycling challenge this year. Together, 2,500 pounds of clothes were collected, which helped prevent 37,500 pounds of carbon emissions from entering the atmosphere. The three top collectors will receive additional cash prizes of \$250, \$100

and \$50, respectively.

North Fulton Schools Bag Collection Contest Results

In two months this fall, 10 North Fulton Schools collected 1,632 pounds of plastic bags and wraps in a **Bag's Life** contest sponsored by Trex, a manufacturer of composite lumber made from the bags and other film plastic wraps also collected in the program.

A Trex recycled content bench was awarded to **The Atlanta Academy** for collecting the most bags per student. A big shout-out goes also to Woodland Elementary that recycled 471 pounds of bags. Woodland and Spalding Elementary are continuing to collect bags, even though the contest has ended. Trex also will donate bird houses to each of the schools that participated as a reminder for students to keep recycling, especially as the holidays are here!



www.abagslife.com

CONSTRUCTION AND DEMOLITION WASTE
RECYCLING TRAINING
Thursday, January 28 - Atlanta, GA
Register at wastecap.org
Save Money & Reduce Waste!
Reach LEED Goals!
Win More Bids!
WasteCap
Georgia Recycling Coalition
Southface

Join WasteCap at Southface Energy Institute in Atlanta for a day long construction & demolition (C&D) recycling workshop. Learn skills to develop, manage, document and promote a successful recycling program for C&D debris. LEED AP's and Green Associates are eligible for 7.5 CEUs through the GBC. Register here: www.wastecap.org GRC, Southface and USGBC GA Chapter Members are offered a discounted Registration Fee.

Thank you for your continued support of our great state recycling organization!



Sincerely,

Gloria Hardegree
Georgia Recycling Coalition