

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

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Response to China's Finalized Contamination Standard



The proposed contamination standard was finalized by China's Ministry of Environmental Protection (MEP) on January 11, remaining unchanged at 0.5 percent.

Last year, China notified the World Trade Organization (WTO) of its intent to [forbid 24 kinds of solid wastes](#) by the end of 2017 and to [lower contamination thresholds](#). This action sparked an immediate reaction from three major waste and recycling associations-the [Solid Waste Association of North America \(SWANA\)](#), the [Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries \(ISRI\)](#) and the [National Waste & Recycling Association \(NWRA\)](#)-which submitted multiple filings and feedback regarding China's intentions.

The [comments](#) issued by the associations urged the Chinese government to add more specificity to the guidelines, issue a delay in implementation of any import regulations and reduce the proposed contamination standard of 0.5 percent. But despite these efforts, [China's waste import ban](#) went into effect this month and the proposed contamination standard was finalized by China's Ministry of Environmental Protection (MEP) on January 11, remaining unchanged at 0.5 percent.

This decision was not one that the industry wanted; while all supported efforts by the Chinese government to clean up their environment, the stringent rules have placed a burden on the US recycling industry. However, it could also present opportunities as the industry continues to adjust. Going forward, the associations have indicated they will continue to follow this development and its impact on the industry. They have also expressed their commitment to working closely with governments, stakeholders and the public and private sectors **on education efforts and contamination reduction efforts.**

World Without Waste

Coca-Cola has embarked on a global initiative to collect and recycle every bottle or can it sells by 2030.



The company also aims to modify its packaging to constitute 50% of recyclable material by 2030. In building better bottles, they also plan to develop more plant based resins.

The campaign called **"World Without Waste"** aims to recycle all plastic, aluminum and glass packages the company makes. The campaign encourages recycling of packages instead of disposing of them after initial use. Coca-Cola said it will also recycle packaging by other companies as a way of combating environmental pollution.

"We believe in the circular economy, where plastic, glass, and aluminum are reused many times instead of being

Jeff Lipscomb
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Waste Management

Kathy Reed
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Karen Wilson, Secretary
Carastar Recycling

Susan Wood
Georgia DNR-EPD

used once and thrown away" said Coca-Cola Company CEO James Quincey. They hope to partner with Non-Governmental Organizations, industry peers and consumers to provide information on what, how and where to recycle used packaging. Watch the video: <http://www.coca-colacompany.com/videos/a-world-without-waste-bc5715072236001>

America Recycles Day Follow Up

#BERECYCLED



America Recycles Day

A KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL INITIATIVE

Keep Pickens Beautiful sponsored a poster contest for America Recycle Days November 15, 2017, with elementary and middle school art teachers invited to participate. Keep Pickens Beautiful invited the children to showcase their

artistic talent and their commitment to the environment by participating. This poster contest theme: *Change Tomorrow-Today-Recycle*, helps the community achieve a goal of higher excellence in recycling, composting, and buying recycled products and packaging. The winning posters were displayed at the Pickens County Government building with citizens invited to stop by and enjoy.



Winners in the Kindergarten to Second Grade division were: Jayla Dean 1st place, Ellie Parker 2nd place, and Townson Rickenbaker 3rd place



Winners in the Third to Fifth Grade division were: Cassandra Hamrick 1st place, Isabel Faucett 2nd place, and Ellie Darnell 3rd place

2017 "GameDay Recycling Challenge" Results

In fall 2017, 70 schools from around the U.S. tackled waste diversion via the 2017

"GameDay Recycling Challenge", a nationwide competition that challenges universities to increase their recycling and composting efforts during home football games.

Georgia rankings included: UGA #11, GA Tech #17 and U West GA #40. Congratulations on your success



Participating schools nationwide recycled more than 1.5 million pounds of bottles, cans, paper, cardboard and

other materials and composted or recovered more than 540,000 pounds of organic materials.

Hosted by the College and University Recycling Coalition, RecycleMania, Keep America Beautiful and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's WasteWise, the challenge requires participating universities to track and report recycling, compost and attendance data for at least one home football game.

Congratulations to GRC 2018 Officers

Cale Caudell, University of Georgia	President
Bruce Battle, Burton Energy	V. President
Jeff Foote, Tree Zero	Treasurer
Karen Wilson, Caraustar Recycling	Secretary

Welcome New Members

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USCC Breaks Records in Atlanta



The US Composting Council held its annual conference in Atlanta on Jan 22-26.

GRC was there exhibiting and networking with composting industry professionals from across the US and several foreign countries. It was evident that the industry is growing with highest attendance, exhibitors and sponsorships to date. Over \$60,000 was also raised for the Compost Council Research and Education Foundation (CCREF). Georgia was well represented as interest grows for expanding infrastructure for organics recycling in Georgia.



Scott Jenkins, GM



Kristin Baskin of Let Us Compost, Athens, Ga won 2nd place in the national Emerging Composters Competition



Will Sellers of Food Well Alliance moderated a panel of Atlantans including Rashid Nuri of Truly Living Well Urban Farm; Mario Cambardella, Urban Ag Director for City of Atlanta; and David Paull of Compost Wheels.



Laura Turner Seydel spoke at the closing session on Captain Planet Foundation's work on school gardens and the importance of enriching our soils.

Mark Your Calendar

GRC Semi-Annual Training Meeting

May 1-2, 2018

Athens, GA

Details & Registration Info Forthcoming

GRC 27th Annual Conference

September 16-19, 2018

King & Prince Beach Resort

St Simons Island, GA

Details & Registration Info Forthcoming

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

Sincerely,

Gloria Hardegree
Georgia Recycling Coalition