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INSIDE

Recycling Markets
Demand Municipal
Diligence

RCA Hosts	Social	
Marketing	Workshops	. 2

.... 1

Building a Community of Practice for Waste **Educators in Alberta** 3

Think Green Success Story: Closing the Loop on Organics 4

Lethbridge's New	
Biogas Plant	-

Winners of the 4th Annual **Recycle My Cell Student** Challenge Announced... 5

Grants in Gear Eco-Funding Boosts Four Canadian Projects.. 6

Green by Nature EPR to Process BC PPP Materials...... 7

"Switch the 'Stat" **Thermostat Recovery Program**..... 8

News			10)
Classifieds.		.1.1.	20)
Market Upo	dates		20)
Coming Eve	ents .		2	1



Recycling Markets Demand Municipal Diligence

Recent marketing challenges for materials collected through recycling programs, as a result of the broad adoption of commingled collection and issues like the Chinese Green Fence Policy, combined with the entry of an increasing number of service providers into the industry, has led to an increased need for due diligence on the part of municipalities and private business alike.

The urban myth that materials collected for recycling are ultimately destined for disposal has been a challenge to our industry for decades, largely based on growing pains experienced by the industry in the 70s and 80s. However, recent challenges have begun to limit our ability to assert with confidence that materials collected for recycling are in fact ultimately ending up in the hands of legitimate recyclers.

The good news is that this challenge can be addressed through enhanced due diligence on the part of municipalities and private businesses who contract recycling services. When issuing RFPs or evaluating proposals for recycling services, it is critical to demand transparency regarding how materials are handled and the ultimate destination of recyclables. Written affidavits, backed up by facility site

continued on page 2

Published quarterly by the RECYCLING COUNCIL OF ALBERTA for the information of its members.

Publisher – Recycling Council of Alberta Editor - Christina Seidel

Connector

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Full Page	\$365.00		
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continued from title page

visits to confirm processing practices, will provide municipalities with the confidence of knowing how materials are handled beyond their collection at the curb or recycling depot. As markets are constantly changing, regular spot checks will be required to verify the accuracy of the information on an ongoing basis.

It is also important for municipalities to request information from their service providers regarding recycling residual rates, since no facilities are able to recycle 100% of material received. These residual rates will allow for more accurate reporting of the amount of material truly being diverted from disposal, whereas reporting recycling rates based on material collected leads to inflated diversion reports.

This enhanced due diligence on the part of those contracting recycling services will serve to hold service providers to account for their practices, while also leveling the playing field for those with higher service standards. Ultimately, enhanced transparency and diligence will lead to increased confidence in the outcomes of our recycling efforts.

RCA Hosts Social Marketing Workshops

In recognition of the importance of effective education directed at behaviour change to the success of waste reduction initiatives, the RCA hosted two Social Marketing workshops with Community-Based Social Marketing practitioner and guru, Ken Donnelly. The workshops, held in November and February, saw participants learn about the fundamentals of designing an effective education and promotion program, and actively participate in developing concepts for specific programs.

Ken proved to be a knowledgeable and approachable presenter, contributing to the atmosphere of participation and cooperation. Presentation of hands-on examples of successful programs also added to the value participants were able to take home with them to apply to their own initiatives.

The RCA plans to continue to host events like these that can help members to build their personal repertoire of tools to assist in effective program design and implementation.

's talk tra

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Building a Community of Practice for Waste Educators in Alberta

The Alberta Council for Environmental Education launched the Waste Education Community of Practice (CoP) just over a year ago (www.abcee.org/cop/waste). We are excited with the interest and the potential this group has to make an impact on waste education in this province. And thanks to a grant from the Alberta Beverage Container Recycling Corporation (www.abcrc.com), we will continue!

Who can join?

Anyone with an interest or stake in waste education for

ANY audience in Alberta is welcome to join. The more diversity, the better! Currently, there are 51 members from a wide range of organizations municipalities, schools, corporations, and non-profits. Did I mention it is free?



Why should I join?

This sounds like just another 'networking' event to me! Communities of Practice are not networking events – they are more than handshakes and endless cups of coffee! We want members to dig deeper and move to action through sharing, collaborating, experimenting, and learning together. Here are three ways this program is different:

- 1. We hired a coordinator. The coordinator is paid an honorarium to convene meetings, send out agendas, keep notes and generally help community members stay connected and accountable.
- 2. You decide on your focus. You are experts in your field and you know what you need to take waste education to the next level. Members of the Communities of Practice work together to decide on a focus and take actions towards that focus.
- 3. This is a long term process. Communities of Practice connect over time and develop strong and productive relationships. There will be province wide and regional meetings, conference calls, on-line discussion forums and a web page dedicated to your CoP. You can choose what level of participation fits with your current commitment.

Submitted by Christina Pickles

Over the next year, the Waste Education CoP will drill down on a few strategic opportunities and areas of high interest to waste educators. Come out and help us set those priorities and advance Waste Education in Alberta. Visit www.abcee.org/cop/waste for more information.



"If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together." – African Proverb

Christina Pickles is the Program Coordinator with ACEE and leads the Community of Practice program (christina@abcee.org).





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Think Green Success Story





Closing the Loop on Organics

The Calgary Board of Education recently piloted an environmentally friendly fundraiser. Four of the 44 schools participating in the Organics Collection program participated. Every day, our students and employees collect organic materials from snacks and lunches. All the collected organics are sent to Bio-Cycle Nutrient Solutions Ltd. where they are composted and turned into organic fertilizer - Nature's Remedy Lawn and Garden Food. The CBE's initiative saw schools selling this product as a fundraiser.

Nature's Remedy Lawn and Garden Food is derived from student-led organics collection programs at CBE's schools. Besides enjoying the benefits of using an organic fertilizer, our students benefited from seeing the results of their efforts first-hand. Here are some of the benefits associated with the use of Nature's Remedy Lawn and Garden Food.



- · Safe and easy to use; will not cause "burning" of your lawn if over-applied
- Slow release through the season the ideal time for application is fall
- · Contains many essential macro and micro nutrients
- Improves the soil structure, porosity, and density to create a better plant root environment
- · Improves water-holding capacity, reducing water loss and leaching in all soils
- Can bind and degrade specific pollutants
- · Improves and stabilizes soil pH
- · Comes in a convenient 5 kg bag

One of the schools participating in the pilot, Wildwood Elementary, sold 130 bags or 650 kg of organic fertilizer. Not only did they have the top sales for the fundraiser, this elementary school of 570 students has also collected the most organics



of any of the 44 schools participating in the Organics Collection program. Over the last school year, Wildwood school collected a total of 18,810 kg of organics. What an accomplishment!

The CBE plans to offer this fundraiser to all 44 schools in the spring. The schools will not only be closing the loop on organics, they will also benefit from the money raised by this unique fundraiser.

submitted by Deborah Wehnes, , CBE



Lethbridge's New Biogas Plant

Lethbridge can put itself down as a leader in green energy with the completion of its new biogas plant. The first of its kind in Southern Alberta, this facility combines electrical and thermal energy, using a process known as anaerobic digestion.

The project began in 2011, and partners ECB Enviro North America and Planet Biogas plan to process in excess of 100,000 tonnes of organic waste and livestock manure each year. This means that organic waste will be turned into energy instead of ending up in municipal landfills. Organic waste in landfills creates the majority of methane gas released to the atmosphere, which has become a growing concern. Along with producing energy, the plant will supply liquid organic fertilizer, recycling otherwise wasted materials into valuable resources.

The numbers speak for themselves, as the plant is expected to save an estimated 45,000 tonnes of carbon



dioxide, while providing 2.85 MW of electrical energy. This will provide power for some 2500 homes. This marks an important innovation in the energy sector, and with the rise in concern regarding the use of fossil



fuels, the biogas plant offers a new age solution.

Since December 2013, the plant has been fully operational, accepting feedstock as it becomes more available. One of the challenges, according to Stefan Michalski (Lethbridge Biogas plant director) is that currently there are no restrictions on organic disposal in regional landfills and as a result low tipping rates do not provide a cost incentive for utilizing alternatives.

Although the overall efficiency of the plant has yet to be seen, any chance of reducing organic waste in our landfills is a large step towards sustainable energy. The entire province will keep their eyes on the Lethbridge biogas plant as both a pioneer and leader for a greener approach to energy.

Submitted by Allyson Racz, City of Lethbridge

Winners of the 4th Annual Recycle My Cell Student Challenge Announced

Recycle My Cell, Canada's national recycling program for mobile phones and accessories, announced today the winners of the fourth annual Recycle My Cell Student Challenge. In collaboration with the 2013 Waste Reduction Week in Canada, the Challenge invited students from kindergarten to post-secondary to collect as many old wireless devices as possible, including cell phones, smartphones, wireless PDAs, pagers, accessories and cell phone batteries.

More than 140 Canadian schools from across the country participated in the 2013 edition of the Challenge, which was held from October 21 to November 22. The schools collected more than 3,500 wireless devices along with some 200 kg of wireless accessories and batteries. The school that collected the most wireless devices in each participating province and territory, based on student population, will receive a \$500 donation to support the school's green initiatives.

The winning schools in the 2013 Recycle My Cell Student Challenge included Alice Jamieson Girls'

Academy in Calgary.

Recycle My Cell thanks all of the schools that participated in the 2013 Challenge. For information about future Challenges, please contact info@recyclemycell.ca. If you are interested in hosting a yearround Recycle My Cell collection site in your community, please visit http://www.recyclemycell.ca/host-a-drop-off-location.

Recycle My Cell is made possible with participation from: Bell, BlackBerry, Eastlink, GEEP Inc., GREENTEC, LG Electronics Canada, Inc., Lynx Mobility, MTS, Nokia, ProMobility, Rogers Communications, Samsung Electronics Canada Inc., SaskTel, Sims Recycling Solutions, Sony of Canada, TBayTel, TELUS, Videotron, and Virgin Mobile Canada.

Source: Recycle My Cell

Connector WINTER 2014

Grants in Gear Eco-Funding Boosts Four Canadian Projects

The RCA is thrilled to announce it is one of the four winners of Grants in Gear, a program that funds environmental projects, presented by Automotive Recyclers of Canada (ARC) and Summerhill Impact.

The funding will be used to finalize and promote the RCA's offset quantification protocol that will define the greenhouse gas emission offsets associated with the diversion of waste through recycling. Once approved, this protocol will allow offset credits for the use of recycled materials in manufacturing processes under the Alberta Specified Gas Emitters Regulation (SGER).

The RCA is very grateful to ARC for their support in finalizing this important initiative that will help to promote the enhanced use of recycled material within Alberta manufacturing industries, such as the manufacture of plastics products.

Other winners are located in British Columbia and Ontario:

Fraser Basin Council plans to deliver the "E3 Fleet: Gear Up!" project to provide customized solutions to reduce fleet emissions and improve the environmental and economic performance of ten fleets throughout Canada.

Plug'n Drive (in partnership with WWF-Canada and the Canadian Condominium Institute – Toronto Chapter) plans to identify and address the technical, legislative and logistical issues that prevent the installation of electric vehicle charging stations in condominiums.

Automotive Recyclers Environmental Association (AREA) plans to establish an infrastructure to responsibly manage and recycle end-of-life vehicles from a remote northern community in British Columbia. AREA also won the Green Recycled Parts Impact Award, for which they will receive an additional \$5,000 that will be used to expand their program to additional remote locations and engage First Nations Communities.

A five-member jury used a scoring matrix to evaluate each application's potential to achieve their stated environmental results, as well as to deliver against their work plan and budget.

ARC represents 420 vehicle recyclers and dismantlers from across Canada whose businesses achieve great results for the environment in areas of waste diversion, energy savings, emissions reductions and pollution prevention. ARC started the Grants in Gear program to recognize its members, and to give back to like-minded organizations that are focused on similar priorities – local, sustainable, and striving to improve Canadian society.

ARC members collectively recycle an average of 400,000 vehicles each year, which are all processed



according to the Canadian Auto Recyclers' Environmental Code (www.carec.ca). As the national voice of the automotive recycling industry, ARC provides a forum for channelling information and addressing Canada-wide concerns. For more information, visit www.autorecyclers.ca.

Summerhill Impact is a not-for-profit organization focused on creating and facilitating public engagement programs related to positive environmental and health impacts. Visit www.summerhillimpact.org for more information.

Source: Solid Waste & Recycling



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Green by Nature EPR to Process BC PPP Materials



Multi-Material BC (MMBC) is pleased to announce Green by Nature EPR (GBN) – a new organization founded by leaders in the recycling industry in British Columbia – has been selected to manage the post-collection system for MMBC's residential packaging and printed paper recycling program, which will begin delivering services to approximately 1.25 million households on May 19, 2014.

GBN will be responsible for managing the processing and marketing of approximately 185,000 tonnes of packaging and printed paper material after it has been collected from curbside households, multi-family buildings and depots across the province.

GBN is a new organization founded by three industry leaders with over 100 years combined experience: Cascades Recovery, Emterra Environmental and Merlin Plastics.







In addition to the founding companies, GBN will engage more than 20 subcontractors in local communities to be part of the integrated province-wide MMBC post-collection system. This coordinated approach will ensure the MMBC program operates as efficiently as possible, leverages existing recycling infrastructure, and will help MMBC achieve its targeted 75% recovery rate for packaging and printed paper.

The post-collection system operated by GBN will employ 570 British Columbians and bring \$32 million in new investment to the province, including capital investment in two new facilities:

- A container recycling facility in the Lower Mainland; and,
- A material recovery facility in Nanaimo

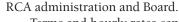
GBN was selected through a competitive Request for Proposals (RFP) process that was open to organizations with expertise in consolidation, processing and marketing of packaging and printed paper.

Too Much to Do and No Time to Get it Done? Hire an RCA Ambassador!

Do you have little odd jobs that never seem to get done, yet not enough work to hire someone to help you out? The RCA Summer Ambassadors could be just what you are looking for.

The RCA hires a group of university / college students each year to carry out important education and technical projects from May through August. The students travel throughout Alberta delivering these projects, while gaining valuable experience that assists them in their education and career pursuits.

Examples of projects with which the Ambassadors are ideal to assist include public information events, surveys, waste audits and other field research. Project duration can vary from one day to 4 months. RCA Ambassadors bring an environmental, marketing or technical background, combined with a keen interest in applying their educational experience, as well as the support of the



Terms and hourly rates can be negotiated to fit the scope of your project. If you have a project that may benefit from the involvement of the RCA's Summer Ambassadors, contact Christina Seidel at info@recycle.ab.ca or give her a call at 403.843.6563 to discuss your requirements.





Connector WINTER 2014

"Switch the 'Stat"
Canada's Residential and Commercial
Thermostat Recovery Program

Switch the 'Stat is a thermostat replacement and collection program delivered in partnership with heating and cooling contractors / wholesalers in nearly every province across Canada. Launched in 2006, the goal of this program is to encourage the uptake of more energy efficient programmable thermostats and to provide a safe and responsible disposal option for older mercury-containing thermostats. The rapid increase in programmable thermostat installations for residential energy savings has meant that an increased number of older mercury-containing thermostats are being disposed of in household waste and ending up in landfills. More and more businesses are also making the switch to programmable thermostats, often not realizing the harmful effects of throwing their old thermostat into the garbage.

An older thermostat can contain approximately 2.5-10 grams of mercury and it only takes one gram of mercury to contaminate an eight-hectare lake to the point where the fish in that lake are inedible for a full year. Mercury is especially a concern to young children and women of child-bearing age because it can inhibit the development of the brain and nervous system. The Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Institute of Canada (HRAI) and Summerhill Impact work with more than 1,000 heating and cooling contractors and wholesalers, recycling partners Aevitas Inc. and Tri-Arrow Inc., and Purolator, to deliver the Switch the 'Stat program.

- Switch the 'Stat is an extended producer responsibility program through which thermostat manufacturers pay for the responsible recycling of thermostats in order to divert them from landfill.
- Switch the 'Stat is free of cost for participants, who receive collection containers and pre-paid shipping

waybills to recycle old thermostats just by signing up.

• Participating in Switch the 'Stat is a great way to promote your business. As a participating location, your business will be posted to the Switch the 'Stat website and you will receive free promotional materials to help spread word to your customers.

If you would like to have your old thermostat replaced or if you would like to drop off your mercury-containing thermostat to make sure it's disposed of responsibly, find a Switch the 'Stat contractor near you! If you are a contractor or wholesaler and you would like to participate in Switch the 'Stat, you can fill out and submit the short Registration Form.

For more information about the Switch the 'Stat Program, visit www.switchthestat.ca.

Source: switchthestat.ca / Summerhill

Announcing: 2014 RCA Conference

The Recycling Council of Alberta is pleased to announce its 2014 Waste Reduction Conference "Recycling in the Rockies – A Waste Reduction Expedition", to be held



October 1-3, 2014, at The Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise.

The conference will feature a wide array of topics and speakers, and potential presenters are welcome to submit proposals on a range of topics, including food waste diversion, commercial and institutional recycling, Zero Waste special events, and other innovative programs and technologies.

A wide choice of sponsorship opportunities to suit all budgets will also be available this year.

Potential speakers and sponsors are invited to contact the RCA at 403.843.6563 or info@recycle.ab.ca.



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ALBERTA NEWS

Airdrie Will Recycle Organics in 2014

In 2014, Airdrie residents will send less garbage to the landfill when a city-wide curbside organics recycling program begins. The program was approved at the Airdrie City Council meeting on December 16, 2013.

In the 2012 Citizen Satisfaction Survey, 93% of respondents said recycling programs were important and 59% of respondents supported the implementation of a food and yard waste collection program.

In light of this, a four-month curbside organics pilot program took place in Waterstone and the Canals in 2013. 81% of residents in the two communities participated in the voluntary program and reduced their garbage by 45% compared to the same time period in the previous year.

With Council's approval of the program, Waste and Recycling staff will work on the finer details of the program, with a proposed start date of April 2014.

For more information contact Kathleen Muretti at 403.948.8800 ext. 6412.

Source: City of Airdrie



Cascades Recovery Inc. manages the diversion of discarded materials. Unlike waste companies whose primary business is waste to landfill our business is to divert material from landfill working towards zero waste.

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Tel: 403-243-5700 E-Mail: calgary@cascadesrecovery.ca

Edmonton

Tel: 780-464-4761 E-Mail: edmonton@cascadesrecovery.ca



Calgary Trials Bigger Blue Cart

The City of Calgary has begun testing a larger blue cart with 50% more capacity inside. Aimed at addressing the increased recycling needs of some Blue Cart customers, the larger blue cart gives households added convenience at no extra cost.

Up to 200 voluntary participants across Calgary will see their standard 240-litre blue cart replaced with a 360-litre version to help aid in the extra recycling these households produce

The larger blue cart is also a cost-effective approach to providing homes added capacity, since the larger carts are compatible with existing recycling trucks.

The year-long trial will measure overall customer experience and monitor any operational issues associated with the use of larger carts. If the trial is successful, The City will make the larger blue cart more widely available, giving residents another convenient option to help them recycle more and send fewer valuable resources to City landfills.

Calgarians that are interested in participating in the trial can contact 311 or visit calgary.ca/moreblue for details.

Source: City of Calgary Newsroom

Artisan Street-Side Recycling Bins Provide Recycling Gains as Well as Beautification

Privately funded and locally crafted recycling bins placed in public spaces of Calgary's Inglewood neighbourhood have seen a significant increase in diversion rates.





of beverage containers found in the garbage dropped by 89% after 20 dual-stream receptacles were installed in the community about two years ago, mostly along the trendy commercial section of 9 Avenue SE.

The pilot project was a joint effort between the Inglewood Business Revitalization Zone (BRZ), Nestlé Waters Canada, and the Alberta Beverage Container Recycling Corporation (ABCRC).

Okotoks-based Little Monkey Metal was hired to design unique steel receptacles that fit with the Inglewood ambience.

Similar undertakings at Spruce Meadows and Crossroads Market were also part of the project, but the most dramatic increase in recyclable-diversion rates was observed in Inglewood.

Source: Metro News

Aquatera Develops Bioreactor Project for Grande Prairie

Until February 21, Aquatera was seeking community feedback on its latest green initiative, the Bioreactor Landfill Gas-to-Energy Project.

The innovative development was announced in 2012 and will provide heat and electricity to the company's water and wastewater treatment plants across Grande Prairie and area.

When completed, the project will be the first of its kind in Alberta, with a lifespan of approximately 30 years.

During that timeframe, the bioreactor is expected to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by an amount equivalent to removing 18,800 vehicles from the road each year.

It's a \$6 million-project that could save more than a million dollars per year in electricity and energy costs. Work on the bioreactor is well underway and scheduled for completion sometime this summer.

Residents with an interest in learning more are invited to visit www.landfillgas.ca or contact Aquatera at 780.402.6060.

Source: Daily Herald Tribune

Calgary Multi-Family Buildings to Have Recycling by 2016

Condo and apartment dwellers are one step closer to having their recyclables regularly hauled away after city council approved a multi-family recycling plan to take effect in 2016.

The strategy will require building owners and condo boards to arrange on-site pickup for residents through the use of private contractors. It was decided that the private sector would be the most cost-effective choice because the individual needs of each building make it very difficult to implement a one-size-fits-all program.

According to the city, about 35% of Calgary's multifamily buildings currently offer some recycling services through a private contractor. But residents who live in buildings without the service have to haul their recyclables to one of the city's community depots.

The city estimates that multi-family residences sent roughly 78,000 tonnes of garbage to landfills in 2012. About 22%, or 17,000 tonnes, of that waste is believed to be recyclable material.

In the first year, the city would spend \$700,000 to advertise to the public, as well as inform building owners and condo boards about the new program. Officials would also work with those stakeholders to ensure they've found solutions and reputable contractors.





After the first year, the city will spend about \$350,000 annually to manage the program and enforce it. Once the bylaw comes into effect, by about January 2016, building owners could be fined if they don't comply.

City administration have until the end of September to amend Calgary's waste and recycling bylaw, develop education and communication plans for residents, as well as a community recycling depot reduction plan.

Source: Calgary Herald

Alberta Farmers Turn in 35,800 Kilograms of Obsolete Pesticides for Safe Disposal in 2013

Alberta farmers demonstrated their commitment to environmental stewardship by turning in 35,800 kg of obsolete or unwanted pesticides for safe disposal in 2013.

The obsolete pesticide collection program – part of a two-year initiative offered by CleanFARMS – took place at three ag-retail locations in the Peace Region and 16 ag-retail locations in the Central region last October.

Since the first Alberta collection campaign in 2002, more than 305,000 kg of obsolete pesticides have been turned in by farmers.

CleanFARMS is a national industry-led agricultural waste stewardship organization. After collection, pesticides are taken to a licensed waste management facility where they are safely disposed of through high-temperature incineration. More than 1.9 million kg of obsolete pesticide has been collected and safely destroyed in Canada since the program launched in 1998.

The obsolete pesticide collection program generally comes to each region of Alberta every three years at no cost to farmers. In between collections, farmers are asked to safely store their unwanted pesticides until they can properly dispose of them through the program.

For more information, visit www.cleanfarms.ca.

Source: CleanFARMS



Torch Cutting Gets Greener for AltaSteel

K&K Recycling Services is a state-of-the-art scrap metal collection, recycling and processing company. Grown from a local ferrous scrap hauler and recycler headquartered in Pickering, Ontario, the company is now an international scrap metal recycling and industrial services company operating in Ontario, Western Canada, and the Northeastern US.

For years, K&K was faced with the challenge of cutting large scrap steel monuments (huge pots of steel poured and discarded from a steel plant, and which had accumulated since 1953) located on a large section of a site owned by AltaSteel, located in Edmonton, Alberta. The steel couldn't be cut in the past, due to the large amount of smoke and air pollution that would have been generated. After K&K first begun cutting the material, the operation was shut down by government regulators due to environmental air quality concerns.

K&rK's solution ended up coming from Michiganbased Torching Solutions, LLC, who developed its patentpending SPARCS (Smoke Particulate Air Reduction Cyclone System) as a solution to smoke opacity issues involving the torch cutting of certain metals. SPARCS is a self-contained, modular industrial vacuum which filters torch smoke particulates from the air, thereby greatly reducing smoke opacity.

After K&K installed SPARCS at the AltaSteel site, government officials took new air quality tests before operations could start. The "all-clear" was given to use SPARCS for the job, and K&K was able to start working on recovering the discarded steel for AltaSteel again. They have been working onsite for a year and have processed 500-600 tons of steel per month.

According to Torching Solutions, AltaSteel is reaping the benefits of the successful recycling of scrap steel from their Edmonton operation, in more ways than one. Not only can they reuse the recyclable material that is cut, they can now access the land they couldn't use previously.

Source: Recycling Product News

"Recycling in the Rockies –
A Waste Reduction Expedition"

Details on the RCA's 2014 Waste Reduction
Conference will be posted at
www.recycle.ab.ca/conference

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CANADIAN NEWS

New Tire Recycling Process Promises Lower GHG Impacts

A tire recycling process, based on Reverse Polymerization and microwave delivery, designed by Environmental Waste International, emits fewer carbon dioxide equivalents compared to incineration and the production of crumb rubber, according to results reported by consultancy Pinchin Environmental.

According to the Rubber Manufacturers Association, approximately 45% of waste tires in the US are incinerated and approximately 29% are converted to crumb rubber.

In November, the company completed a continuous four-day run of its TR-900 waste tire recycling facility in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario. The 100-hour run doubles the previous record announced in June, and is a milestone toward continuous 24/7 operation of its waste tire recycling facility. Sale and construction of a commercial facility is the next step, according to CEO Dr. Daniel Kaute.

Source: Environmental Leader



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SK Enacts Environmental Regulations for Recycling Used Antifreeze Products

New environmental regulations that allow for recycling of used antifreeze, plastic antifreeze containers and plastic diesel exhaust fluid (DEF) containers came into effect in the province of Saskatchewan on January 1, 2014.

The new regulations increase the list of recyclable petroleum products managed by the Saskatchewan Association for Resource Recovery Corp. (SARRC). The Association currently operates the provincially-approved, industry-led recycling program for used oil, used oil filters and used plastic oil containers (up to 50 litres).

"Our current network of collection points, as well as registered collectors and processors are ready to recover and recycle these materials." said Phil Wrubleski, SARRC's Executive Director. "The new products are logical extensions of the recyclable materials already captured through our province-wide network. All materials recovered will be recycled and reused."

To fund the program, SARRC's 179 members will be adding an Environmental Handling Charge (EHC), similar to that on new petroleum products, to the price of antifreeze (concentrate & pre-mix); antifreeze containers (up to 50 litres) and Diesel Exhaust Fluid (DEF) containers (up to 50 litres), effective April 1, 2014.

For more information, visit www.usedoilrecyclingsk.com or call 1.877.645.7275. Source: Recycling Product News

BC Introduces Small Business Exemption in Packaging EPR Program

The BC government has amended the Multi-Material BC (MMBC) regulations so that it will impact fewer than 1% of BC's businesses, to the relief of the small business community.

MMBC is an industry stewardship group made up of major retailers and producers which is set to take responsibility for collecting and recycling packaging and printed paper (PPP) by May. It requires businesses to register as stewards in the producer-pay system, meaning they would take on reporting duties and costs of supporting the system – a prospect that generated concerns for many small businesses.

On Tuesday, the government announced that it will exempt any BC business that has an annual revenue of less than \$1 million, produces less than one tonne of packaging and printed paper produced annually, or has a single point of retail sale (and not supplied by or operated as part of a franchise, chain or under a banner).

That means that fewer than 3,000 businesses in the province will be captured by the regulation, out of more than 385,000.

More information is available at www.multimaterialbc.ca Sources: BCLocalNews.com / Abbotsford News and The Tri-City News

Ontario Battery Recycling Creates Concerns for Local Recycling Business

An upcoming vote by Waste Diversion Ontario will decide the fate of old batteries in the province, and could determine the fate of a successful Port Colborne business.

For more than 20 years, Raw Materials Company Inc. (RMC) has operated its recycling facility in Port Colborne, ON. Now in its third generation of patents, the company has developed a way to dispose batteries that sees up to 92% recycled. Among the materials collected, zinc, manganese and potassium are all used in fertilizer products for agricultural crops.

But now, WDO is considering assigning responsibility for battery recycling to Call2Recycle, a company that represents major battery producers. The fear is that this could mean the end of RMC if Call2Recycle chooses to ship the old batteries it collects to Inmetco, a Pennsylvania-based smelter that doesn't recover as much material as the RMC process.

Call2Recycle says it is committed to an "open, fair, and transparent process to select the best service providers based on several criteria including meeting the Ministry's approved recycling efficiency targets."

Source: Port Colborne Leader

How to Dismantle an Airplane

Air Transat, in collaboration with Aerocycle, an aircraft dismantling and recycling specialist, has once again confirmed its steadfast commitment to sustainability principles by laying the foundations for a program for green dismantling of end-of-life-cycle aircraft. A recent project conducted by the partners saw two Airbus A310s dismantled in an environmentally responsible and sustainable manner, with 87% of their components recovered.

The two Air Transat aircraft were dismantled at Montréal-Mirabel International Airport in July 2013 in compliance with an international standard established by the Aircraft Fleet Recycling Association (AFRA) and using an environmental management system introduced by Aéroports de Montréal (ADM, the Montreal airports authority), with co-ordination provided by sustainable-development consulting firm Eko-Conseil.

While there are currently no North American environmental standards for aircraft dismantling, the project initiated by Air Transat and Aerocycle succeeded in recovering some 83 tonnes of aluminum from the two aircraft, with all recycled materials processed locally. In choosing to dismantle locally, Air Transat ensured better control of environmental impacts and mitigated the hazardous materials management risk. With this project, the company is also helping create expertise





in green recycling in Quebec, while supporting the local recycling economy.

Over the next 20 years, about 12,000 commercial aircraft will need to be dismantled around the world, according to Ron Haber, President and CEO, Aerocycle.

Source: Recycling Product News

Progressive Waste Buys Share in TerraCycle Canada

Progressive Waste Solutions Ltd. said it has acquired a 19.9% interest in recycling firm TerraCycle Canada for an undisclosed amount. Following the acquisition, TerraCycle Canada is to undergo a corporate rebranding as a 'Progressive Waste Solutions Partner'.

Progressive Waste and TerraCycle will be cooperating on a range of zero waste recycling initiatives to homes, municipalities and businesses through Canada.

TerraCycle takes a wide range of products considered to be non-recyclable, such as used chewing gum and cigarettes, and finds new uses for them. Globally, TerraCycle has repurposed more than 2.6 billion pieces of hard-to-recycle waste streams, raising more than \$8 million dollars for charity through various packaging reclamation programs.

A pilot project set for Maple Ridge, BC allows the municipality of 76,000 to have curbside recycling for virtually any used product, from bathroom supplies to automotive parts, toys, even human hair.

The project works by using a consumer-based bag pickup system, where bags representing different product categories can be purchased from TerraCycle's website. While most of the bags are in the \$12 range, some, like the ones for coffee, cigarettes and breakfast cereal liners, are free.

Sources: Waste360.com, Waste Management World, and Solid Waste & Recycling

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Biodegradable Bags Can Disrupt Recycling Process

A study commissioned by European Plastics Converters (EuPC) has shown that biodegradable bags in quantities as low as 2% will cause "significant detrimental impacts to the quality of plastics recyclates".

In studies undertaken by Austrian research centre Transfer for Polymer Technology, four different mixtures of biodegradable plastic bags and one virgin LDPE recycling material were tested over six months. More than 9.45 tonnes of plastic carrier bags were processed and over 3,700 measurements were taken.

Detrimental impacts of mixing the materials showed that there was an impact on the mechanical properties of the recycled material, but also had a visual impact on the newly produced film.

As a result of the study, EuPC is urging European Union legislators to ensure separate collection of degradable bags.

Source: Resource Efficient Business

United Airlines Replaces Styrofoam Coffee Cups

United Airlines said it will introduce recyclable coffee cups to its United Club beverage service in February and on United flights beginning mid-March.



The insulating InCycle cup (pictured), manufactured

by Washington-based technology company MicroGreen, is fully recyclable and made from up to 50% recycled materials. The new hot beverage cups will replace the non-recyclable Styrofoam cups the airline currently uses.

The MicroGreen technology makes four and a half InCycle cups from a single recycled water bottle in a waterless, additive-free recycling process. The cup is also insulated, which further reduces waste by eliminating the need for a sleeve, United says.

United is also reviewing its operational recycling efforts to find ways to reduce waste and to increase recycling within its system. This includes a re-design of United's inflight recycling policy and procedures to simplify the process for flight attendants, generate increased recycling volumes and minimize waste.

Source: Environmental Leader

Certification Launches for Recycled Paperboard Industry

The 100% Recycled Paperboard Alliance (RPA-100%) has launched a certification program for recycled paperboard mills within the US. The certification requires manufacturers to be third-party audited before brand owners can claim their products are sourced from a 100% recycled paperboard mill.

As of early 2014, five companies operating a total of 12 US mills have been certified under the standard. Once certified, products from the mills can carry the newly revised RPA-100% trademark symbol.

While the Washington, DC-based RPA-100% has been providing a stamp of approval on recycled paperboard products since its founding in 1995, the group's executive director, Paul Schutes, explained third-party auditing will raise the bar and prove that mills are not using any virgin or alternative pulp in the manufacturing process. That has been hard to guarantee.

Source: Resource Recycling

New Strategy for 'Denmark Without Waste'

In November 2013 Ida Auken, Denmark's thenminister for the environment, introduced a new Danish strategy for waste for the next decade, stating: "We incinerate an enormous amount of waste in Denmark; waste which the Government could get much more out of by more recycling and better recycling."

In 2011, Danish households produced 447 kilograms (kg) of waste per person, one of the highest in Europe.

Over recent decades, Denmark has incinerated almost 80% of its household waste. The government now plans to change this – it has set a goal that by 2022, 50% of household waste will be recycled. To achieve this ambitious goal, the government will need to focus on an expanded range of household waste, including food waste.

The main obstacle to fulfilling these goals is likely to be the fact that incineration plants economically may be unable to afford not to use their incineration capacity and thus will have to continue to look for waste to be incinerated in the plants. At present, waste is imported into Denmark in order to utilize the capacity of the incineration plants.

Source: International Law Office

Landfill-Free Certification Program Launched

Responding to the growing number of companies making waste diversion claims, a landfill-free verification program has been formed to put facilities to the test. The landfill-free verification, led by NSF International and Sustainable Waste Solutions, will offer individual company facilities a method to prove their claims.

To become certified, companies must agree to and pass two successive audits of designated facilities, implementing any necessary changes before receiving the certificate. Certificates are valid for one year and are re-granted upon passing an annual audit, according to the program website.

The first company to pass the test was Iowa meat processing company West Liberty Foods. All three of the company's facilities – one in Mount Pleasant, Iowa; one in West Liberty, Iowa; and one in Tremonton, Utah – have become certified, and a case study on the company's waste diversion efforts states the Tremonton facility diverts 3.5 million pounds of waste each year.

Source: Resource Recycling

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Costs Still Keeping Americans from Composting

According to a December online survey of more than 2,000 Americans, commissioned by the National Waste & Recycling Association (NW&RA), 68% of noncomposters within the US said they would be willing to give composting a try if it were more convenient, and almost four out of five respondents (77%) expressed an understanding of the value of food conversion efforts.

At the same time, almost two-thirds (62%) of non-composters said they would not support adding composting to their community recycling and waste program if it meant raising costs to do so. A significant majority (72%) said they do no composting at home or through a community-run program.

Source: Resource Recycling

SF Aims to Eliminate Used Clothing and Household Textiles from Landfills

San Francisco announced its "Zero Waste Textile Initiative", which will see containers labeled "SF Save Fashion" being placed alongside existing recycling containers in more



than 100 locations in major retail outlets throughout the city.

The city will also place hi-tech recycling bins in 100 apartment buildings and condominiums over the next year, with the goal of outfitting all city high-rises by 2019. Built locally from recycled materials, each receptacle is equipped with sensors that notify Goodwill when it has reached capacity. Donors can immediately access an online tax form by using their smartphone to scan a QR code on the bin.

Apparel, shoes, belts and household textiles will be collected and distributed to Goodwill, along with other charities and for-profit clothing recycling companies. The items will be re-used as clothing or will be re-manufactured into new products such as industrial wiping and polishing cloths, home insulation, carpet padding, stuffing for pet bedding, among many other products.

It's all part of an effort to meet the city's goal of achieving zero waste by 2020, an ambitious undertaking that has already resulted in an 80% landfill diversion rate, the highest of any city in North America.

According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency, more than 13 million tons of solid municipal waste is generated annually that is exclusively clothing and other household textiles; of this amount 2 million tons, only 15.3%, is recycled.

Sources: takepart.com and Recycling Product News

California Targets Statewide Plastic Bag Ban

California policymakers recently announced support for a statewide bill to ban all single-use plastic bags by 2015. It would be the nation's first statewide ban.

Following three failed attempts to pass a ban on plastic bags, proponents sweetened their proposal this time around, banning single-use plastic bags but allowing consumers to purchase paper bags and "reusable plastic bags" at a minimum 10-cent fee.

That compromise and an additional \$2 million in seed money for the plastics industry to begin producing reusable plastic bags is expected to be enough to garner 21 votes from the state Senate, effectively passing the measure.

If passed, the ban would require supermarkets and large grocery stores to make the switch to reusable and paper bags only by July 1, 2015. Liquor stores and pharmacies would follow suit in 2016. Consumers who use food stamps would be exempt from the fees.

Reusable bags would be required to contain 20% recycled content by 2015 and 40% by 2020.

More than 90 individual counties and cities in California have already passed local bag bans.

Source: Resource Recycling

ISRI, Earth911 Launch Project Reboot

The Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries (ISRI) and Earth911 have teamed up to launch Project Reboot, an interactive, consumer-driven campaign to encourage electronics recycling.

According to a recent Harris Interactive study funded by ISRI, approximately 31% of Americans have never recycled their used electronics. The encouraging news? An overwhelming majority of study respondents – 97% – said they would like to recycle their used electronics.

In response, ISRI and online media outlet Earth911 have launched Project Reboot, a multi-faceted education campaign to help Americans find certified, trusted e-scrap recyclers to take their end-of-life and reuse-primed gadgets. The year-long initiative will attempt to galvanize support from businesses, corporations and civic groups to help spread the word and increase e-scrap recycling in the US.

Project Reboot includes a variety of initiatives, such as an "electronics recycling pledge," a Facebook page and a Twitter account. The success of the initiative will be measured by continued surveys on consumer e-scrap recycling habits and attitudes.

Source: Resource Recycling

Follow RCA on Twitter

@3RsAB

As the industry continues to grapple with collecting and recycling lead-heavy CRT televisions, a facility in the UK has become the first of its kind to mechanically recycle the successor to the CRT, flat panel televisions.

The UK's Environment Agency has given Electrical Waste Recycling Group (EWRG) the green light to begin accepting LCD flat panel display (FPD) televisions for recycling at the company's 100,000-square-foot Huddersfield facility. In a press release, the company states the recycling process, more than two years in the making, can handle up to 600 displays per hour – one every six seconds.

According to EWRG, 12 million units are currently entering the recycling market each year and manual recycling of PPDs takes 15 minutes per unit. The patent-pending automated process "is just what the UK needs," the company stated.

Source: Resource Recycling

WRAP: Circular Economy Worth €400 Billion and 160,000 New EU Recycling Jobs

160,000 jobs could be created in the European recycling industry by 2020 through the widespread adoption of a resource efficient circular economy, with benefits to business competitiveness of as much as €400 billion, according to the UK's Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP).

Business opportunities from more efficient resource use include:

- Business competitiveness improvements of £330 billion (€400 billion)
- The potential for an additional 160,000 people to be employed in the recycling sector
- Improved trade balance of £90 billion (€110 billion)
- 500 million tonnes of CO₂ equivalent could be avoided
- 190 million tonnes less extracted raw materials and imported goods used
- 220 million tonnes less waste produced
- 350 million tonnes more materials recycled

WRAP's work on biomass and material flows shows that food is one of the heaviest uses of resources. Efficient food production and consumption is therefore critical to a circular economy.

Source: Waste Management World

Wondering Where to Recycle Your Stuff?

Visit Alberta's Recycling Hotline

at www.recyclinghotline.ca or phone 1.800.463.6326

'Magic Liquid' for Recycling Composite Packaging

A new German facility will operate a patented approach to the processing of plastic-plastic and plastic-aluminum laminate packaging recently developed by Saperatec, at the core of which is a 'completely new' micro-emulsion technique. In addition to beverage cartons, the facility will treat solar PV panels, vehicle glass and lithium-ion batteries.

The principle behind the innovative process involves a liquid developed to penetrate between the layers of a multi-layer system, separating the individual layers. With a recycling rate of 100%, this wet-chemical process can treat approximately 500 tonnes of composite material per year.

For more information, visit www.saperatec.de

Source: Recycling International

Italy Fights Illegal Waste Disposal

Italian Prime Minister Enrico Letta announced measures in December 2013 to try to combat a fresh rubbish emergency in the area around the southern city of Naples where organized crime and widespread abuse have created a chronic environmental crisis.

The announced decree will make it a criminal offence to burn rubbish without authorization and introduce tougher controls on agricultural land, large areas of which have been rendered toxic by uncontrolled waste dumping.

The government will also set aside €600 million (\$813.39 million) for clean-up operations, which will be added to €300 million already pledged by the regional government of Campania.

Illegal dumps and uncontrolled burning of tires, chemical waste and other toxic material have caused growing alarm with a demonstration in Naples recently drawing some 70,000 protestors.

Source: Reuters



News

The 'Cradle-To-Cradle' Approach: in Space

The European Space Agency (ESA) is looking for new ideas on materials that could be recycled or converted into different, useful resources. It costs a fortune to get anything into space and the further it travels out into the solar system, the more valuable it becomes. So recycling or converting space hardware for follow-up missions could bring significant added value, ESA argues.

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The idea has been inspired by the 'cradle-to-cradle' approach: all the raw materials in a product can be later reused for another product, or consumed as food, with no waste residue and no loss in quality. By adapting this approach to space, ESA believes future planetary probes or satellites might become sources of fuel, water or other scarce raw materials for the missions that come after them.

Examples might include: grinding down metal alloys into powder to serve as raw materials for manufacturing new hardware via 3D printing; organic materials could be separated by heating for use of the resulting gases; and leftover solid rocket fuel could be broken down for reuse.

For more information, visit www.emits.esa.int

Source: Recycling International

US National Recycling Rate Stays Flat

Figures released at the end of February by the Environmental Protection Agency show the US municipal recycling rate was 34.5% in 2012, a fall of 0.2 percentage points from the 2011 level.

The agency's municipal solid waste (MSW) report indicates Americans recovered around 65 million tons of MSW via recycling in 2012, a drop of roughly 1 million tons year-over-year. Composting volumes, meanwhile, grew from 20 million tons in 2011 to 21 million tons in 2012. Overall MSW generation in 2012 was about 251 million tons, up roughly 1 million tons from the previous year.

Most materials saw recovery rates remain flat from 2011 to 2012, though the paper category did see a notable drop. Newspaper and mechanical paper recovery decreased from 72.5% to 70.0% in the timeframe.

Aluminum's recycling rate also saw a decrease, dropping from 20.7% to 19.8%.

PET plastic bottles and jars, meanwhile, experienced a recycling rate bump of 1.6 percentage points from 2011 to 2012, and the national recycling rate for that category is now 30.8%.

The recycling rate for glass was 27.7%, up from 27.6% in 2011.

Source: Resource Recycling

Classifieds

Jobs

- The City of Airdrie is hiring for the position of **Waste** & **Recycling Team Leader** (ID J0214-0948). View the job posting at http://bit.ly/J0214-0948. Closing date: March 16, 2014.
- The City of Red Deer is seeking to fill the position of **Waste Diversion Specialist** (Job ID job-4154). View the job posting at http://bit.ly/Job4154. Closing date: March 7, 2014
- The University of Calgary's Facilities Management and Development department is currently seeking a **Recycling and Solid Waste Coodinator** (Job ID 5794). View the job description at http://bit.ly/job5794. Application deadline is March 16, 2014.

For Sale

• **Shred-Tech ST-75E Shredder and Hopper** for sale, \$53,000. Twin 30HP Motors, 25" x 50" chamber, knives are 1", one hook per knife, custom over-sized hopper that can be converted back if needed. Call for more information: 403.605.4149

Market Updates Per Tonne Trend Glass Coloured 0 0 Plate \leftrightarrow Paper Cardboard (baled) 65 \downarrow Cardboard (loose) 35 Office Pak (loose) \uparrow 65 Mixed (loose) \uparrow 15 Magazines (loose) 25 \uparrow News (loose) 25 Plastic HDPE (baled) 150 1 Mixed #1-7 -100 \leftrightarrow Clear PE Film (baled) 150 \leftrightarrow Coloured PE Film (baled) -100 Metal Steel Food Cans (baled) 100 \leftrightarrow White Goods 100

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Coming Events

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Air & Waste Management Association CPANS Edmonton Luncheon "New High Solids Anaerobic Digestion Facility", March 7, 2014, Edmonton, AB, http://cpans.org/events, edmontonluncheon@cpans.org

2014 Plastics Recycling Conference, presented by Resource Recycling, March 11-12, 2014, Orlando, FL, contact: 503.233.1305 x 117, www.plasticsrecycling.com

"It's a Green World After All" GPEC 2014, Global Plastics Environmental Conference organized by The Society of Plastics Engineers' Plastics Environmental Division, March 12-14, 2014, Orlando, FL, contact: 989.832.5555 x 638, www.sperecycling.org

Buildex Edmonton, March 18-19, 2014, Edmonton, AB www.buildexedmonton.com

2014 Road to Zero Waste Conference, SWANA Landfill Symposium and Landfill Gas Symposium, March 24-27, 2014, Monterey, CA, contact: 301.585.2898, www.swana.org

GLOBE 2014, March 26-28, 2014, Vancouver, BC, contact: 1.800.274.6097, 2014.globeseries.com

29th International Conference on Solid Waste Technology and Management, March 30 - April 2, 2014, Philadelphia, PA, contact: 610.499.4042, www.solid-waste.org

"Resourceful Solutions from Sea to Sea", SWANA's 7th Canadian Waste Resource Symposium, April 2-4, 2014, Richmond, BC, contact: 301.585.2898, www.swanabc.org

REFOR14 WEST, BioCycle's 28th Annual West Coast Conference, April 7-10, 2014, San Diego, CA, BioCycleREFOR.com

2014 Earth Matters Environmental Education Conference, hosted by ACEE, April 24-26, 2014, Canmore, AB, contact: 403.286.9485, www.abcee.org

CANECT 2014, annual Canadian Environmental Conference and Tradeshow, April 28-30, 2014, Mississauga, ON, contact: 1-888-254-8769, www.envirogate.ca

WasteExpo 2014, April 28 - May 1, 2014, Atlanta, GA, www.wasteexpo.com

Business Delegation for Environmental Technology Companies to Bavaria, organized by the Canadian German Chamber of Industry and Commerce, May 3-8, 2014, Munich, Germany, kanada.ahk.de

Waste Re-Forum 2014 **"Solving the Puzzle Together"**, joint conference hosted by SWANA's Northern Lights Chapter and SWRC, May 7-9, 2014, Regina, SK, www.saskwastereduction.ca

"Fostering Sustainable Behaviour", Introduction to Community-Based Social Marketing worshop with Dr. Doug McKenzie-Mohr, May 26-27, 2014, Calgary, AB, register.cbsm.com

"Closing the Loop: Preventing Waste Through Sustainable Enterprise", 2014 Recycling Council of BC Conference, May 28-30, 2014, Whistler, BC, contact: 604.683.6009, www.rcbc.ca

Show, organized by Southern Waste Information eXchange, Inc., July 20-22, 2014, Marco Island, FL, www.aprc2014.com

2014 WASTECON "50 Shades of Green", presented by SWANA, August 26-28, 2014, Dallas, TX, www.swana.org

2014 Recycling Innovators Forum, September 15, 2014, New Orleans, LA, www.recyclinginnovators.com

5th Annual Resource Recycling Conference, September 16-17, 2014, New Orleans, LA, www.rrconference.com

2014 National Compost Conference, presented by the Compost Council of Canada, September 22-24, 2014, Halifax, NS, contact: 1.877.571.4769, www.compost.org

"Recycling in the Rockies – A Waste Reduction Expedition", 2014 Recycling Council of Alberta Waste Reduction Conference, October 1-3, 2014, Lake Louise, AB, contact: 403.843.6563, info@recycle.ab.ca

RemTech™ 2014, Remediation Technologies Symposium hosted by the Environmental Services Association of Alberta (ESAA), October 15-17, 2014, Banff, AB, contact: 780.429.6363 x 223, www.esaa-events.com/remtech

Waste Reduction Week in Canada, October 20-26, 2014, www.wrwcanada.com

12th Annual E-Scrap Conference & Trade Show, presented by Resource Recycling, October 22-23, 2014, Orlando, FL, www.e-scrapconference.com

5th Annual Canadian Waste Sector Symposium (CWSS), November 18-20, 2014, Toronto, ON, www.canwastesectorsymposium.ca

Canadian Waste & Recycling Expo, November 19-20, 2014, Toronto, ON, www.cwre.ca

2015 Recycling Council of Alberta Waste Reduction Conference, held jointly with the Conference on Canadian Stewardship, Sept. 30 - Oct. 2, 2015, Banff, AB, contact: 403.843.6563, info@recycle.ab.ca

Visit www.recycle.ab.ca/events for more events listings.