

# Speaker Bios



**Richard Backer** is the Environment, Health & Safety Manager at Tivoly. Previous to that, Richard worked with the Northwest Vermont Solid Waste Management District (NVSWMD) for seven years. While at the NVSWMD, he was involved with the environmental, health and safety; special waste programs; facility expansion planning and maintenance: operations; and staffing. Richard developed and managed NVSWMD's formal plastics diversion program.



**Ashlee Barker** is the Senior Manager of Special Waste at the New York City Department of Sanitation, Bureau of Recycling and Sustainability. She started with the agency in 2015 through an internship, and now oversees her unit as it works to provide convenient services and resources to safely dispose of harmful products for NYC residents while also complying with the law. Ashlee holds a M. S. in Public Administration from Baruch College.



recycling of all cannabis consumer waste.

**Mitchell Colbert** is the Head of Social and Environmental Impact at Vessel. He coordinates with members of the management team on their corporate activism strategy. His current focus is lobbying to support cannabis waste recycling efforts in New York, Illinois, and California. Mr. Colbert is also a published journalist with over one hundred articles in over a dozen outlets who has extensively researched the vape market since its inception. His articles on vaporizers got him hired by Firefly Vapor in 2018 to lobby to legalize vape waste recycling in Colorado and California. Mr. Colbert's work in Colorado led to an amendment to SB 224 allowing for the



**John Culbertson** is a Principal of MSW Consultants and is a leading national expert in the performance of material characterization studies. He is the architect of the firm's cloud-based, app-enabled material composition management system, Wastelnsight.net. Mr. Culbertson has performed and managed C&D and bulky waste composition studies for states, cities, and counties across the U.S. A graduate of Yale University, Mr. Culbertson is a long-time member of SWANA and several state recycling associations. He is also a SWANA-certified Manager of Solid Waste Management Systems.

**Iveth Dias** is the Human Resource Director at Sims Municipal Recycling. Ms. Dias has over 20 years of Human Resource experience and is driven by helping people develop personal and professional skills. At Sims Limited, Ms. Dias was instrumental in developing and rolling out DE&I programs for its North American facilities, like the Women Working @ Sims, along with optimizing its recruitment, training and on-going development programs. Outside of Sims Limited, Ms. Dias volunteers for the



Garden State Council SHRM and NJ-RC SHRM, helping to lead the charge for developing underprivileged youth and connecting them with long-term opportunities.



**Mathieu Germain** is the Director of Strategic Development for Sanexen, since 2018. He has been working in the environmental field since 2002 and holds a Bachelor of Law and a Masters of the Environment. From 2006 to 2018, he worked for the American Iron & Metal Company Inc. (AIM) as Director of Environment. His tenure with AIM included working with multidisciplinary teams around the world for the implementation of new metal recycling plants, automotive shredder residue (fluff) recycling facilities, foundries, automotive recycling centers, and metal product manufacturing plants. In 2016, he became a Senior Auditor for

implementation of the ISO 14001 Environmental Management Certification integrated with the ISO 9001 Quality System.



**Camille Herrera** is the Packaging Development & Sustainability Manager for Driscoll's of the Americas. Camille guides packaging sustainability with a life cycle perspective. Leading the recover and recycle track, including establishing a supply chain to close the loop on PET clamshell recycling, she also evaluates alternative packaging materials and packaging-related legislation. Before Driscoll's, Camille consulted on waste management and transportation programs, specializing in community-based social marketing, data collection and analysis, working with clients like the City of Santa Clara and SCS Engineers.



**Max Hickey** is a Business Development Associate at Li-Cycle, responsible for managing the company's incoming battery supply, with a focus on energy storage and e-mobility. He specializes in enabling the adoption and scale of clean technology and has over four years of experience in strategy, innovation, and business development. Max holds a Bachelor of Applied Science in mechanical engineering from the University of Toronto and a Master's in Mechanical Engineering from Trinity College Dublin, Australia.



**Rob Latham** is the E-Bike Program Manager for Call2Recycle, the United States' leading consumer battery recycling and stewardship organization. He is currently leading the successful execution and management of the new E-Bike battery recycling program.



**Dan Martens** is the Vice President North America for Novamont. Previously, he conducted a 5-year study on biodegradable plastic mulch films in soil. He serves as an advisory board member to several universities. He chairs the Plastic Industry Association's Bioplastics Committee and serves on the board of the Canadian Compost Council. Dan also serves as a working member for the Ministry of Environment Ontario and Climate Initiative Quebec.



**Cherish Miller** is the Vice President of Sustainability & Public Affairs for Revolution. For over 25-years, Cherish has worked in the packaging industry focusing on Sustainability, Marketing and Product Development. She has a BA in Marketing and an MBA in Finance from Cal State University, Fullerton. Focusing on collaborative solutions to circularity, Cherish currently serves on the Advisory Council of the US Plastics Pact, is a board member of APR's Foundation for Plastic Recycling, the President of the Western Plastics Association, just completed a three year term on the Executive Committee of the Sustainable Packaging Coalition amongst several other committees and associations.



**Daniel Monahan** is an attorney in the Defense, Industrials, and Aerospace Section of the Department of Justice's Antitrust Division. Dan has worked on and led numerous investigations in the waste industry, involving both merger and conduct matters. He is a graduate of George Mason Law School and entered the DOJ through its Honors Program.



**Tim Mulso** is a Business Development Manager for the Recycling Products Division at Scott Equipment Company. He earned his bachelor's from Carleton College in Northfield, MN, and an MBA from the University of Minnesota. After several years in global new product development at a large agricultural equipment manufacturer, he pursued a career transition into Recycling and Sustainability with Scott Equipment.



**Paul Rolandini** is the Contractor Sales Manager at USA Waste, where he works with contractors throughout Connecticut and Western Massachusetts and guides them through the C&D recycling and LEED processes. He most recently worked for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in the State House as Research Director with the Committee on Global Warming and Climate Change. Prior to that shift, he had just shy of 20-years of experience in the waste and recycling industry working in sales, and as an account and team manager.

**Cole Rosengren** is the lead editor of Waste Dive and has been on the team since 2016. Prior to covering the industry, he learned about waste firsthand during more than a decade of restaurant and catering work in multiple cities. Cole earned a BFA from Emerson College and a MA from the CUNY



Graduate School of Journalism. He currently lives with his family in Somerville, Massachusetts.



**Doug Usifer** is the Managing Director of Capstone Partners. He has over 30 years of experience in investment banking and industrial sectors including chemicals, plastics, waste and scrap metal. Doug holds an MBA in Finance from Rutgers University, PhD and MS degrees in Organic Chemistry from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and a BS in Chemistry from Saint Michael's College.



**Kyle Wiens** is the CEO of iFixit, the free repair manual. He's dedicated his life to defeating the second law of thermodynamics, a battle fought in the courtroom as often as in the workshop. The Right to Repair campaign has, so far, successfully legalized cell phone unlocking and tractor repair.



**Melissa Young** is a DEI Committee Member of NYSAR3 & Assistant Director of the Syracuse University Center for Sustainable Community Solutions (SU-CSCS). She joined SUCSCS' team in 2008 and oversees programs and staff working on community sustainability with a focus on Sustainable Materials Management (SMM) and Watershed Management. She leads SU-CSCS's efforts in the Caribbean, including the development of the SMM Stewardship Program that has since engaged hundreds of college students and thousands of K-12 students and teachers in New York, Puerto Rico, and US Virgin Islands. She is a Certified Master

Composter through Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency, New York City Compost Project, and the US Composting Council. Melissa received an M.S. in Natural Resource Management and Policy from SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry.



Olga Zamora is Vice President of Human Resources at ISRI. She came to ISRI with nearly 30 years of experience in human resources, benefits, property management, and commercial insurance. Zamora is responsible for the strategic direction of all HR-related functions including employee relations, recruiting, retention, talent management, compensation, and benefits. Zamora is a certified short-term counselor. She is also responsible for office administration including lease administration, commercial insurance, and general management of office space.

