

Spring Conference: March 15-16

Full Speed Ahead



Sheraton Burlington, Burlington Vermont

AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 2017 – Start time delayed one hour due to Winter Storm Stella

9:30 Registration & Continental Breakfast (provided)

10:00 **Introductions** – Robert Isner, Director, Waste Engineering and Enforcement Division, [Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection](#) and President, NERC's Board of Directors

10:10 **Welcoming Remarks** - Julie Moore, Secretary of the [Vermont Agency of Natural Resources](#) and Tom Berry, Field Representative for [U.S. Senator Patrick Leahy](#)

10:20 **Keynote: Importance of Partnerships for Sustainable Materials Management** – Bridget Croke, External Affairs, [Closed Loop Fund](#) The Closed Loop Fund (CLF) aims to invest \$100 million to increase the recycling of products and packaging and divert more than 20 million tons of waste from landfills. Ms. Croke will present how partnerships can be used to leverage resources for reaching sustainable materials management goals.

Questions to Be Addressed by Keynote

- What are the criteria used by the CLF for identifying potential partners?
- What steps does the CLF take to keep its partnerships viable?
- How does the CLF measure the effectiveness of its partnerships in achieving increased sustainable materials management?

11:10 **Networking Break with Exhibitors**

11:40 **Packaging Changes and Impacts on Recycling and Composting** – A range of perspectives addressing changes in packaging and the impact of those changes on recycling and composting goals of communities. **Session Facilitator:** Robert Isner, Director, Waste Engineering and Enforcement Division, Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

Presenters

- Sarah Reeves, General Manager, [Chittenden Solid Waste District](#)
- Alex Danovitch, Vice President of Policy and Research, [Eureka Recycling](#)
- Derrick Lawrence, Director of Packaging Development, [Seventh Generation](#)
- Rhodes Yepsen, Executive Director, [Biodegradable Products Institute \(BPI\)](#)

Questions to Be Addressed By the Presenters

- What are the most recent changes in packaging?
- What are the most common challenges to recycling associated with packaging changes?
- How do certified compostable products differ from biodegradable plastics; how can recycling facilities identify them; and how can they be processed in existing commercial composting operations?
- What are the opportunities for new packaging to be sorted and processed by recycling and

composting systems?

1:10 Lunch (*provided*)

Advisory Member Lunch (by invitation only)

2:30 **Hitting the Contamination Problem** – Topics to be discussed in this session will be contending with inbound scrap specifications; creating education, outreach, and enforcement programs; and determining whether single stream is right for every community. **Session Facilitator:** Peter Engel, Senior Consultant, [Kessler Consulting](#)

Presenters

- Jonathon Levy, Director of Member Services, [ISRI](#)
- Janice Paré, Municipal Recycling Analyst, [Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection](#)
- Cynthia Mitchell, Senior Project Manager, [MSW Consultants](#) & Joanne Shafer, Deputy Director/Recycling Coordinator, [Centre County Recycling & Refuse Authority](#)

Questions to Be Addressed by Presenters

- How will the inbound scrap specs reduce contamination?
- What is required for an average materials recovery facility (MRF) to meet the spec requirements?
- How can community education and outreach reduce contamination?
- How can the effects of education and outreach be measured?
- What enforcement programs work to decrease contamination?
- How can a community determine if single stream is a viable strategy for producing marketable recyclables?

4:10 **Networking Break with Exhibitors**

4:30 **Flash Panel About Different Efforts to Decrease Contamination** - A series of quick and concise presentations describing specific strategies to reduce contamination. **Session Facilitator:** Dave Keeling, Director, Recycling, [Steel Recycling Institute](#)

Presenters

- Gunther Wellenstein, Recycling Coordinator, [City of Lowell, Massachusetts](#)
- Lisa Wolff, Communications Manager, [ecomaine](#)
- Jennifer A. Heaton-Jones, Executive Director, [Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority](#)

Questions to Be Addressed by the Panelists:

- How are their programs addressing contamination?
- Are they using a carrot, a stick, or both to get positive results?
- How are they measuring the results of their efforts?
- What have they learned?

4:50 **Open Discussion** - Attendees are invited to share new initiatives. **Session Facilitator:** Dave Keeling, Director, Recycling, [Steel Recycling Institute](#)

5:15 **Wrap Up** – Chris Nelson, Supervising Environmental Analyst, [Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection](#)

Networking with Exhibitors



5:30 **Social Hour - sponsored by**

THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 2017

8:00 Continental Breakfast (provided)

8:30 **Welcoming Remarks** – Bryn Oakleaf, Environmental Analyst, Solid Waste Management Program, [Vermont Agency of Natural Resources](#) and Vice-President, NERC's Board of Directors

8:45 **Contracting for Success in an Unpredictable World** - Lessons learned about successful contracting for Material Recovery Facilities, electronics recycling, and organics collection services. **Session Facilitator:** Susan Bush, Senior Consultant, [RSE USA](#)

Presenters

- Ann Fordock, Recycling Operations Manager, [OCRRA](#)
- Cindy Jessop, Director of Community Outreach & Programs, [Sunnking, Inc.](#)
- Krysten Desmond, Institutional Account Manager, [Casella Waste Systems](#)

Questions to be Addressed by the Presenters

- What are the most important details to be included in successful contracts?
- What are the most valuable lessons learned from your mistakes in contracting?
- How has contracting changed in the past 10 years?
- What contingencies are included in today's contracts to address market fluctuations?

10:15 **Networking Break with Exhibitors**

10:45 **What Else High Performing Communities Can Do** – Examples of increased efficiencies and next steps towards reaching higher recycling/diversion rates will be discussed in this session. Session Facilitator: Bryn Oakleaf, Vermont Agency of Natural Resources

Presenters

- Lisa Skumatz, Principal, [Skumatz Economic Research Associates](#)
- Sarah Edwards, Senior Consultant, [Eunomia](#)
- Rhonda Mace, School Outreach Coordinator, [Chittenden Solid Waste District](#)

Questions to Be Addressed by the Presenters

- What strategies have proven to be most effective for increasing a community's recycling/diversion rate?
- Are some strategies better for rural or urban areas to use?
- How resource-intensive are the different strategies?
- How can a community identify the strategies that will work best for them?

12:15 **Wrap Up** - Bryn Oakleaf, Vermont Agency of Natural Resources

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