America Recycles Week 2019

"Charting a Collaborative Path Forward to a More Resilient Recycling System"

Overview of Events for America Recycles Full-Workgroup Call

November 1, 2019 – Draft - Content is Subject to Change

Background

Last year on November 15, 2018, EPA hosted the America Recycles Day Summit that brought together stakeholders from across the recycling system to join EPA in signing the America Recycles Pledge. That day, 45 signatories, including EPA, pledged to work together to identify specific actions to take in addressing challenges and opportunities facing the U.S. recycling system. Since hosting the Summit, EPA has coordinated the efforts of four workgroups charged with addressing challenges in the recycling system across the four action areas identified last year: Promote Education and Outreach, Enhance Materials Management Infrastructure, Strengthen Secondary Material Markets, and Enhance Measurement. Today, a total of over 165 organizations have signed the pledge.

America Recycles Week

EPA and the America Recycles Network participants are planning an entire week of activities this November 11th-15th. Each day will feature a different communications theme, and numerous events across the country are being planned by EPA, EPA's Regional offices, and America Recycles Network members. The daily communications themes and highlights of key events are summarized in the table below. America Recycles Network participants are also encouraged to register additional events celebrating America Recycles Day on the Keep America Beautiful website, https://americarecyclesday.org/add-event/.

Event	Description	Host(s)
Monday (11/ 11): ***Veterans, Jobs, and Recycling*** - Veterans make a positive contribution to the U.S. economy including through the recycling industry. The recycling industry also creates jobs.		
Fort Bliss Recycling Hero Award	Keep America Beautiful (KAB) is presenting an award to the Recycling Hero(es) from Fort Bliss. Fort Bliss in El Paso, Texas has an aggressive recycling program and awards individuals monthly for their recycling efforts.	Keep America Beautiful, EPA Region 6, Dept. of Defense
Tuesday (11/ 12): ***Measurement*** – Improving data, metrics and measurement is key to strengthening the U.S. recycling system. EPA also will be celebrating the 25th anniversary of EPA's WasteWise voluntary partnership program, which encourages organizations and businesses to achieve sustainability in their practices and reduce waste through setting goals and reporting progress.		
WasteWise 25th Anniversary	EPA announcement of the 25th Anniversary of the WasteWise program.	EPA HQ (announcement only)
Wednesday (11/13): ***Markets and Market Development-*** Enhancing markets for secondary materials will help keep high-quality materials in the U.S. economy.		
U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation 2019 Corporate Citizenship Conference	U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation will be hosting their annual Corporate Citizenship Conference, organized in 2019 around the theme of "Solve Together" – solving the challenges posed by being more sustainable, efficient, inclusive, forward-thinking, and simply better when	U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation

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Event	Description	Host(s)
	working together on these fundamental issues. EPA will moderate a panel on community-based public-private partnerships.	
ISRI "State of Recycling" Congressional briefing	ISRI is sponsoring a "State of Recycling" briefing to the House Recycling Caucus. EPA and others will be attending the briefing.	ISRI
Thursday (11/14): ***Education and Outreach*** - Promoting education and outreach to consumers on how to recycle properly helps reduce contamination in the recycling stream and create high-quality recycled products.		
America Recycles: Innovation Fair	The Innovation Fair will showcase recent advances in materials and recycling technology. This event will showcase products and technologies that are advancing recycling and connect innovators with funders. Register: https://americarecyclesinnovationfair.eventbrite.com	EPA HQ, ISRI, KAB, SWANA, The Recycling Partnership
America Recycles Reception	America Recycles Reception sponsored by KAB, ISRI, TRP, and several other of KAB's America Recycles Day sponsors. This will be hosted in a space adjacent to the Innovation Fair location.	KAB, ISRI, TRP, and several other America Recycles Day sponsors
U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation 2019 Corporate Citizenship Conference (cont'd)	U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation will be hosting their annual Corporate Citizenship Conference, organized in 2019 around the theme of "Solve Together" – solving the challenges posed by being more sustainable, efficient, inclusive, forward-thinking, and simply better when working together on these fundamental issues. EPA will moderate a panel on community-based public-private partnerships.	U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation
Friday (11/15): ***America Recycles Day: Collaboration is Key to Success*** – Collaboration is key to finding solutions to the challenges facing the U.S. recycling system.		
America Recycles Summit	The Summit will bring together all signers of the America Recycles Pledge and other key representatives from industry, non-profits, federal, state, tribal, and local government, and trade associations. The steering committees of America Recycles Workgroups will report on progress made since last year and present and discuss future commitments to advance the U.S. recycling system. EPA will highlight some new initiatives and programs to support America Recycles work. Register: https://americarecyclessummit.eventbrite.com.	EPA HQ

America Recycles: Innovation Fair – Nov. 14, 1:00pm-6:00pm

The America Recycles: Innovation Fair will connect potential investors to recycling innovators to spur market development and adoption of new technologies as well as products comprised of recycled content. Exhibitors will showcase their innovative efforts across the recycling system, including research, education and outreach, new technologies and processes, and recycled content products. The Fair will take place on **November 14th from 1:00pm – 6:00pm in the Ronald Reagan Building Pavillion Room** and is open to the press and the public.

During the Innovation Fair (time TBD), the National Waste and Recycling Association will be conducting a brief ceremony recognizing veterans for their service and commitment to environmental protection by presenting several with Challenge Coins. During the last two hours of the Innovation Fair, from **4:00pm – 6:00pm in the Ronald Reagan Building Pavilion Foyer**, Keep America Beautiful, ISRI, The Recycling Partnership, and several other organizations that sponsor America Recycles Day will be sponsoring an America Recycles Reception.

2019 America Recycles Summit – Nov. 15, 10:00am-1:00pm

On **Friday, November 15, 2019, from 10:00 am – 1:00 pm in Room 1153 in the William Jefferson Clinton Building – East**, Administrator Wheeler will host America Recycles Pledge signatories in EPA's 2019 Recycling Summit. The Summit is open to the press but not open to the public; invitees are limited to America Recycles Pledge signatories as well as any special guests invited by EPA leadership. During the Summit, workgroup leaders will present on their accomplishments and deliverables, and participants will have an opportunity to identify additional commitments or actions they will take to improve domestic recycling.

During the Summit, EPA will announce the release of its *National Framework for Advancing the U.S. Recycling System*. The Framework will build on the status report released in July 2019 and will highlight the work completed by the America Recycles partnering organizations as well as partnership activities completed by America Recycles Pledge signatories. The Framework is intended to highlight collaborative efforts made by EPA and others to improve the resilience of the U.S. recycling system as well as identify areas for future action.

America Recycles Summit Agenda in brief	
Time	**Agenda Item**
8:00am-9:30am	Arrive to go through security. You are encouraged to arrive early as security procedures are lengthy for entering a federal building.
9:30am-10:00am	Light refreshments outside of Summit room
10:00am – 10:10am	Transition to Summit room
10:10am – 10:25am	Opening remarks
10:25am-11:25am	Steering committee presentations of workgroup deliverables
11:25am-12:35pm	Panel discussion of remaining gaps and needs to address challenges facing the U.S. recycling system, as well as the next year of America Recycles work; audience Q+A
12:35pm-12:45pm	Summary of themes from Summit conversation
12:45pm-1:00pm	Closing remarks

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