Georgia Recycling Economic Development Partners

2020 SERDC Annual Meeting
Who are we?

• A partnership of corporations, associations and allies working to improve recycling systems in Georgia to assure our manufacturers continue to have clean, reliable feedstocks for making new products, while growing job opportunities and supporting local governments.

• In the past ten years, four of the top recycling companies in Georgia have invested $41.5 million in the processing infrastructure-- to sort and prepare recovered materials for markets.

• Arglass is investing $123 million in a plant in Valdosta, GA to manufacture glass containers. It will employ 150 people once completed and operating in Q1 2021.
Recycling’s Economic Impact

Georgia’s Recycling Industry

$2.5 billion
12,385 jobs
$687,897,700 revenue
$232,546,200 state/local taxes
Georgia Recycling Facts

• Georgia is known for plentiful markets for recovered materials.
• Georgia has one of the largest infrastructures in the US for use of recovered materials in manufacturing new recycled content products.

• Did you know?
  • 33% of plastic beverage containers in North America are recycled by Georgia’s carpet industry.
  • 8% of all paper used in the US is recycled in Georgia.
  • 5 companies use recycled glass for bottle or fiberglass production.
  • The world’s largest aluminum recycler, Novelis, is headquartered in Atlanta and has a mill in Greensboro.
Industry Investment

• Since 2017, The Recycling Partnership has invested $270,000 in Georgia.

• In 2013, Coca-Cola Consolidated invested $150,000 to boost recycling in Columbus, Georgia.

• Eleven local governments have received Keurig Dr Pepper Recycling Bin grants to boost public space recycling.

• Since 2016, the plastic industry has granted $120,000 to local governments/non-profits in Georgia.
Industry Investment

• The Coca-Cola Foundation recently invested $4.1 million in the City of Atlanta’s recycling program to boost residential, commercial, multi-family and college/universities recycling.
Georgia’s Investment

All of the states surrounding Georgia invest heavily in their recycling programs and infrastructure. State investment will help leverage private investment and boost recycling infrastructure as well as boost economic development.

It’s time for Georgia to invest in recycling again.
The **Solid Waste Trust Fund (SWTF)** is funded from the $1 per-tire charge (Scrap Tire Management Fee) citizens and businesses pay on all new tires sold in the state. The SWTF is statutorily dedicated to address landfill emergencies that endanger public health or safety, abandoned landfills, clean up illegal scrap tire piles and dumps, fund recycling and waste-reduction programs, eliminate open dumps and litter that foul Georgia’s roadsides and streams. Since 2009, the state has collected $72,660,638 in scrap tire fees, but has only appropriated $22,468,947 to the Solid Waste Trust Fund. The remaining $50,191,691 was redirected from the Solid Waste Trust Fund to the general fund to balance the state’s budget.
Solid Waste Trust Fund

SOLID WASTE TRUST FUND: 2008-2019

- Collected Fees Redirected to General Fund: 69%
- Total Appropriated to SWTF: 31%
Hazardous Waste Trust Fund

The **Hazardous Waste Trust Fund (HWTF)** is statutorily dedicated to fulfilling the Georgia State Superfund Law, which includes cleaning up hazardous waste sites and helping to remediate old, unlined landfills that pose a threat to drinking water and the environment. Most of the fee’s come from the state’s 75-cent per ton tipping fee on solid waste going in to landfills. Since 2009, the state has collected $153,792,513, but has only used $56,401,213 to clean up hazardous waste sites. Since 2009, the state has redirected $97,391,300 from the HWTF to the general fund to balance the state’s budget.
HAZARDOUS WASTE TRUST FUND: 2008-2019

- Collected Fees Redirected to GF: 63%
- Total Appropriated to HWTF: 37%
Georgia’s Solid Waste Trust Fund (SWTF) is funded from the $1 per tire charge Georgians pay on tires sold in the state. The SWTF is dedicated to cleaning up landfills, eliminating scrap tires, recycling and waste reduction programs and litter clean ups. Since 1993, the state has collected over $171 million from these fees, but has only appropriated $97 million. Since 2008, the state has appropriated just 31% of total fees collected to the SWTF. The state has used the remainder of the fees to help balance the budget. Most of the $97 million has been spent to help clean up scrap tires and to help address landfill emergencies. The money has not been spent on recycling and waste reduction programs across the state.
Put the “trust” back in to Georgia’s Trust Funds

• Fees collected to fund the Hazardous Waste Trust Fund and Solid Waste Trust Fund are charged to citizens, businesses and local governments; however, the state has redirected these fees for over a decade to help balance the budget.

• To stop the redirection of dedicated fees, legislators approved House Resolution 164 during the 2020 Legislative Session.
  • HR 164 is a constitutional amendment that authorizes the Georgia General Assembly to establish true and dedicated trust funds.
    • Voters will approve or reject on November 3, 2020.
## Georgia’s Investment Request

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<th>Category</th>
<th>FY 21-22</th>
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<tr>
<td>Recoverable Materials Characterization Study</td>
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<td>Materials Management Plan</td>
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<td>Statewide Technical Assistance Manager</td>
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<td>Salary, benefits, etc.</td>
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<td>Recycling Program Management Training</td>
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<td>Development and training</td>
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<td>Grants to Local Governments</td>
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Vote YES on Amendment #1

- 1 -

Authorizes dedication of fees and taxes to their intended purposes by general state law.

House Resolution 164
Act No. 597

“Shall the Constitution of Georgia be amended so as to authorize the General Assembly to dedicate revenues derived from fees or taxes to the public purpose for which such fees or taxes were intended?”

Sample ballot

○ YES
○ NO

AMENDMENT #1

GEORGIA HAS COLLECTED $171 MILLION IN SCRAP TIRE FEES SINCE 1993, BUT ONLY APPROPRIATED $97 MILLION FOR THE SOLID WASTE TRUST FUND.

AMENDMENT #1 WILL PUT THE TRUST BACK IN GEORGIA’S TRUST FUNDS
QUESTIONS?
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