

RECYCLING RIGHT:

Transforming Southeast Florida's Waste Landscape

FRIDAY | OCTOBER 20, 2023 | 9:00 AM - 4:15 PM

LOCATION: **BROWARD CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS**

MARY N. PORTER RIVERVIEW BALLROOM

201 SW 5TH AVENUE, FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33312

9:00 AM **CHECK-IN**

9:30 AM **WELCOME REMARKS & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Honorable Steve Geller, Chair, South Florida Regional Planning Council

Douglas Bournique, Chair, Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council

9:40 AM **RECYCLING TODAY IN SOUTHEAST FLORIDA – SETTING THE STAGE**

A brief presentation outlining recycling issues in Southeast Florida and laying out the framework of current needs.

❖ **Dr. Tim Townsend**, Professor of Environmental Engineering, University of Florida

10:00 AM **THE MYTHS & MIXUPS OF RECYCLING: EDUCATION AND THE COMMUNITY**

A small panel presentation taking a closer look at the recycling process, public perceptions about recycling, contamination-reducing methods, common recycling mistakes, the costs of not recycling, and education/outreach tools.

Moderator: **Dr. Tim Townsend**, Professor of Environmental Engineering, University of Florida

- ❖ **Sue Flak**, Recycling Coordinator & Marketing Director, Indian River County Solid Waste Disposal District
- ❖ **Jay Leshefsky**, Manager, Serio-US LOCK
- ❖ **Dawn McCormick**, Director of Communications & Government Affairs, Waste Management Inc. of Florida
- ❖ **Karen Moore**, Environmental Administrator of the Division of Waste Management, Florida Department of Environmental Protection
- ❖ **Christopher Perry**, Recycling Education & Outreach Coordinator, Florida Department of Environmental Protection

11:00 AM **BREAK**



11:15 AM PALM BEACH COUNTY – A RECYCLING SUCCESS STORY

Palm Beach County's 80% recycling rate in 2022 ranked first among all counties in the state of Florida. Palm Beach County has emerged as a shining example of sustainable waste management practices, reaching new heights fueled through innovative programs, increased public awareness, and the unwavering dedication of the community to protect their communities and the planet.

- ❖ **Ramana Kari, P.E. BCEE**, Chief Engineer, Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County
- ❖ **Dan Pellowitz**, Executive Director, Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County

12:00 PM LUNCH & LEARN

HAZARDOUS & FLAMMABLE: MODERN WASTE RISKS (AKA “TRASH ON FIRE”)

This presentation will discuss some of the challenges and best practices associated with the management and recycling of modern-day materials such as lithium batteries, solar panels, electronics, and more.

Moderator: **Alisha Lopez**, Clean Cities Director, South Florida Regional Planning Council

- ❖ **Dawn McCormick**, Director of Communications & Government Affairs, Waste Management Inc. of Florida
- ❖ **Jessica Winter**, Recycling, Education & Marketing Manager, Public Affairs & Recycling Department, Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County

12:50 PM BREAK

1:00 PM UNLOCKING THE POTENTIAL OF RECYCLING MARKETS: A VITAL ENGINE FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH

Don't miss this conversation about fostering local markets that utilize recycled materials in manufacturing, fueling economic expansion and job generation. Gain insights into the preferences of companies that may consider investing in the region, learn from successful strategies employed nationwide, and much more.

Moderator: **Barbara Alfano**, PCB & Sustainability Section Manager, Chemicals and Redevelopment Division, United States Environmental Protection Agency Region 4

- ❖ **Jake Beeler**, Regional Mill Buyer, Pratt Industries, Inc.
- ❖ **Paul Storelli**, President, Storelli Recycling
- ❖ **Bruce A. Welt, Ph.D.**, Professor, Coordinator, Packaging Engineering Program, Agricultural & Biological Engineering Department, University of Florida/IFAS; Representative, Consortium for Waste Circularity

2:15 PM REGIONAL COLLABORATION & COORDINATION: A 7 - COUNTY EXPERT PANEL “TALKS MORE TRASH”

A panel discussion with representatives from the seven SFRPC/TCRPC counties' waste departments on their recycling systems, challenges, successes, and potential opportunities for collaboration.

Moderator: The Honorable Beam Furr, Broward County Commissioner & Council Member, South Florida Regional Planning Council

- ❖ **Sam Amerson, P.E.**, Director, Utilities and Solid Waste Department, Martin County
- ❖ **Olga Espinosa-Anderson**, Interim Director, Solid Waste Management, Miami-Dade County
- ❖ **Notosha Austin**, Interim Director, Solid Waste and Recycling Services, Broward County
- ❖ **Himanshu Mehta, P.E.**, Managing Director, Solid Waste Disposal District, Indian River County
- ❖ **Rebecca S. Olson**, Director of Public Utilities and Solid Waste, St. Lucie County
- ❖ **Dan Pellowitz**, Executive Director, Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County
- ❖ **Cheryl Sullivan**, Director of Solid Waste Management, Monroe County

3:05 PM COUNCIL MEMBERS, ELECTED AND PUBLIC OFFICIALS' OPEN CONVERSATION

Council Members, alongside Elected and Public Officials, are invited to participate in an open conversation regarding the day's presentations, insights, key takeaways, and next steps forward.

Moderator: The Honorable Steve Geller, Chair, South Florida Regional Planning Council

3:55 PM PUBLIC COMMENTS

4:05 PM NEXT STEPS / CLOSING

4:15 PM ADJOURNMENT

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