



*29th Annual*  
**RECYCLING UPDATE**

MARCH 18, 2025 | 8 AM - 5 PM PACIFIC | HYBRID

**DETAILED  
PROGRAM**

PROGRAM SCHEDULE FOLLOWED BY  
SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES AND  
PRESENTATION ABSTRACTS



1547 Lakeside Dr,  
Oakland, CA 94612

Time	Track	Speaker
8:00 AM	Opening	Doors & Registration Open, Coffee & Bagels Served
9:00 AM	Welcome	Welcome to RU 2025, New Venue and NCRA's Commitment to Shuumi: Rematriate the Land
9:05 AM	<div>Morning Sequence One</div> <div>Auditorium</div>	<b>Revolutionizing Pharmaceutical Packaging</b> Peter Daheb, Chief Executive Officer   Pillumina, Inc
9:21 AM		<b>What's the Deal with Dealer Cooperatives?</b> Alina Bekkerman, CRV Coordinator   SF Environment Department
9:37 AM		<b>Stakeholder Engagement for Plastic Waste Reduction Initiatives</b> Rebecca Sage Allen, Recycling Specialist   ReCREATE Waste Collaborative
9:53 AM		<b>Petaluma Reusable Cup Pilot</b> Leslie Lukacs, Executive Director   Zero Waste Sonoma
10:09 AM		<b>Cooperative Reuse: Student-Led Furniture Exchange</b> Tiffany Mar & Lois Tanglao, Zero Waste Coalition Co-Chair   Student Environmental Resource Center at UC Berkeley
10:25 AM		<b>Remembering Arthur Robinson Boone III, founder of Recycling Update</b> Ruth Abbe, Former NCRA President   Northern California Recycling Association
10:31 AM	Break #1	
10:46 AM	<div>Morning Sequence Two</div> <div>Auditorium</div>	<b>San Jose Conservation Corps &amp; Charter School's Strategy for Zero Waste Education</b> Lexie Felix, Corpsmember Development Manager   SJCC + Charter School
11:02 AM		<b>The Importance of Community, Youth, Mentorship and Manufacturing in the Birthplace of Jeans</b> Julian Prince Dash, Founder/Educator/Factory Owner   HolyStitch!
11:18 AM		<b>The Power of Creativity in Sustainable Behavior Change</b> Shira Lane, CEO & Founder   Atrium 916
11:34 AM		<b>SB 54: Upstream Solutions, Downstream Impacts</b> Rob Hilton, President   HF&H Consultants
11:50 AM		<b>Hidden Threats: How PFAS and Plastics Impact Our Health and Environment</b> Ravyn Williams, PA-C, Electrophysiology Physician Assistant & Founder   Taki2Go
12:06 PM		<b>Hamburglaring Reuse: McDonald's Disinformation Campaign About Recycling Being Better Than Reuse and Its Threat to Policy Progress in North America</b> Miriam Gordon, Reuse Program Director   The Story of Stuff Project
12:22 PM		<b>California Resource Recovery Association Update</b> Tracie Bills, Executive Director   California Resource Recovery Association
12:28 PM		<b>The Restorative Power of Landfills, An Underutilized Resource</b> Petula Clarkson   Royal Academy of Arts



Time	Track	Speaker
12:33 PM	Lunch at the Merrit Ball Room (First Floor)	
1:32 PM	<b>Afternoon Sequence One</b>  <b>Auditorium</b>	<b>State of NCRA - President's Report</b> Freddy Coronado-Barraza, President   Northern California Recycling Association
1:43 PM		<b>Lithium Battery Recycling</b> Gaby Olson, Business Development – Sales & Sourcing   Redwood Materials
1:59 PM		<b>Scalability of Future Technologies</b> Eric Lynch, Director of Public Sector Sales   Waste Management (WM) of Alameda County, Inc.
2:15 PM		<b>AI-Enabled Waste Management: Advancing Recycling and Zero Waste Initiatives</b> Emin Israfil, CEO   Rubbish
2:31 PM		<b>Enhancing Solid Waste Programs with Geographic Information Systems</b> Mathew Dorfman, Environmental Services Specialist   City of San Jose Environmental Services Dept.
2:47 PM		<b>SB 1383 Enforcement in Alameda County</b> Rachel Balsley, Senior Program Manager   StopWaste
3:03 PM	Break #2	
3:18 PM	<b>Afternoon Sequence Two</b>  <b>Auditorium</b>	<b>NCRA Visits the Capitol!</b> Bailey Hall, Board Member & Gwynn Mackellen, Legislative Committee Chair   Northern California Recycling Association
3:34 PM		<b>Don't Reinvent the Wheel: Municipal Model Policies on Food Waste Reduction</b> Anya Obrez, Advocate Associate   Natural Resources Defense Council
3:50 PM		<b>SB 1383 Procurement Targets to Support Compost Market Development</b> Jennifer West, Program Manager & Kelly Schoonmaker, Senior Program Manager   StopWaste
4:06 PM		<b>Advancing Food Waste Solutions in California: AB 660 and Beyond</b> Erica Parker, Policy Associate   Californians Against Waste
4:22 PM		<b>The Most Unwanted List: Cross-study Comparison of Contamination in Outbound Recycling</b> Amanda Savagian, Data Analyst   Cascadia Consulting Group
4:38 PM		<b>Solid Waste Utility Rates and Fees - Risks, Pitfalls, and Opportunities</b> Garth Schultz, President & Principal Consultant   R3 Consulting Group, Inc.
4:55 PM	Closing Remarks	
5:30 PM	<b>Green Drinks Networking   Mad Oak Bar ‘N’ Yard</b> <i>135 12th St, Oakland, CA 94607</i>	

# RECYCLING UPDATE

March 18, 2025, 8 AM - 5:00 PM Pacific | Hybrid  
Oakland Scottish Rite Center,  
1547 Lakeside Dr, Oakland, CA 94612



## Recycling Update Detailed Program 2025

*SEMI - ALPHABETICAL ORDER BY LAST NAME  
(SAME TOPIC SPEAKER PAIRS ARE JOINED)*



Ruth Abbe is a former board member and president of NCRA and chair of the Measure D steering committee. Measure D (1990) created the Alameda County Source Reduction and Recycling Board (now a part of StopWaste) and levied fees on landfills to support waste reduction, recycling and composting programs in Alameda County.

**Presentation: Remembering Arthur Robinson Boone III, founder of Recycling Update**

Arthur Robinson Boone III, former NCRA president and founder of Recycling Update, died on October 14, 2024 at age 86. Ruth will provide a short remembrance and describe his legacy.



# RECYCLING UPDATE

March 18, 2025, 8 AM - 5 PM Pacific | Hybrid



**Rebecca Sage Allen**

Recycling Specialist,  
ReCREATE Waste Collaborative

Working with ReCREATE Waste Collaborative as a Recycling Specialist II, Rebecca Sage Allen conducts outreach and education on both SB 1383 edible food recovery and plastic waste reduction regulations. With a background in team-building, education, and entertainment, Rebecca is passionate about engaging stakeholders and building community while assisting jurisdictions with important environmental regulations.

## Presentation: Stakeholder Engagement for Plastic Waste Reduction Initiatives

Using surveys, outreach materials, and open dialog regarding new regulations, ReCREATE has compiled concrete data on barriers, benefits, and best practices to ensure stakeholder buy-in for waste reduction initiatives. Our team has provided outreach and education to over 500 food and beverage establishments in the Burbank and Glendale area to solicit buy-in from stakeholders and community members on proposed and current Plastic Waste Reduction Regulations.



[Connect with Rebecca on LinkedIn!](#)



**Rachel Balsley**

Senior Program Manager,  
StopWaste

Rachel Balsley is a Senior Program Manager at StopWaste. She's been at StopWaste for 24 years and currently oversees the agency's SB 1383 implementation work that supports state compliance for Alameda County jurisdictions. Rachel has a Bachelor's degree in BioResource Science from UC Berkeley and an MBA in Sustainable Management from Presidio Graduate School.



# RECYCLING UPDATE

March 18, 2025, 8 AM - 5 PM Pacific | Hybrid



## Presentation: Greening a City: SB 1383 Enforcement in Alameda County

Working on behalf of Alameda County jurisdictions, StopWaste is excited to share that through a robust enforcement program with roughly 6,000 citations issued in just two years, we've gone from ~50% compliance to over 90% compliance at businesses and multifamily accounts for the SB 1383 service requirements. Building on this success, we are embarking on the next phase of enforcement, in partnership with the Alameda County Environmental Health Department, to inspect edible food generators and issue citations and fines when needed. Throughout our efforts, we aim to keep equity at the forefront and strike a balance between enforcement while continuing to provide compliance support through technical assistance and other resources.



[Connect with Rachel on LinkedIn!](#)



Alina Bekkerman is the CRV Zero Waste Coordinator at the San Francisco Environment Department, stewarding beverage container deposit return (CRV) programs like the San Francisco BOTTLEBANK. Since 2015, she has held diverse roles in zero waste and sustainability, from managing waste streams at major facilities to collaborating with cities on their litter data footprint. Alina also serves on the CRRRA Local Agency Technical Council and the Green Initiatives for Venues and Events Executive Committee, and previously served as secretary of the NCRA board of directors.

## Presentation: What's the deal with Dealer Cooperatives?

This presentation will demystify the current requirements for dealer cooperatives as outlined by CalRecycle, focusing on the obligations for retailers in unserved convenience zones to either redeem beverage containers in-store or join a dealer cooperative.

Given the ongoing development of specific guidelines by CalRecycle, the presentation will emphasize the importance of proactive collaboration between recycling centers and retailers to develop effective, community-based solutions that enhance consumer access to recycling services. Attendees will gain practical insights into compliant dealer cooperatives and learn about the uncertainties during this transitional period in California's beverage container recycling program.



[Connect with Alina on LinkedIn!](#)



# RECYCLING UPDATE

March 18, 2025, 8 AM - 5 PM Pacific | Hybrid



**Tracie Bills**

*Executive Director,  
California Resource Recovery  
Association*

Tracie Onstad Bills has been in the Environmental and Resource Material Management Field for over 28 years, working for a hauler, municipality and the past 20 years with consulting firms. Tracie currently works at HDR Engineering, and is the Executive Director of the California Resource Recycling Association (CRRA).

**Presentation: California Resource Recovery Association Updates!**

The California Resource Recovery Association has been serving the California community in zero waste initiatives and education since 1974. This presentation will provide updates on what CRRA has done this past year and information on the upcoming annual conference in Monterey, California, August 3-6, 2025.



[Connect with Tracie on LinkedIn!](#)



**Freddy Coronado-Barraza**

*President, Northern California  
Recycling Association*

Freddy Coronado-Barraza works for the San Francisco Environment Department where he leads the implementation of the City's zero waste policies across the residential sector and special events. He has a decade of experience working in the field of zero waste, which includes collaborating closely with haulers, consultants, property managers, residents, large refuse generators, event producers, and affordable housing property developers.

Prior to SFE, Freddy worked on projects with Cascadia Consulting, Gigantic Idea Studio, and Recology San Francisco. Elected to the NCRA Board in January 2022, Freddy now sits as President of the Board of Directors. He has been co-chair of the Recycling Update Program Committee since 2023. In 2023, Freddy completed the 545 mile AIDS LifeCycle bike ride from San Francisco to Los Angeles raising funds for the SF Aids Foundation and SFLGBTQ center. A challenge he plans to participate in again this June 2025.



# RECYCLING UPDATE

March 18, 2025, 8 AM - 5 PM Pacific | Hybrid



## Presentation: State of NCRA - President Report

The president of the NCRA Board of Directors will address members on NCRA commitments, key developments, and successes from the West Coast's most beloved recycling association.



[Follow Freddy on LinkedIn!](#)



Peter Daheb founded Pillumina in 2020 with a mission is to eliminate the plastic waste created by the billions of plastic prescription vials discarded in the U.S. every year with a more sustainable and infinitely recyclable aluminum alternative.

Peter is also an advisor to startups focused on launching new products and solutions for environmental sustainability. In addition, he has spent over 25 years providing strategy, operations, and technology consulting services and business development for several globally recognized technology leaders in Silicon Valley.

## Presentation: Revolutionizing Pharmaceutical Packaging

Pillumina is committed to a sustainable future for healthcare with a mission to help the pharmaceutical, vitamin and supplement industries increase recyclability and reduce the plastic waste created by the billions of plastic bottles discarded every year. Our aluminum pill bottles provide a simple 1 to 1 switch from plastic and integrate into the closed-loop lifecycle that makes them infinitely recyclable without ever losing quality.



[Follow Peter on LinkedIn!](#)



# RECYCLING UPDATE

March 18, 2025, 8 AM - 5 PM Pacific | Hybrid



Julian Prince Dash, the creative force behind Holy Stitch!, has dedicated his life to empowering others through fashion and sustainable craftsmanship. With a background in design, education, and curriculum development, Julian has honed his expertise to create programs that blend technical skills with real-world application.

Over the years, Julian has developed educational curriculums for schools, workshops, and community initiatives, earning a reputation as an innovator in the sewing and fashion design space. His unique approach ensures students not only learn the craft of sewing but also develop an entrepreneurial mindset, understanding the deeper value of sustainability, design thinking, and self-expression."

**Presentation:** The importance of community, youth, mentorship, and manufacturing in the birthplace of jeans.

To Sustain and Be Able We Must Sustain Ourselves



[Follow Julian on LinkedIn!](#)



Mat studied environmental science and management at Portland State University, and participated in research surveying salmon, collecting glacial meltwater, modeling groundwater recharge, and evaluating community planted street trees. Mat started with Portland Environmental Services monitoring urban wetland restoration projects, then worked to prioritize tree planting in equity geographies, and finally worked to inspect facilities for stormwater discharge compliance. In 2023, Mat joined San José Integrated Waste Management working to: 1) implement a residential recycling contamination monitoring effort, 2) investigate right-of-way conflicts with waste containers, 3) scope division-wide data management software, and 4) facilitate a solid waste management plan update.



# RECYCLING UPDATE

March 18, 2025, 8 AM - 5 PM Pacific | Hybrid



## Presentation: Enhancing Solid Waste Programs with Geographic Information Systems

With the use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS), the City of San José has improved multiple aspects of the public-private partnerships that are essential for successful municipal solid waste management in a major city. GIS has improved how residents report collection issues, learn collection schedules, and receive locally relevant outreach and education about solid waste management programs like free junk pickup and household hazardous waste collection. In addition, GIS has improved how the City of San José collects, analyzes, and presents spatiotemporal program data like proactive enforcement of container-bike lane conflicts, commercial service level compliance with state regulations, tracking of public litter can maintenance, SB 1383 route reviews, deploying targeted outreach, and residential recycling contamination monitoring.



[Connect with Mathew on LinkedIn!](#)



**Lexie Felix**

Corpsmember Development Manager,  
San Jose Conservation Corps  
+ Charter School

Lexie Felix is the Corpsmember Development Manager at the San Jose Conservation Corps + Charter School, where she leads a team that builds vocational education programs in zero waste and natural resource management. Passionate about encouraging young adults to think critically about zero waste systems, her work focuses on creating opportunities to help them thrive in their careers and communities.

## Presentation: San Jose Conservation Corps & Charter School's Strategy for Zero Waste Education

The Zero Waste Department at the San Jose Conservation Corps + Charter School has developed a Zero Waste Training Program that prepares program participants (corpsmembers) for future careers in zero waste. Through vocational training workshops and hands-on waste management tasks, corpsmembers gain both knowledge and practical skills. In this presentation, we will share our holistic approach to Zero Waste education and workforce development.



[Connect with Lexie on LinkedIn!](#)



# RECYCLING UPDATE

March 18, 2025, 8 AM - 5 PM Pacific | Hybrid



Miriam is the Reuse Program Director at the Story of Stuff Project where she is working to bring reuse to the food service and beverage industries by building citizen activism, partnering with local government, and conducting direct advocacy. In her previous roles as Director of Clean Water Action California, where she launched ReThink Disposable, and policy director at Upstream, Miriam has worked for the past 15 years to launch the reuse movement and feed it new campaigns and policies aimed at ending the throw away culture.

**Presentation: Hamburglaring Reuse: McDonald's Disinformation Campaign about Recycling being better than Reuse and its Threat to Policy Progress in North America**

Against the backdrop of a rising tide of reusable foodware policies in N. America comes the threat of a disinformation and lobbying campaign by McDonald's and its allies in the paper packaging industry. In 2024, this industry "cabal" stopped dead in its tracks a proposed and long-negotiated European packaging regulation that would have required the food service sector to transition to reuse for on-site dining and reuse in takeout in all 27 EU countries. This presentation is aimed to help our community prepare so McDonald's and its fast food and paper packaging allies don't "Hamburglar reuse" in our communities.



[Follow Miriam on LinkedIn!](#)



Bailey had an assortment of jobs in the environmental field before settling into solid waste in 2019. She manages residential programs and outreach for the City of Sunnyvale, and is the Legislative Chair for NCRA.

Gwynn is a solid waste professional who got her start sorting waste at events 20 years ago. She also has a background in politics and community organizing, and enjoys combining her passions to advance better materials management policy.



# RECYCLING UPDATE

March 18, 2025, 8 AM - 5 PM Pacific | Hybrid



## Presentation: NCRA Visits the Capitol

The Legislative Committee presents on successfully leading NCRA's first lobbying day in decades. The speakers will cover NCRA's blossoming role in the legislative process and ways anyone can get involved.



[Follow Bailey on LinkedIn!](#)



Rob Hilton is the President and a partner at HF&H, bringing over 20 years of experience in solid waste consulting with a focus on complex, data-focused projects and stakeholder engagement. He has successfully managed over 580 projects for more than 150 public agencies across the United States, addressing diverse challenges in recycling, organics, and solid waste services. He has been a leading voice in SB 54 implementation, including engaging in the regulatory process and key stakeholder groups, and presenting at local and state-wide events on SB 54.

## Presentation: SB 54: Upstream Solutions, Downstream Impacts

SB 54, the nation's most comprehensive Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) law for single-use packaging and food service ware, is setting the stage for significant changes in the waste world. With regulations finalized, Needs Assessments underway, and producers planning for implementation, this presentation will offer valuable insights into the downstream impacts on cities, counties, and recycling service providers. Join us to understand how you can prepare for and benefit locally from these critical upstream solutions.



[Follow Rob on LinkedIn!](#)



# RECYCLING UPDATE

March 18, 2025, 8 AM - 5 PM Pacific | Hybrid



Emin is the founder of Rubbish, an AI-driven platform transforming waste management and zero waste practices. Invited to speak at Waste Expo, NASA Ames Research Center, and city governments in Brazil, Emin shares insights from deploying new technology solutions across America. With a deep background in science and engineering, he started Rubbish in 2017 to clean up litter on the streets of San Francisco and expanded the company's mission to bring smarter, technology-driven solutions to waste management.

**Presentation: AI-Enabled Waste Management: Advancing Recycling and Zero Waste Initiatives**

Cut through the AI hype. Learn about the biggest challenges in applying AI to waste management, hear success stories of effective implementation, and discover actionable steps you can take today to achieve Zero Waste goals.



[Follow Emin on LinkedIn!](#)



Shira Lane is the CEO and founder of Atrium 916, a Creative Innovation Center for Sustainability in Sacramento, where she pioneers circular economy solutions through art, innovation, and community-driven initiatives. An award-winning documentary filmmaker and policy influencer, she has successfully spearheaded projects such as Upcycle Pop, America's first upcycle market; Sacramento.Shop, a circular economy marketplace; and Citizens of Planet Earth, a PBS series on waste reduction. Shira also chairs the NSAC SB54 Reuse Subcommittee and founded the Circular California Initiative, collaborating with CalRecycle, the SB54 Advisory Board, and industry leaders to advance sustainable reuse infrastructure and policy.



# RECYCLING UPDATE

March 18, 2025, 8 AM - 5 PM Pacific | Hybrid



## Presentation: The Power of Creativity in Sustainable Behavior Change

In this session, Shira Lane will share insights and lessons learned from a series of impactful pilot projects designed to drive environmental sustainability and behavioral change through creativity and community engagement. Learn how local creative economies—often underutilized—can become powerful drivers of sustainable behavior and culture change. How incorporating the creative sector and economy early in the problem-solving process can drastically amplify impact. Shira will provide actionable takeaways with Insights on what worked, what didn't, and strategies for launching similar pilots in attendees own regions.



[Follow Shira on LinkedIn!](#)



Eric is the Director of Public Sector Sales of WM's Northern California and Nevada region. In his current role he oversees WM's Franchise Contracts, Recycling and Organic education, Communications department, and supports WM's local Customer Service Representatives. Eric has worked in the waste industry for over 4 years as well as a storied career in Consumer Package Goods (CPG). Eric holds a BS in Marketing and MBA in Business Administration from California State University, Fresno. He lives in Clayton with his wife Jaime.

## Presentation: Scalability of Future Technologies

Technology in the waste industry is progressing at a rapid pace. Many of these technologies can be utilized in the waste industry to unlock future capabilities to enhance safety, customer experience and productivity. Jessica will present how WM's collection vehicles, recycling facilities, and landfills are utilizing some new and emerging technologies at a scale that can help jurisdictions achieve their sustainability goals.



[Follow Eric on LinkedIn!](#)



# RECYCLING UPDATE

March 18, 2025, 8 AM - 5 PM Pacific | Hybrid



With over 25 years of leadership in solid waste and resource management, Leslie Lukacs is a recognized expert in advancing zero waste initiatives and sustainable materials management. As the Executive Director of Zero Waste Sonoma (formerly the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency), Leslie oversees comprehensive programs in household hazardous waste, recycling, organics, and zero waste across 10 jurisdictions in Sonoma County.

Prior to this role, Leslie served for 13 years as the Director of Zero Waste at SCS Engineers, a leading consulting firm specializing in solid waste, recycling, and organics management. She also founded and operated her own zero waste consulting business for seven years, further cementing her reputation as a pioneer in waste reduction strategies and circular economy practices. Leslie serves as Past President of the National Recycling Coalition NRC and as Vice President of Californians Against Waste.



**Leslie Lukacs**

*Executive Director,  
Zero Waste Sonoma*

## Presentation: Petaluma Reusable Cup Pilot

Petaluma's purple cup program was part groundbreaking 3-month experiment where consumers only choice was a reusable cup to go. Information will be shared on the results, challenges and successes of changing behavior to reusable.



[Follow Leslie on LinkedIn!](#)



**Tiffany Mar & Lois Tanglao**

*Zero Waste Coalition Co-Chairs,  
UC Berkeley Student Environmental  
Resource Center*

Tiffany is a senior at UC Berkeley studying Environmental Studies and Data Science. She is interested in exploring how community-driven solutions can solve pressing sustainability challenges. In the future, she would like to pursue a career at the intersection of technology and the environment, where she can advocate for both people and the planet.

Lois (she/her), born and raised in the Philippines, is a junior studying Environmental Economics and Policy and Data Science at UC Berkeley. She is interested in pursuing research on climate adaptation and food security in developing countries and plans to pursue a career in environmental consulting or policy.



# RECYCLING UPDATE

March 18, 2025, 8 AM - 5 PM Pacific | Hybrid



## Presentation: Cooperative Reuse: Student-led Furniture Exchange

Cooperative Reuse or “Cal Move Out” brings together the resources of the university, the city, in an effort to decrease the environmental and social impacts of illegal dumping in near-campus neighborhoods at the end of the school year. Cooperative Reuse is an annual student-led furniture exchange program first started by Berkeley Student Cooperative in 2018. Since then, we have partnered with the City of Berkeley, on-campus organizations, and businesses including Chipman Relocation and Logistics, Goodwill and Gig Car Share to expand the program and accept more items than ever before.



[Follow Tiffany on LinkedIn!](#)



[Follow Lois on LinkedIn!](#)



Anya Obrez provides technical and advocacy support to the NRDC Food Waste team and the Food Matters initiative, through which NRDC partners with cities to achieve meaningful reductions in food waste with comprehensive policies and programs.

## Presentation: Don't Reinvent the Wheel: Municipal Model Policies on Food Waste Reduction

This presentation will provide an overview of NRDC's model municipal policy resources, developed in collaboration with the Environmental Law Institute, designed to provide easily adaptable templates and tools that can be used by municipalities and advocates interested in implementing food waste reduction policy. Our suite of model policies includes a compost procurement policy, a mandatory reporting ordinance for large food waste generators, an executive order on leading by example on food waste reduction, a model ordinance establishing a pay-as-you-throw program for residential municipal solid waste, and a model municipal zoning ordinance on community composting.



[Follow Anya on LinkedIn!](#)



# RECYCLING UPDATE

March 18, 2025, 8 AM - 5 PM Pacific | Hybrid



Featured Speaker:



**Gaby Olson**

Business Development – Sales & Sourcing, Redwood Materials

Gaby Olson has been working in metals recycling for the past 14 years. Her experience in non-ferrous and ferrous processing has brought an invaluable background to lithium battery recycling at Redwood Materials.

**Presentation: Lithium Battery Recycling**

This presentation is a high-level overview of Redwood Materials campus in McCarren, Nevada. The battery recycling process, factories, and products Redwood Materials produces today.



[Follow Gaby on LinkedIn!](#)

Featured Speaker:



**Erica Parker**

Policy Associate,  
Californians Against Waste

Erica is a Policy Associate at Californians Against Waste, where she focuses on organics recycling, food waste, landfills, and climate change. She is pursuing her graduate degree in Environmental Policy and Management at UC Davis, specializing in sustainable food systems and agriculture. Erica is dedicated to advancing policies that reduce waste and promote environmental sustainability in California.

**Presentation: Advancing Food Waste Solutions in California: AB 660 and Beyond**

This presentation will delve into California's efforts to reduce food waste through groundbreaking legislation. Attendees will gain insights into AB 660, the state's new food date labeling law, and its potential to reduce unnecessary food waste. Additionally, the presentation will examine SB 1383's edible food recovery requirements, highlighting key lessons from Tier 1 and Tier 2 generator implementation and future strategies for scaling food waste reduction statewide.



[Follow Erica on LinkedIn!](#)



# RECYCLING UPDATE

March 18, 2025, 8 AM - 5 PM Pacific | Hybrid



Amanda is an Associate at Cascadia Consulting Group, where she leverages nearly 10 years of experience in data analysis to empower municipalities and businesses on their evolution toward zero waste. She has had the privilege of working on waste characterization studies with jurisdictions throughout California, supporting litter assessments up and down the West Coast, and developing waste reduction initiatives for companies nationwide.

**Presentation: The Most Unwanted List: Cross-study Comparison of Contamination in Outbound Recycling**

Shifts in recycling policy, end-market demand, and consumer behavior contribute to prevalent “problem” materials in outbound commodity bales. Using data from three Cascadia-led statewide recycling studies (California, Oregon, and Washington), this presentation will highlight bale contamination findings and discuss potential upstream solutions and downstream impacts, both for current processors and emerging end markets driven by EPR legislation.



[Follow Amanda on LinkedIn!](#)



Kelly is a Senior Program Manager at StopWaste working on everything related to composting and compost use, including on-site composting, education and technical assistance on compost use and compliance with procurement requirements, as well as policy and advocacy. She also serves as the property manager for the agency's rangeland property, where she oversees the carbon farming work there and will talk about it with little to no prompting. She is a licensed landscape architect with a degree in ecology, a graduate of the USCC's Compost Operations Training Course, and a member of the CORC executive committee.



# RECYCLING UPDATE

March 18, 2025, 8 AM - 5 PM Pacific | Hybrid



Jennifer West is the legislative lead for StopWaste, a public agency reducing pollution and waste in Alameda County in CA. Jennifer served as Mayor and City Councilmember in Emeryville, CA, and embraced regional efforts to increase housing, transform transportation and reduce energy use. She was a public-school teacher from 1995 to 2008.;

**Presentation: SB 1383 Procurement Targets to Support Compost Market Development**

SB 1383 procurement targets have encouraged all California jurisdictions to get real about compost and mulch. AB 2346 adapts those targets from a “one-size-fits-all” format to something more supportive of local governments trying to do the right thing. Jennifer will explain how changes are rolling out in Alameda County, and how your jurisdiction might also make some changes.



[Follow Jennifer on LinkedIn!](#)



[Follow Kelly on LinkedIn!](#)



Garth Schultz is the President of R3 and has 20+ years of solid waste management experience in both the public and private sectors. He is an expert in solid waste and recycling public administration including operations, finances, policy, community outreach, sustainable materials management programs, achievement of local, regional and statewide objectives, and engagement with elected officials. His values are strongly rooted in the ethics of public service, and he is deeply committed to advancing community, environment, and climate change mitigation and adaptation interests.

**Presentation: Solid Waste Utility Rates and Fees - Risks, Pitfalls, and Opportunities**

Recent utility rate legal challenges are making it harder to fund solid waste programs, services and costs. Learn about the new risks to solid waste rates and fees, how to avoid major pitfalls, and what kinds of opportunities there are to protect important funding sources.



[Follow Garth on LinkedIn!](#)



# RECYCLING UPDATE

March 18, 2025, 8 AM - 5 PM Pacific | Hybrid



**Ravyn Williams, PA-C**

*Electrophysiology Physician Assistant &  
Founder, Taki2Go*

Ravyn Williams, a seasoned cardiovascular practitioner and founder of an innovative climate tech startup, is dedicated to tackling the harmful health and environmental impacts of plastics like PFAs and black plastics. Inspired by losing her mother to cancer linked to toxic pollution, Ravyn has witnessed firsthand the devastating effects of environmental exposures. She combines her medical expertise with her passion for sustainability to inspire action toward a healthier, waste-free future.

## **Presentation: Hidden Threats: How PFAS and Plastics Impact Our Health and Environment**

This presentation will explore the hidden health risks associated with PFAS, commonly known as "forever chemicals," black plastics and their pervasive presence in our environment. Highlighting their impact on human health, particularly cardiovascular risks, the session will aim to bridge the gap between medical insight and the urgent need for sustainable change. Attendees will leave with a deeper understanding of how reducing plastic pollution is critical for both personal and environmental health.



[Follow Ravyn on LinkedIn!](#)



# RECYCLING UPDATE

March 18, 2025, 8 AM - 5:00 PM Pacific | Hybrid  
Oakland Scottish Rite Center,  
1547 Lakeside Dr, Oakland, CA 94612



## Thank You 2025 Speakers & Sponsors

*It is not without you this event would be possible!*

### PLATINUM



### GOLD



### SILVER



### BRONZE

