



July 2022 – Newsletter



The Florida Recycling Partnership Foundation participated in this year's Recycle Florida Today Conference held last month in Bonita Springs. It was a great opportunity for the Foundation to share two of the studies it commissioned during the session called "Contamination: Environmental and Economic Impacts."

Dr. Malak Anshassi, Florida Polytech University, presented on the study ***"Understanding MRF Contamination Rates in Florida and Alternative Recycling Approaches."***

As the FRP Foundation spoke with policy makers, business leaders and the public about recycling, we learned that no one really knew what the contamination rate in Florida was. The Foundation commissioned the University of Florida to research the issue and found the average rate is 25%.

Dr. Anshassi also gave a preview of the soon to be released study on ***"Investigating the Economics of Current and Future Recycling Programs in Florida."*** The study examined the current economics of recycling and approaches to the state's recycling challenges..

We are looking forward to sharing the final study soon.

DEP Released 2021 Solid Waste Management Annual Report

The Florida Legislature, through the Energy, Climate Change and Economic Security Act of 2008, established a statewide weight-based recycling goal of 75% by 2020.

The act directed the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to establish a reporting protocol and directed counties to report annually. The Legislature also established interim recycling goals: 40% by 2012; 50% by 2014; 60% by 2016; and 70% by 2018.

Florida achieved the interim goals established for 2012 and 2014; however, Florida did not meet the 2016 interim goal of 60% and the recycling rate has continued to decline since that time. Florida's 2018 recycling rate was 49%, falling short of the 2018 interim recycling goal of 70%. Based on the department's evaluation of available data, the drop can largely be attributed to a reduction in the

reported amount of construction and demolition (C&D) debris recycled in 2018. In 2018, four counties achieved a 70% rate. Since 2012, the department has recognized over 40 businesses and other organizations that have met or exceeded established interim recycling goals during that period.

The challenge is for the recycling efforts of counties, businesses, and governmental agencies to match or exceed those that are leading the way. Each of us can contribute by continuing to recycle as much as possible at or away from home. Contact your [county recycling coordinators](#) to see how you, your family, your business and your organization can help.

<https://floridadep.gov/waste/waste-reduction/content/2021-solid-waste-management-annual-report>

Florida Department of Environmental Protection Names Lee County Best Recycler in State

Lee County Solid Waste has been named Florida’s top recycling county by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. The amount of material Lee County residents recycled in 2021 would be enough to fill 168 football fields with material 70 feet high – as high as the highest point on the Sanibel Causeway. Lee County received credit for recycling 1.6 million tons of the total 2.61 million tons of waste generated locally ...

[Read More>](#)

Food Waste ...

There is a new pilot program in Indian River County called the Community Fridge Program. Simply put, it is a refrigerator placed within the community used to share food at the neighborhood level. The motto is “Take what you need, Leave what you can”. The purpose of the program is to reduce food waste, build stronger communities, encourage local artists and promote equal access to healthy food. The Community Fridge is a place where anyone can come and pick up fresh food at any time, without judgment. The Community Fridge concept works both ways: one way refers to the people the fridge

supports and the other to those people who ensure the fridge is full.



In the United States, it is estimated that 40% of the food supply goes uneaten and wasted. Food waste makes up the largest percentage of waste put into municipal landfills. Of greater concern, one in four children are estimated to be food insecure. As a result, community fridges are popping up all over the place. Locations include neighboring counties like Miami-Dade, other states like

Illinois and New York, and many other countries including the UK, India, and Canada.

The Fellsmere community will host the first active fridge in Indian River County called The Fellsmere Fridge. It will be located next to City Hall at 21 S Cypress Street. The Fellsmere Fridge has been a community effort with collaboration from The City of Fellsmere, Indian River County, The Sunrise Rotary, The Haller/Loja family, Cutting Edge Signs, United Against Poverty, The Treasure Coast Food Bank, The Boys and Girls Club of Fellsmere, Indian River Charter High School Interact Club students, Heather Kramer/Luz De La Hoz and the first-grade students of Fellsmere Elementary.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C0tH-iXb48A>

Upcoming Events ...



**Tampa Bay Regional Sustainability and Recycling Summit
Presented by Florida Recycling Partnership Foundation
Hosted by Tampa International Airport**

Tampa Bay is a leader in sustainability initiatives in Florida. Join us to learn more about recycling and sustainability goals and how you can implement benchmarks at your organizations.

Speakers include:

Eric Caplan, Sustainability and Resilience Program Director for the Tampa International Airport

Shelby Lewis, City of Tampa Recycling Coordinator

Travis Barnes, Manager of Sustainable Materials Management – Hillsborough County Solid Waste Management Department

Christine (Angel) Danger M. Ed NBCT, USF Sustainability Superheroes Program

Lunch will be provided.

Date: Friday, August 19th

Location: Sky Center One – 5411 Skycenter Drive, Tampa 33607

Time: 9:00 am – 1:30 pm

Cost: \$50 per person- limited number of spots, so register now

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/tampa-bay-regional-sustainability-and-recycling-summit-tickets-368577413967>

Sponsored by:



Florida Recyclers Association
Representing the Private Recycling Industry



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Member News ...



Donn Githens Becomes New CEO, President of Goodwill Manasota July 1

We want to congratulate Donn Githens on his promotion! Donn serves as the Secretary of the Florida Recycling Partnership Foundation.

<https://www.businessobserverfl.com/article/goodwill-manasota-ceo-president-officially-steps-into-role-july-1>

Happy Anniversary Wawa!

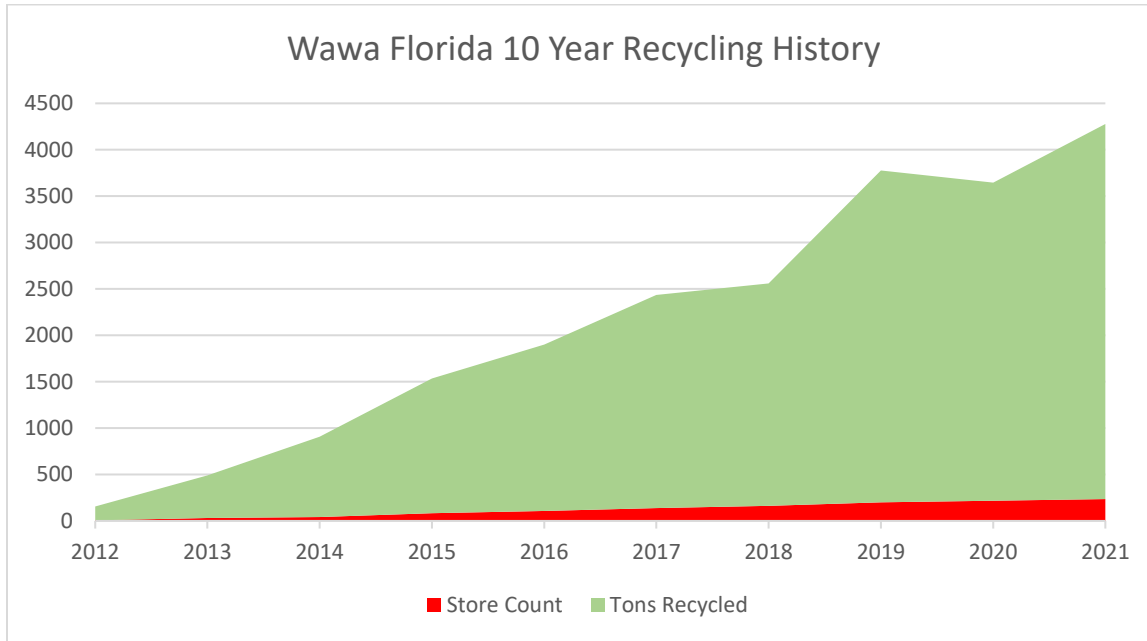
In 2012, Wawa opened its first Florida store with the goal of providing a whole new world of quality and convenience for Floridians. Since then, the company has been fulfilling lives, every day, all throughout the Sunshine State. Wawa will continue to expand in Florida for years to come and will open its 250th store in the Sunshine State this fall and will employ more than 10,000 associates by year end. Wawa will continue to invest in Florida, opening more than 100 new stores over the next five years, including reaching new markets in the Panhandle region of Florida.



Additionally, as part of Wawa's commitment to Florida and in honor of its 10th anniversary, The Wawa Foundation, the 501(c)(3) non-profit founded to support Wawa's charitable giving and philanthropic activities, is thrilled to announce the launch of the Florida 10th Anniversary Fund. The Fund will feature a total of \$100,000 in donations to be spread across 1,000 local nonprofits in areas surrounding health, hunger, and everyday heroes. Grant amounts will vary between \$1,000-\$2,500. Eligible nonprofits are invited to apply at thewawafoundation.org by August 31st.

Since 2012, Wawa and the Wawa Foundation have provided more than \$10 million in community support across the state of Florida, and the Florida 10th Anniversary Fund is set to increase that even further as Wawa continues its expansion into the Sunshine State!

Also, Wawa has a commitment to recycling! Look at how much they have recycled since locating in Florida.



Coca-Cola Beverages Florida Breaks Ground on New \$250 million, 800,000 square foot Tampa Facility



<https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20220621005711/en/>

Congratulations ...



FRP Foundation Executive Director, Keyna Cory, has been selected as Chair-Elect for the Florida Society of Association Executives (FSAE). Keyna has served on the Board for the past few years, Chairs the Governmental Affairs Committee and is a past Chair of the FSAE Foundation as well as the recipient of the Associate of the Year Award in 2001.

Foundation Coordinator, Erin Ballas, was elected to the FSAE Board.

With over 900 members state-wide, FSAE fosters collaboration through networking and educational events, online communities and resources that provide professional development for all positions and career-stages.

Be safe, stay healthy and keep recycling!

Keyna Cory

Florida Recycling Partnership Foundation

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