



March 2023 – Newsletter

Florida Recycling Award Winners Webinar

The Florida Recycling Partnership Foundation hosted a free webinar last month for its 2022 Recycling Award Winners to showcase their innovative and successful programs.

The 2022 Recycling Champion Award winners, announced during Florida Recycles Week in November by Florida Recycling Partnership Foundation Chair Elizabeth DeWitt, are **Publix Super Markets; Brightmark; Anheuser-Busch; Tampa International Airport; National Stormwater Trust; NuCycle Energy and Exploria Stadium - Orlando.**

Nominations were judged by the Sustainable Business Club in the Department of Economics of the Miami Herbert Business School at the University of Miami in Coral Gables.

Representatives from each organization presented their award-winning programs during the webinar.

To view the webinar, go to www.flrecycling.org

Florida Recycling Partnership Foundation Board ...

The Florida Recycling Partnership Foundation Board of Directors met last month at the FPL Corporate Recycling and Services Facility. The board meets twice a year to discuss priorities and plans for upcoming events. We have two new events scheduled for 2023. In June we will host an event at Publix Super Markets Return Center and Dairy Facility. A second Fall event at Panthers Stadium will feature the site's recycling and sustainability programs.

Another Board initiative is to hold networking events at our members' facilities to discuss successes and challenges to recycling. These networking events will be for FRP Foundation Members and contributors only. Stay tuned for more information.

Thank you to our Board Members:

Liz DeWitt – Florida Beverage Association - Chair
Karl Berven – Bealls – Chair Elect
Donn Githens – Goodwill Manasota – Secretary
JP Toner – IBWA – Treasurer

Erin Black – Coca-Cola Beverages Florida
Lisa Gilliard – Publix Super Markets
Billi Jo Huddleston – FPL
Steve Lezman – PepsiCo

Dawn McCormick - WM
Mike Rubin – FL Ports Council
Derieth Sutton – Niagara Bottling
Andrew Williams – MARPAN



Hillsborough County and Goodwill Partner to Divert Waste with New Donation Program

For the first time, Hillsborough County Solid Waste Management has partnered with Goodwill Suncoast (Goodwill) to make donating easy by accepting items that can be saved from disposal and repurposed. Through the Donation & Waste Diversion Program (DWDP), residents can drop off their trash and donations in one location. The new DWDP takes place at one of Hillsborough County's five Community Collection Centers (CCC), the [South County Solid Waste Facility](#). The CCCs are disposal sites Hillsborough County manages where residential solid waste customers can dispose and recycle items that are not collected curbside. Upon arrival to the CCC, residents are informed which items can be accepted for donation, recycling, or disposal.

The idea for this program began when Solid Waste staff noticed quality items being trashed by residents at the County's CCCs and reusable goods were unnecessarily making their way to the landfill. Discussions took place with Goodwill which led to a partnership that helps residents save time while making a positive social and environmental impact.

The DWDP, launched in September 2022, has served as a win-win for both organizations. Diverting these items for donation saves precious landfill airspace, relieves capacity constraints on the waste-to-energy facility, saves natural resources, and helps reduce emissions. The donated items are reused and aid people in need too. Goodwill invests between 85-90% of its operating budget towards its mission services annually.

Already, over 468 donors have donated more than 7,724 items to Goodwill at the South County CCC, diverting more than 17,540 pounds of material from disposal.

Acceptable donations include clothing, shoes, accessories, home décor items, kitchen wares, tools, toys, small furniture items, and electronics. Goodwill provides tax deduction receipts on site after each donation. The DWDP does not accept mattresses, televisions, computer monitors, appliances, large furniture, or any broken or damaged items deemed not saleable. Conveniently, the South County CCC accepts for free disposal [all these items and more](#) from Hillsborough County solid waste customers.

The DWDP operates during the same hours as the South County CCC: 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday – Saturday. To donate or dispose of items, Hillsborough County residents must be a residential solid waste customer.

Before this program, donors unintentionally brought trash to Goodwill and residents brought reusable goods for disposal to Hillsborough County. With the success of the DWDP, Hillsborough County and Goodwill Suncoast hope to expand the program to other County CCCs and be a model for other municipalities. More information can be found online at [HCFLGov.net/Recycling](https://www.hcflgov.net/Recycling).

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UF Study “Investigating the Economics of Current and Future Recycling Programs in Florida” presented at SWANA Winter Conference

FRPF Executive Director, Keyna Cory, gave a presentation about the University of Florida study during the SWANA (Solid Waste Association of North America) Conference in Orlando. The study, commissioned by the Florida Recycling Partnership Foundation, has generated media stories in national trade publications and local media outlets.

A copy of the study can be found on our website - <https://flrecycling.org/studies-reports/>

Be safe, stay healthy and keep recycling!

Keyna Cory

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