

SEPTEMBER 2021

# RECYCLERS NEWS



Bringing the Recycling Industry Together in Georgia



## overview

Dear Members and Non-Members:

I hope you, your family, friends, and co-workers are all doing well and have enjoyed the reopening of our economy after the COVID pandemic. The tailings of the pandemic have caused supply chain disruptions and inefficiencies and the federal government printing dollars like there is no tomorrow has resulted in ever-increasing prices for commodities prices, which have resulted in record volumes being recycled. The federal government's bonus incentives to the unemployed have further promulgated the labor shortage, as many are finding they can "make" more money by sitting on the couch rather than going to work. Hopefully, that practice will be ending soon, as our economy needs workers. As we move into the second half of 2021, we are hoping for continued good markets and economic conditions, so that we can continue growing and solving some of the problems facing our industry and communities.

In 2021, the Association continues to prove its' strong value to our members. Please know that our team continues to work diligently to provide you with the highest level of legislative, organizational, and member support possible.

We ask that you respond promptly and encourage you to invite new members to join as well. The GRA benefit of receiving regular legislative updates and other communication will only be available to current paid members. If you are a prospective member, we have provided you with this newsletter and complimentary emails and events in hopes that you will join the association. Please join now so you can receive these critical updates, and enjoy the full benefits of GRA membership as well. Please feel free to contact me or anyone on our team with questions or suggestions.

### JOIN NOW:

- Year-round advocacy representation before the General Assembly, state agencies, law enforcement, etc.
- Weekly legislative report during the session
- Quarterly newsletters
- Networking opportunities at GRA hosted events
- Education opportunities to help grow your business

Thank you for your continued support of the Georgia Recyclers Association. Please feel free to contact me, if I ever may be of assistance.

Best regards,

**Bobby**

Bobby Triesch  
Georgia Recyclers Association, President

- Letter from the President
- GRA Annual Event
- ISRI Event
- Advocacy for Our Members
- Fire Prevention
- Staying Connected
- Growing the GRA
- Members Corner

Like Us on Facebook





## 12TH ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING

NOVEMBER 10  
TOP GOLF MID TOWN

SAVE  
THE  
DATE

We are aware that many of you are currently involved in your respective areas of Georgia – working with law enforcement, prosecutors, legislators and others to communicate and address the issue of metal theft. We are grateful for this help and hope that it will continue. We do feel that it is critical that we, as a unified industry, become better organized to address these issues and to better educate ourselves and others in Georgia about metal theft and other important issues to our industry. Please help us spread the word about our association, and encourage your fellow recycler to become involved and join as well.

**For us to remain successful in our efforts, it is important that we are able to stay in touch with all Georgia recyclers – large and small.**

# Join Now

**Pay for 12 months and get up to 4 additional months FREE**

- Year-round advocacy representation
- Weekly legislative report during the session
- Quarterly newsletters
- Networking opportunities at GRA hosted events
- Education opportunities to help grow your business
- Annual Meeting and Networking Event



**Join Now and Receive GRA Membership Benefits for 2022 and the remainder of 2021.**

<https://gra.wildapricot.org/join-us>

# ISRI COMMODITY ROUNDTABLES FORUM IS BACK AND IN PERSON

**This annual event is one of the most widely anticipated on the ISRI calendar.**

Brokers, traders, buyers, and sellers of recyclable commodities gather each year in Chicago to take part in discussions that provide the latest information on commodities markets and the state of global and domestic trade.

*This is a primetime networking event.*

Programs are scheduled to provide more opportunities to meet with clients and suppliers and to hear from expert market analysts from around the world. Whether it's ferrous, copper, nickel/stainless, or aluminum, ISRI Commodity Roundtables Forum gives attendees the information they need to help chart out their business strategies for the year.

**2021 ISRI Commodity Roundtables  
Forum - Back in Person  
September 22 - 24, 2021  
Chicago**

**Register Today**



**Protect**

## **ADVOCACY FOR OUR MEMBERS**

The Georgia Recyclers Association works hard every day during the 40-day legislative session and throughout the year to protect the recycling industry that has a \$2.46 Billion annual economic impact in Georgia.

Every biennial there are thousands of bills introduced in the Georgia House and Senate and hundreds of rules adopted by the state agencies. The GRA team monitors those bills and agency rules to make sure that recyclers are protected from burdensome regulations, higher taxes, etc.

We work closely with Members of the General Assembly, the Governor's office, state agencies, law enforcement, key stakeholders such as the power and telecom companies, chambers of commerce, and others to advocate for GRA's issues and serve as the voice of the industry at the State Capitol.

Protecting our industry from bad legislation and regulation is a permanent task – even in years that are quiet. It is important to note – the fact that it is “quiet” means that our voice is being heard and that our hard work is paying off. Your support is key to the continued success of the GRA.



# FIRE PREVENTION REQUIRES A TEAM EFFORT

By: Kenn Kunze

Since 2015, my company, IC Fire Prevention LLC, has worked with the recycling industry to assess fire risk and provide site visits and recommendations to clients. Any fire can turn into a big fire. It's usually due to a sequence of events, such as a lack of preparation, poor strategy, and a crew that failed to stay together. Little things can add up to cause a big problem but focusing on the details can help avoid those big problems. Focusing on every aspect of fire prevention helps create a safe work environment.

We recommend creating an effective fire prevention and management plan to foster a safe work environment, similar to ISRI's Fire Prevention & Management Plan. Such a plan serves as a guide rather than a standard, and includes three sections: fire prevention, fire response, and crisis management. Fire prevention includes steps to create a plan, how to make it effective, and best practices. Fire response describes emergency action plans and OSHA regulations that serve as a guide to safely responding to a fire. The crisis management section outlines how to deal with authorities and how to notify insurance companies and agencies like OSHA and the EPA.

The fire prevention plan should be brief, only including the required information to make it effective. The plan should be about the specific site rather than a guide for an entire corporation. The fire prevention training should come from the plan. Supervisors would receive additional training based on their specific areas. To make sure the plan is effective, I recommend conducting a monthly audit. Developing good training and a good audit will allow a facility to keep its fire prevention plan on the shelf all year.

The emergency action plan should outline how to respond to a fire and what to do as the situation progresses. The plan should serve as a guide for training. No one should be running to the shelf to get the emergency action plan when there's a fire. Everyone should already know their role in a fire situation. If you're a facility with large quantities of combustible materials, you should review and plan for pile management. Decide how much material is necessary for the job even if that means ignoring the market's recommendations. Plan ahead where and how to store the materials so the pile doesn't grow too large and spread to valuable equipment or buildings.

Good fire prevention requires employee engagement. Their hands are right where a hazard might be created, and they're mostly likely affected by an emergency. Supervisors should make sure employees understand their role in fire prevention, as those at the corporate or supervisor level can't control all the risks without employee assistance.

Everyone has a role in fire safety, but it's important to understand who bears the main responsibility. So, figure out who will serve as the leader, similar to a ship's captain. If you have anyone who answers to you, then you're the captain. You're responsible for the outcomes, so be a good captain.

*This article was written by Kenn Kunze, president of IC Fire Prevention. Kunze also serves as a consultant to ISRI on issues related to fire safety and prevention.*



## **DID YOU KNOW?**

Recycled materials such as metal, plastics, rubber, and paper are used in manufacturing across the United States. The industries that benefit from Georgia recyclers are healthcare, electronics, and transportation to name a few. Recycling in Georgia is a critical component of the manufacturing supply chain. It plays an important role in the nation's economic stability as well as protecting the environment.



## **Stay Connected!**

Last year, the GRA transitioned to a new association software to better serve the membership. The software allows each company's primary contact to customize the information posted on the directory and include other employees to receive communications from the association.

**Log in to your account and confirm your profile information.**

**Bring a New Member to the GRA**  
Receive a WalMart Gift Card valued  
at 10% of the new member's dues.

**HELP  
THE  
GRA  
GROW**



**VALUED AT  
\$100 - \$1,100**

Refer a new member

The new member signs up and pays for 2022.

You will receive a WalMart Gift Card  
valued at 10% of the new member's dues.

*It's Easy*

2022 Membership Information  
for new members and renewals  
will be emailed . . .

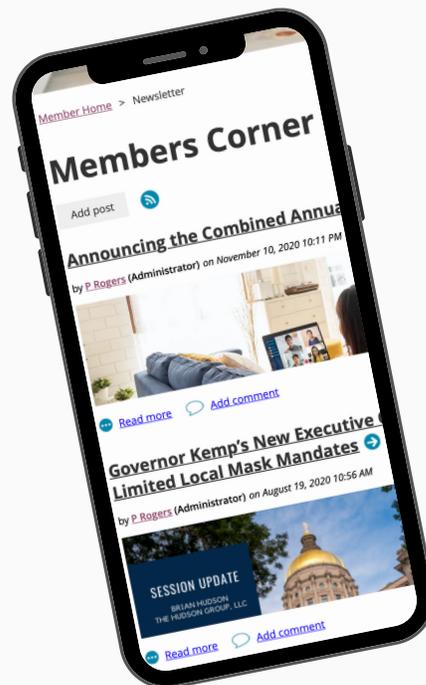
December 1, 2021.

**RENEW**

Log in and view your invoice:

[Georgia Recyclers Association  
Management Page](#)

**Check Out the  
Members Page for  
Updates and Resources**



- Members Corner
- Events
- Directory
- Newsletters
- Document Library
- Contact Info



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## Georgia Recyclers Association

5665 GEORGIA HWY 9

SUITE 102-B # 346

Alpharetta GA 30004



Do you and your accounting department have our correct address on file?  
We changed our mail box location last year and have closed down the old mailing address. **We don't want your checks to get lost in the mail.**

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*Voice of the Recycling Industry™*

## What you need to know

The Georgia Recyclers Association receives a generous allocation each year from the Southeast Chapter of ISRI towards our government affairs representation expense.

The GRA is very grateful for this support as well as the support of ISRI staff. If you are not an ISRI member, we hope that you will consider a membership.

For more information on the benefits of ISRI membership, please visit:

[ISRI Membership](#)

[ISRI Membership Southeast Chapter](#)

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# GRA Board

Bobby Triesch, President  
SA Recycling

Jeff Cammlarie, Vice President  
Amerigo Metal Recycling

Rick Gates, Secretary/Treasurer  
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Chip Koplín, Immediate Past President  
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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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[GRA Members Page](#)

[garecyclers.org](http://garecyclers.org)

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