

For Release, Thursday, August 23, 2018

August 13, 2018, Pat Flood, Director of the Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation's Division of Solid Waste Management, delivered an address about the importance of recycling leadership at the Annual Recycler of the Year reception held by Tennessee Recycling Coalition (TRC). Each year TRC honors the most dedicated and successful individuals and organizations working to advance recycling in our State. The reception is a highlight of two days of learning and networking organized by the Tennessee Recycling Coalition that was held at the Franklin Cool Springs Marriott Hotel.

Ceco Door Products – 2018 Business Recycler of the Year

By recently placing a large emphasis on the reduction of hazardous waste, Ceco Door has been able to reduce their hazard waste generation per part produced by 78%. This was achieved by replacing their previous primer paint, which contained heavy metals, with a new product that contains no heavy metal. Ceco Door also negotiated with their vendor to reduce their minimum order quantity for their finish coat products. This reduced the amount of hazardous waste generated through that waste stream alone by 60%.

Mark Braswell, TRC President

Dan Glover, CECO Door Products

David Dewberry, CECO Door Products

Trent Turner, CECO Door Products

Amber Greene, TRC Secretary



Cordell Hull – 2018 Government Recycler of the Year

Through the Cordell Hull State Office Building renovation, the State of Tennessee Real Estate Asset Management (STREAM) Division of the Department of General Services was able to work with the General Assembly and the Tennessee Comptroller of the Treasury's office to restore the historic but endangered building. For the project, the construction team tracked waste diversion from landfills at 94%. This figure includes more than 10,000 recycled tons of metals, wood, concrete and masonry, drywall, carpet, cardboard, ceiling tiles, and plastics. The renovated building also has three areas of green roof, which included the planting of the state wildflower: the Tennessee purple coneflower.

Mark Braswell, TRC President

John Yunker, Skanska USA

Dennis Georgatos, Skanska USA

Tiffany King, Skanska USA

Stephanie Batewell, Skanska USA

Amber Greene, TRC Secretary



Warren County – 2018 Non-Profit Recycler of the Year

Intrigued by the idea of TN Marketplace, Michael Mallner and Don Alexander jointly organized a county-level forum, hosted by the McMinnville Chamber of Commerce, where area businesses could find outlets for discarded material streams and equipment. The goal for these “Discard Discussions,” is to facilitate local recycling for materials that would otherwise be cost-prohibitive due to shipping expenses or lower volumes. The Discard Discussion project is unique from other waste-disposal efforts in that it facilitates individual small-scale exchanges of unwanted materials between neighboring organizations. This model that project members created can easily be reproduced in other communities.

Mark Braswell, TRC President

**Jonathan Hall, Southern Central
Recycling**

Michael Mallner, Bridgestone

**Don Alexander, McMinnville-Warren
County Industrial Development
Board**

Sheri Denning, Newell Industries

Amber Greene, TRC Secretary



Freedom Intermediate – 2018 K-12 Education Recycler of the Year

Recycling is the main focus of Freedom Intermediate’s sustainability program. With the classroom participation in the recycling growing so large, a “Green Team” was formed to manage the collection of recyclable materials. Freedom Intermediate averages 15,000 lbs of recyclables per year. Students collected plastic bags and 10,000 plastic bottle tops for art installations located in the school lobby. They also installed a bottle filling station, diverting 16,000 plastic bottles from landfills in just two years. These are only a few examples of how students and teachers at Freedom Intermediate go above and beyond to protect the environment.

Mark Braswell, TRC President

Barbara Orr

Madison Land

Cynthia Moulthrop

Amber Greene, TRC Secretary



UT Institute of Agriculture/Aries Clean Energy – 2018 Video Recycler of the Year

The Recycling Video Award is presented annually to the most innovative or clear case presentation for sustainability in recycling. UT Institute of Agriculture and Aries Clean Energy’s video, “Biochar – A futuristic look at recycling with the Lebanon waste-to-energy plant,” showcased the Lebanon/ Wilson County facility that turns wood chips, tire, and bio solids into fuel and biochar. The fuel is used to power Lebanon’s Waste Water Treatment Plant and the Bio-Char is used in industry and agriculture. Biochar is a carbon rich material that improves soil. Crops with biochar are presently performing almost twice as well as crops without biochar. The process of making Bio-Char also diverted 8,000 tons from landfills. This video can be viewed at <https://ariescleanenergy.com/video-biochar-futuristic-look-recycling-lebanon-waste-energy-plant/>

Mark Braswell, TRC President

Nancy Cooper, Aries Clean Energy

Amber Greene, TRC Secretary

**{ Charles M. Denney –
Videographer (not pictured)**

**UTIA Marketing and
Communications}**



Danny Benard – 2018 Tom Hattle Memorial Award

The Tom Hattle Memorial Award honors a community leader for advancing recycling through dedication and service. After 35 years of experience in manufacturing, Danny Benard started the recycling program at Chester County Solid Waste Department in Henderson, TN. Since 2004, Danny has recycled over 70,000 tons from small, rural Chester County. In 2011, Danny started the first West TN Regional Recycling Hub pilot project with two counties and the Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation. Now the Hub has grown to have 8 spokes. The Hub has recycled over 18,000 tons from Chester County and surrounding spokes. Danny also engineered the plans and built machinery for the Hub; such as the 80 ft sort line and bag shredder. Danny was one of the first certified Solid Waste professionals through SWANA, a Certified Public Administrator through the County Technical Assistance Program and has spoken at many conferences throughout the years.

Mark Braswell, TRC President

Danny Bernard, Chester County Solid Waste

Amber Greene, TRC Secretary

