35th Emerald Anniversary

2015 ANNUAL REPORT





Northeast Resource Recovery Association

Since 1981 & First in the Nation











Members Helping Members

¬hirty-five years ago, four New Hampshire municipalities joined forces to form the first-in-the-nation municipal recycling cooperative. The goals of NRRA were to pool recyclable commodities in order to maximize pricing, provide educational and networking opportunities to members and to help communities stay on the cutting edge of the latest recycling trends. Having far surpassed those goals, NRRA now serves more than 400 municipal and business members throughout greater New England. Unlike traditional brokers, NRRA does not charge a costly brokerage fee to members to market their recyclables but rather a minimum NRRA fee is collected to reinvest into recycling and solid waste services for members!



From Your BOARD OF TRUSTEES PRESIDENT

In my e-mail inbox today was a gentle reminder that yet another year has gone by and it is time for me to submit the President's Statement for the Annual Report. With

the reminder to get cracking was last year's Statement which of course I read to bask in the literary genius that are the hallmark of my President Statements. And I thought, hmmmm I wonder if I could literally recycle, word for word what I wrote last year? Of course I would do it under the auspice of determining if anyone actually reads this stuff, and the simple fact is what I said last year is still relevant this year. It's staring us in the face- we must change. Our business model will ultimately not sustain us going forward. We cannot keep pulling rabbits out of our over three decade old hat. It's not like the fire is on the chair we are sitting in.



This is not a dire message. Dire was the Board of Trustee meeting where Paula, as cheerfully as she could, told us we didn't have enough money to shutter the NRRA. No, this message is just reinforcing what many of us on the Board of Trustees have been grappling with for some time now. We need to evolve. The question is how. We've been ahead of the curve for so long, so consistently innovative that we have an association that is cognizant enough to see the warning signs in the distance and the driver is being alerted in time to take action. And staying true to our roots the NRRA will be in front of the issues of recycling and waste diversion. This time, however, our goals are starting to coalesce around something loftier. A 20% recycling rate just isn't going to cut it anymore. Heck, even a 50% recycling rate isn't going to be good enough.

Remember, we are the Resource Recovery Association. If you are recycling 20% today that means 80% of the resources going through your facility are not getting the highest and best use. It is our expectation that we can do better. I think we are seeing that single stream isn't necessarily living up to its promise, mainly because it's costing more than the sales pitch ever contemplated. What do we do? We continue to provide the outstanding service that is the hallmark of our Association. And we look for opportunities to be the conduit in the dialog towards developing partnerships to press resource recovery forward, not backward. Environmental stewardship and economic responsibility are not mutually exclusive concepts. We will find a better mousetrap. Our future depends on it. Respectfully,

From Your BOARD OF TRUSTEES TREASURER

Well, the challenges just kept coming in fiscal year 2014-2015 with staffing, mills and vendors going away and pricing continuing to plummet in several markets. Once again, the highly skilled and dedicated staff of YOUR organization, NRRA, proved more



than capable of handling it all while at the same time adapting to the new normal. Under the leadership of our Executive Director, together with the Board of Trustees, the budget was balanced, costs contained and new revenues generated. Thanks to the ever present diligence from the Finance Department, and watchful eye of the Director, NRRA closed the year without a deficit! The Capital Reserve Account remained at \$100,232 with no withdrawals and thanks to the extra effort by the Executive Director and grant writers Cindy Sterling and Gwen Erly, NRRA was awarded a Rural Development Grant from the USDA in the

amount of \$146,000. In spite of the uncertain economy, Members, through the continued efforts and guidance of our dedicated and knowledgeable staff and peers alike, continue to be afforded the advantages of volume pricing, ending the year with 64,754 tons of reprocessed resources and over \$2,218,550 in recycling revenues collected and returned to participating members. Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Stevens. Treasurer

FYE - 2015 TREASURER'S REPORT



| REVENUES | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|--------|
| Membership | \$95,185 | 11.09% |
| Conference | \$109,236 | 12.72% |
| Consulting/Contracts | \$37,774 | 4.40% |
| Compost Bin Sale | \$22,685 | 2.64% |
| Rural Development & EPA Grants | \$0 | 0.00% |
| Co-op Marketing Fees | \$494,531 | 57.60% |
| Interest Income | \$475 | 0.06% |
| Fundraising/Donations | \$12,372 | 1.44% |
| Lease Income | \$38,715 | 4.51% |
| Technical Assistance/CLUB Grants | \$47,596 | 5.54% |
| Total Income | \$858,569 | 100.0% |

| OPERATING EXPENSES | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|--------|
| Salaries/Fringe* | \$560,607 | 65.30% |
| Consulting Services** | \$37,710 | 4.39% |
| Mortgage/Utilities | \$37,773 | 4.40% |
| Printing/Copying/Postage | \$6,537 | 0.76% |
| Accounting/Legal | \$39,043 | 4.55% |
| Bad Debt Expense | \$30,545 | 3.56% |
| Supplies | \$7,136 | 0.83% |
| Publications/Dues/Fees/FR | \$3,078 | 0.36% |
| Depreciation | \$19,500 | 2.27% |
| Fundraising (Direct Expenses) | \$573 | 0.07% |
| Travel/Meetings | \$8,834 | 1.03% |
| Conference | \$58,413 | 6.80% |
| Office Equipment (Expense) | \$8,938 | 1.04% |
| Insurance | \$8,771 | 1.02% |
| Compost Bin Sale (Direct Expenses) | \$16,950 | 1.97% |
| Bldg./Grounds/Equip. Maintenance | \$6,954 | 0.81% |
| Property Taxes | \$7,207 | 0.84% |
| Total Operating Expenses | \$858,569 | 100% |
| Net Surplus (loss) | \$0 | |

Please note: These are preaudited figures.

The 34th Annual Conference & Expo

This year, the conference attracted over 500 attendees. As always, the conference featured many cutting edge workshops as well as the 6th Annual School Recycling Conference which included workshops, activity booths and the popular Mini TOLD (Trash On the Lawn Day). NRRA thanks the attendees, speakers, volunteers, exhibitors and sponsors for their continued support of this important educational event.

Thank you again to our 2015 Conference Sponsors!

PLATINUM

- Empire Recycling
- NH the Beautiful

GOLI

- American Retroworks Inc. DBA:Good Point Recycling
- E.L. Harvey & Sons
- ERRCO/LL&S C&D Recycling
- Interstate Refrigerant Recovery, Inc.
- MassRecycle
- NH Deptartment of Environmental Services
- Paintcare
- Pinard Waste Systems
- Schnitzer Steel Ind., Inc.
- Waste Management

SILVER

- Antioch University of New England
- Busch Systems International, Inc.
- Capital Composting
- Coca- Cola Bottling Co. of New England
- EcoHub-USA
- Harding Metals
- Maguire Equipment, Inc.
- Naughton & Son Recycling
- Northstar Recycling Company
- OPRSystems, Inc.
- RMG Enterprise, LLC

Congratulations to NRRA's 2015 Recycling Award Winners:

City of Walpole, NH - "Most Programs through NRRA in 2014"

Paul Coburn, Walpole, NH - "NH the Beautiful's 2015 Environmental Stewardship Award"

City of Concord, NH -"Outstanding Recycling Facility Website"

Danvers, MA -"Outstanding Recycling Program"

Windham Solid Waste Management District, Brattleboro, VT - "Best Bill of Lading (BOL)"

Brian Patnoe, Littleton, NH - "Rookie of the Year"

Steve Whitman, Alexandria, NH - "Volunteer of the Year"

Interstate Refrigerant Recovery, Inc., Foxboro, MA-"Business of the Year"

Donny Tebaldi, Keene, NH - "Special Recognition Award"

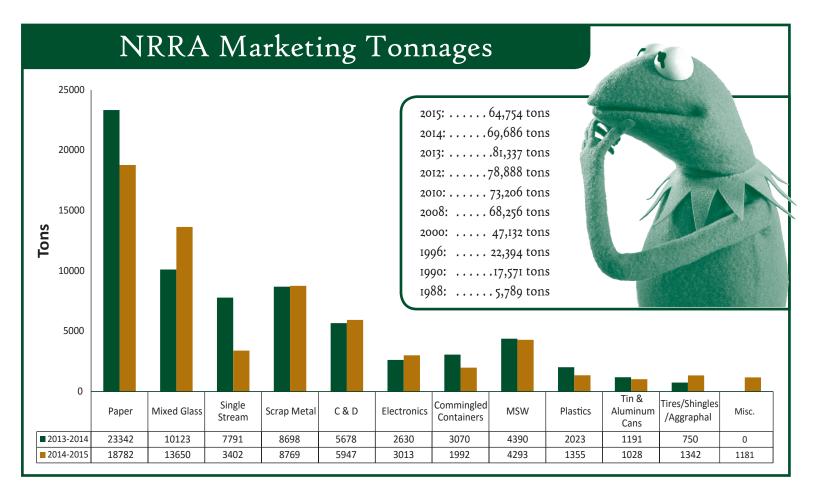
Steve Bennett, Loudon, NH - "Sami Izzo Recycler of the Year Award"

Special Thanks to EarthShare New England

NRRA thanks the hundreds of people who support our work each year through payroll contributions in workplace giving campaigns. NRRA is a member of EarthSare New England, a federation of New England's most respected environmental and conservation charities. To learn more about supporting NRRA through EarthShare New England please call Jessica Wozniak at 508-410-3903 or visit www.earthsharenewengland.org.

^{*}Indirect program costs are included in Salaries/Fringe

^{**}Direct program costs are in included in consulting services



YOUR

MEMBERS/OPERATIONS MARKETING COMMITTEE REPORT

I would like to thank all of the towns and businesses for their continued support and efforts to make NRRA and our recycling efforts as successful as possible. I would also like to thank the NRRA staff and all the member communities who take the time to attend monthly M.O.M. meetings. This support and involvement is what makes this organization so successful. 2015 presented many challenges for the NRRA and its Member Organizations.



This year pricing became unstable early in the year. Most commodities values were significantly decreased due to factors such as lower oil prices, contamination from single stream programs and global market demand decreases. The only market that remained steady was OCC and mixed paper. Plastics, scrap metal and aluminum are among the commodities that saw significant decreases in 2015. Dual stream programs are becoming obsolete and single stream programs are not producing any revenues for the communities who invested heavily in personnel, trucks an equipment to implement the programs. The costs to tip single stream recyclables is fast approaching Municipal Solid Waste tipping fees for landfilling MSW. Proper recycling efforts are becoming a cost burden due to contamination and processing costs for commercial ventures. Combine this with lowering revenues and selective acceptance of non-contaminated commodities in the global market have

recycling nay-sayers saying the future of recycling is in trouble because the bottom line is becoming red ink. It is the responsibility of the governmental and municipal officials to continue recycling and educate the public that recycling is a commitment to the environment even with the reduced revenues that we receive.

In the future we may be forced to increase our budgets accordingly to keep the programs going. All recycling professionals who work daily at the Municipal Transfer Stations statewide are to be congratulated and recognized for their efforts to keep recyclables out of the waste stream, whether it is incinerated or landfilled. Thanks to the NRRA staff for their continuing efforts to find profitable markets for all of our commodities.

I encourage every town and community to become a member of NRRA. The committed staff continues to provide beneficial service to all of its members. NRRA keeps purchasers of goods honest and typically the yield per ton for recyclables through NRRA is more than one can do directly on their own. NRRA now serves more than 400 municipal and business members throughout greater New England. Don't forget that by attending two M.O.M. meetings the NH DES will give you the required continuing education credits required for your Solid Waste Certification. I encourage you to attend the monthly M.O.M. meetings for the education credits, but also because we value your input. See you all in 2016!

7im Redmond, Chairperson, Town of Weare

From Your EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Last Year's theme of "Real Challenges and Real Solutions" set the tone for the entire year. The recycling markets continued their decline into the "New Normal" of relatively stagnant numbers, and took several long established vendors/mills with them. Movement of material requires longer lead time, better quality, and more precise recordkeeping at every stage of the transaction.

Throughout this hectic period the Member Services Team has gone above and beyond to support the changes that are demanded by these "New Normal" markets and the reality of their econom-

ics. Higher hauling and processing fees are driving budget projections for the upcoming year to be even more cautious. Members are advised to estimate low revenues and higher expenses for the upcoming year.

For 2016 our motto is "It's Not Easy Being Green!" In spite of all the current challenges, NRRA looks forward to new initiatives, to help weather the storm such as: online order processing, streamlined transaction accounting, and expanded training and outreach. The USDA grant award for Operator and Teacher training has already begun and will have a positive impact on all of the NRRA established programs in 2016. Additional opportunities to assist Members with MSW Contract Negotiations, NHDES Continuing Ed. Certifications, provide on-site facility assessments, as well as the expanded school program offerings will all contribute to an exciting 2016!

NRRA continues its research and due diligence regarding new opportunities that present themselves. It will continue to showcase those that appear to have strongest potential to be "game changers" in the industry as part of its education charge from the original Articles of Incorporation 35 years ago. The entire NRRA family is looking forward to the 35th Annual "Emerald" Anniversary Conference set for May 15-17, 2016 in Nashua at the Radisson "Castle." Our "It's Not Easy Being Green!" theme couldn't be more relevant. In these turbulent economic periods NRRA's value to its members only increases as it charts and sails a steady course promoting and supporting increased recycling throughout the towns and schools in New England.

On behalf of the Staff and Board of Trustees a heartfelt and sincere thank you to each and every Member. Thank you for your continued support, and thank you for the trust you place in NRRA to work on your behalf toward a better future for the planet and the generations to come. Thank you all for the honor of serving as your Executive Director.

Mike Durfor, Executive Director





NRRA OFFICERS

Duncan P. Watson, President John Hurd, Vice President George Murray, Vice President Michael Faller, Secretary Lisa Stevens, Treasurer

NRRA TRUSTEES

Gerry Cornett
Roger Guzowski
John M. Halstead, PhD
David E. Hartman
Charles Kelley
Susy Mansfield
Gordon Martin
Joel Moulton
Roberta Orsini
Dennis Patnoe
Roger Rice
Mark Richardson
Sarah Silk

NRRA STAFF

Administration

Mike Durfor
Executive Director
Stacey Leonard Morrison
Administrative Manager
Linda Garland
Admin Assistant
Gwen Erley
Programs Coordinator
Mary Jane (MJ) Poch
Volunteer
Jan Carter
Finance & Admin Float

Finance

Paula Dow
Finance Manager
Beverly Pfeifer
Accounts Manager
Donna Villemaire
Finance Assistant

Member Services

Bonnie Bethune Member Services Manager Marilyn Weir Member Services Mike Nork Member Services

Members Helping Members

SOLID WASTE DISTRICTS

Addison County SWM District - VT Androscoggin Valley RRDD BCEP Solid Waste District Central Vermont SWMD Chittenden Solid Waste District Coos County Recycling Greater Upper Valley SWMD - VT Hopkinton-Webster SWD Londonderry Solid Waste Group-VT Mad River Resource Management Alliance-VT NE Kingdom WMD Pemi-Baker Solid Waste District S. Windsor/Windham Counties Solid Waste Alliance Committee Souhegan Regional Landfill District White River Alliance - VT Wilton SWD Windham VT Solid Waste Mgt. District

MUNICIPALITIES

Cities

City of Berlin, NH
City of Claremont, NH
City of Dover, NH
City of Franklin, NH
City of Keene, NH
City of Lebanon, NH
City of Manchester, NH
City of Nashua, NH

Towns

Town of Acworth, NH Town of Alburgh, VT Town of Alexandria, NH Town of Allenstown, NH Town of Alstead, NH Town of Alton, NH Town of Amherst, NH Town of Andover, NH Town of Andover, VT Town of Antrim, NH Town of Ashby, MA Town of Ashland, NH Town of Athens, VT Town of Averill, VT Town of Baltimore, VT Town of Barnet, VT Town of Barnstead, NH Town of Bartlett, NH Town of Bedford, NH Town of Belmont, NH Town of Bennington, NH Town of Bloomfield, VT Town of Boscawen, NH Town of Bow, NH Town of Bradford, NH Town of Brattleboro, VT Town of Brentwood, NH Town of Bridgewater, NH Town of Bridgewater, VT Town of Brighton, VT Town of Bristol, NH Town of Brookline, NH Town of Brookline, VT Town of Brunswick, VT Town of Burke, VT Town of Campton, NH

Town of Canaan, NH

Town of Canaan, VT Town of Candia, NH Town of Canterbury, NH Town of Carroll, NH Town of Cavendish, VT Town of Charlestown, NH Town of Chester, NH Town of Chester, VT Town of Chesterfield, NH Town of Chichester, NH Town of Clarksville, NH Town of Colebrook, NH Town of Columbia, NH Town of Concord, VT Town of Conway, NH Town of Cornish, NH Town of Croydon, NH Town of Dalton, NH Town of Danbury, NH Town of Danville, VT Town of Deerfield, NH Town of Derby, VT Town of Derry, NH Town of Dorchester, NH Town of Dover, VT Town of Dublin, NH Town of Dummer, NH Town of Dummerston, VT Town of Dunbarton, NH Town of Durham, NH Town of East Haven, VT Town of Easton, NH Town of Effingham, NH Town of Eliot, ME Town of Ellsworth, NH Town of Enfield, NH Town of Epping, NH Town of Epsom, NH Town of Errol, NH Town of Fairlee, VT Town of Farmington, NH Town of Fitzwilliam, NH Town of Francestown, NH Town of Franconia, NH Town of Freedom, NH Town of Fremont, NH Town of Gilmanton, NH Town of Goffstown, NH Town of Gorham, NH Town of Goshen, NH Town of Grafton, NH Town of Grafton, VT Town of Granby, VT Town of Grantham, NH Town of Greenfield, NH Town of Greenland, NH Town of Greenville, NH Town of Groton, MA Town of Groton, NH Town of Groton, VT Town of Guildhall, VT Town of Guilford, VT Town of Halifax, VT Town of Hampstead, NH Town of Hampton Falls, NH Town of Hampton, NH Town of Hancock, NH Town of Hanover, NH Town of Harrisville, NH Town of Hartford, VT Town of Hartland, VT Town of Henniker, NH Town of Hill, NH Town of Hillsborough, NH

Town of Hinsdale, NH Town of Holderness, NH Town of Holland, VT Town of Hollis, NH Town of Hopkinton, NH Town of Irasburg, VT Town of Jackson, NH Town of Jaffrey, NH Town of Jamaica, VT Town of Jefferson, NH Town of Kirby, VT Town of Lancaster, NH Town of Landaff, NH Town of Landgrove, VT Town of Lee, NH Town of Lemington, VT Town of Lempster, NH Town of Lincoln, NH Town of Lisbon, NH Town of Litchfield, NH Town of Littleton, NH Town of Londonderry, NH Town of Londonderry, VT Town of Loudon, NH Town of Ludlow, VT Town of Lunenburg, VT Town of Lyman, NH Town of Lyme, NH Town of Lyndeborough, NH Town of Lyndon, VT Town of Madbury, NH Town of Madison, NH Town of Maidstone, VT Town of Marlboro, VT Town of Marlborough, NH Town of Marlow, NH Town of Mason, NH Town of Meredith, NH Town of Merrimack, NH Town of Middleton, NH Town of Milan, NH Town of Milford, NH Town of Milton, NH Town of Monroe, NH Town of Mont Vernon, NH Town of Moretown, VT Town of Morgan, VT Town of Moultonborough, NH Town of N. Berwick, ME Town of New Boston, NH Town of New Durham, NH Town of New Hampton, NH Town of New London, NH Town of Newark, VT Town of Newbury, NH Town of Newbury, VT Town of Newfane, VT Town of Newfield, ME Town of Newmarket, NH Town of Newton, NH Town of North Hampton, NH Town of Northfield, NH Town of Northumberland, NH Town of Northwood, NH Town of Norton, VT Town of Norwich, VT Town of Nottingham, NH Town of Orford, NH Town of Ossipee, NH Town of Peacham, VT Town of Pelham, NH Town of Pembroke, NH Town of Peru, VT Town of Peterborough, NH

Town of Piermont, NH Town of Pittsburg, NH Town of Pittsfield, NH Town of Plymouth, NH Town of Plymouth, VT Town of Pomfret, VT Town of Putney, VT Town of Randolph, NH Town of Raymond, NH Town of Reading, VT Town of Readsboro, VT Town of Rindge, NH Town of Rockingham, VT Town of Rollinsford, NH Town of Rumney, NH Town of Rye, NH Town of Ryegate, VT Town of Salisbury, CT Town of Salisbury, NH Town of Sanbornton, NH Town of Sandown, NH Town of Sandwich, NH Town of Seabrook, NH Town of Sharon, CT Town of Sharon, VT Town of Sheffield, VT Town of Shelburne, NH Town of South Hampton, NH Town of Springfield, NH Town of Springfield, VT Town of Stark, NH Town of Stewartstown, NH Town of Strafford, NH Town of Strafford, VT Town of Stratford, NH Town of Stratham, NH Town of Stratton, VT Town of Sugar Hill, NH Town of Sunapee, NH Town of Sutton, NH Town of Sutton, VT Town of Swanzey, NH Town of Tamworth, NH Town of Temple, NH Town of Thetford, VT Town of Thornton, NH Town of Tilton, NH Town of Townshend, VT Town of Troy, NH Town of Tuftonboro, NH Town of Unity, NH Town of Vernon, VT Town of Vershire, VT Town of Waitsfield, VT Town of Wakefield, NH Town of Walpole, NH Town of Wardsboro, VT Town of Warner, NH Town of Warren, NH Town of Washington, NH Town of Waterford, VT Town of Waterville Valley, NH Town of Weare, NH Town of Weathersfield, VT Town of Webster, NH Town of Wellesley, MA Town of Wentworth, NH Town of West Fairlee, VT Town of West Windsor, VT Town of Westminster, VT Town of Westmore, VT Town of Westmoreland, NH Town of Weston, VT

Town of Wheelock, VT

Town of Whitefield, NH Town of Whitingham, VT Town of Wilmington, VT Town of Wilmot, NH Town of Wilton, NH Town of Windham, VT Town of Windsor, VT Town of Winhall, VT Town of Wolfeboro, NH Town of Woodstock, VT

BUSINESSES

Acrylic Designs, Inc. Amerigas Propane, LP Amoskeag Beverages, Inc. Anheuser-Busch, LLC Barn Store of New England LLC Bond Auto Parts Channel Marine **CK** Productions Computer Recycling of Claremont Dave's Motorboat Shoppe, LLC Elektrisola, Inc. F.L. Merrill Construction, Inc. Green Mountain Furniture H2O Waste Disposal Services LLC Health Dialog Insulectro Irwin Corporation dba Irwin Marine JTA Corporation Lakeport Landing Marina Lodge at Jackson Village Marlborough Greenhouses, Inc. Martyco Dumpster, LLC MD's Trash Removal Meredith Marina Morgan Press, Inc. New England Quality Service, Inc. NH Automobile Dealers Assoc. NH Marine Trade Association NH Motor Speedway Pilgrim Foods Div Old Dutch Mustard Co. Recycled Asphalt Shingles

Peter Engel Gary Gray John M. Halstead, Ph.D. Jeffrey Hoadley Mitch Kessler Richard Kleiman Ronald B. Laurence, P.E. Jacob Levenson Susy Mansfield Gregory J. McVeigh Robert Nugent Roberta Orsini John Phetteplace Caleb Rick Robert Tokarz, Jr.

GOV'T, SCHOOLS & NON-PROFIT

Crotched Mountain Rehabilitation Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center EarthShare Keene State College Londonderry School District Lothrop Elementary School LRG Healthcare/Franklin Hospital Maine Resource Recovery Assn. Mass. Water Resources Authority MassRecycle Merrimack Cty. Facility-RecyclingDept. NH Dept. of Environmental Services NH Municipal Association Northeast Recycling Council, Inc. Resource Recycling Salvation Army Adult Rehab. Center Stonehill College Sullivan County UMASS - Amherst Winnisquam Regional Middle School



INDIVIDUALS

Heather Achilles Norman Albert Thomas E. Armstrong Sharon Byrne-Kishida Chip Chesley Adam Clark David Conkey Holly Conkey Mary Ann Conroy Chad Contonio Mary Delahanty Mark Draper

Rehrig Penn Logistics

Resource Management, Inc.

Seacoast Furniture, LLC

Shep Browns Boat Basin

Silver Sands Marina, Inc.

Thielsch Engineering, Inc.

Winnisquam Marine, Inc.

Thurston's Marina

West Alton Marina

West Shore Marine

Thomas Hodgson & Sons, Inc.

Rochester Shoe Tree Company

What Did New Hampshire the Beautiful

Do for New Hampshire Over the Past Year?



In just one year, New Hampshire the Beautiful has provided an enormous amount of support for recycling and anti-litter programs by doing the following:

*Donating 54,000 blue bags for litter pick up to communities & NH Departments of Transportation to assist in keeping NH roads and community areas litter-free

*Awarding a total of \$32,888 in recycling grants to 17 NH municipalities to help increase the efficiency of their recycling programs

*Providing over \$25,000 in funding to the NRRA School Recycling CLUB to provide recycling education to our future generations of recyclers

*Subsidizing the cost of 464 recycling bins and ClearStream recycling containers for schools and communities throughout the state

*Granting \$8,302 worth of recycling signs to NH transfer stations and schools

*Maintaining three RecycleMobiles used by communities throughout the year for various public events

NH the Beautiful, Inc. (NHtB) is a private non-profit charitable trust founded in 1983 and supported by the soft drink, malt beverage and grocery industries of New Hampshire. By offering municipal recycling grants, signs, anti-litter programs and technical assistance to recycling programs, NHtB is a unique organization that represents a voluntarily-funded alternative to expensive legislation intended to achieve the same end results. New Hampshire the Beautiful also provides support to the NRRA School Recycling CLUB.

NRRA administers the programs for NH the Beautiful (www.nhthebeautiful.org) and has since 2006.

NRRA School Recycling CLUB



It is hard to believe that I celebrated my first anniversary with NRRA in August. What a year of firsts it was - my first Annual Report, my first Save the Date and Conference Program, my first NRRA & CLUB Conferences, my first workshops and technical assistance trainings, my first webinar, my first Facebook post, my first web site updates, my first CLUB newsletters, and now, my first USDA grant!

I am so proud to work with such talented and dedicated staff members and educators. I am excited to come to work every day. I am delighted when I see how eager and enthusiastic our students and teachers are to improve and strengthen their recycling programs.

NH the Beautiful made it possible for our NH CLUB members to receive discounted recycling materials and grants for workshops and even Conference fees.

Over the summer we revamped our Team Earth program and are now holding a Team Earth Poster Contest. Through Team Earth, schools and students complete activities and expand their recycling efforts to reach Bronze, Silver and Gold levels, receiving recognition and awards along the way.

One of my goals in the coming year is to get our School CLUB database up and running. Keep an eye on our website, www. schoolrecycling.net or our Facebook page for more information. You can always contact us at theclub@nrra.net or call 603-736-4401 Ext. 19 with any questions.

I welcome your inquiries. If I don't have the answer, I'll find it!

Gwen Erley, CLUB Coordinator

Congratulations to our 2014-2015 School Recycling Award Winners:

School Recylers of the Year

Danvers School District, Danvers, MA

School Volunteers of the Year

NH-Evelyn McMann, Mildred C. Lakeway Elementary School, Littleton, NH

MA-Fritzie Nace, Winchester Public Schools, Winchester, MA

Best Earth Day Event - 2015

Allenstown Elementary School, Allenstown, NH

Recycler of the Year - Teacher/Educator Award Michelle Jimeno, Mason Elementary, Mason, NH

Facilities Staff Recycler of the Year

NH-Rick Griffith, Mason Elementary, Mason, NH VT-Stan O'Neil, Lothrop Elementary, Pittsford, VT

Best Composter Award

Oyster River High School, Durham, NH

Innovative Recycling Idea

Grace Cushing & Caroline Anastasia, Winnacunnet High School, Hampton, NH

Rookie of the Year

Allenstown Elementary, Allenstown, NH

Team Earth Best of the Best

Mason Elementary, Mason NH

Outstanding Recycling Educator

Cindy Sterling, Keene State College, Keene, NH





