Join Next Week

Make plans now to attend next week's 2nd Annual Summit to learn about recycling and reducing waste in office settings, manufacturing, and curbside programs as well as get an update on the state of recycling in Alabama. Join us at Beloved Community Church in Avondale from 9am-4pm on Tuesday, November 10th, lunch on your own. More information at this link. $15 registration includes entrance to Soiree!

Join AEC For Summit Soiree (and bring glass!)

Be sure not to miss the after-party for the Recycling and Waste Reduction Summit next Tuesday, November 10th. Join us at the future site of the relocated Recycling Center, 4350 1st Avenue South, 35222 from 4:30-7:30. Enjoy hors d'oeuvres, drinks, live music, and a sneak peak at AEC's new recycling center. Cost is $10 and you're invited to bring one 18-gallon bin of glass to recycle! Reserve your spot on our website.

Recycling Markets Up and Down

In this newsletter...

- Recycling Center Relocating to Avondale
- Solar Energy Gets Boost in 'Bama
- Recycling & Waste Reduction Summit
- Summit Soiree - Celebration and preview of new Center
- Business Recycling Opportunities
- POWER-UP Summit - Save the Date

Please consider supporting AEC with a Donation

Recycling Center Relocating to Avondale

After years of working on a better solution for the Downtown Birmingham Recycling Center, the Board has approved a decision to move to a site being developed in the Avondale area. Nearly 10 times as big as the downtown site and only 2 miles away, the new location will give opportunities to expand collection of current recycling materials as well as bring back glass recycling. Some glass will be shipped to regional markets while some will be pulverized onsite and prepared for local markets. All materials currently accepted downtown will also be accepted at the new Center.

Located near the intersection with 43rd Street on 1st Avenue South, the site is being built out now with hopes of being operational by mid-December. Drive-Thru entrance will be on 1st Avenue South, along the beautiful new front wall with exit on Powell Avenue. The Office is going
As we know around the office, as much as we recognize the environmental benefits of Recycling, it is a global commodities driven market. Many of those markets have turned down recently and some are asking questions about if it is worth it. Montgomery certainly has been hit hard with its super high-tech recycling facility closing its doors after less than 2 years of operation.

We believe strongly that it is worth it and the more than 11,000 employees in Alabama that are connected to the industry have to agree. Did you know that it is a $6.6 billion industry in Alabama alone? If you’re not doing all you can to support these efforts, please consider doing so. Simple steps like recycling that plastic bottle or latest printed email combined with actions across Alabama will have an impact.

Save The Date:
February 23rd

Returning to Birmingham Southern College, next year’s Forum will highlight opportunities for expanding energy efficiency and renewables across Alabama. Visit this link for past presentations.

Connect with AEC:

Solar Energy is Bright Spot in Alabama

AEC celebrates the approval of the first two Alabama Power solar projects developed as a result of the company’s successful petition to the Alabama Public Service Commission for 500 megawatts of renewable energy, to be built or purchased over the next six years. AEC intervened with representation by the Southern Environmental Law Center at the July hearings in support of the petition for renewables. As Alabama Power officials have noted, customer demand for renewable energy is expanding rapidly, and that demand will only continue to grow as more businesses and customers ask for cleaner energy options.

Anniston Army Depot and Fort Rucker will each have a ten megawatt solar installation on their property, built and owned by the utility. Department of Defense has recognized the importance of energy conservation and renewables to support the mission of troops with a goal of meeting 25% of DoD energy demand with renewables by 2025.

Alabama Solar Knowledge (ASK) Project:

With partners Alabama Solar Association, Gulf States Renewable Energy Industry Association and the Department of Government at UAB, AEC is literally putting solar on the map with our ASK project. There are now 87 solar businesses and 203 solar installations in our data base, and the map is soon going live. You’re invited to join those who follow us at Facebook.com/ASKAlabamaInfo or our website at ASKalabama.info and contact us at askalabamainfo@gmail.com for more information or if you are interested in participating. TVA provided zip code level data for 133 commercial and residential solar installations in their territory, represented on the below map: (the request for similar information from Alabama Power is pending.)
Business Recycling Pickup to Expand

AEC is excited to announce that Blythe Leisher has joined the team as Business Recycling Consultant to help expand the pickup program around Birmingham. Bringing sales experience and an interest in promoting environmental stewardship, Blythe has hit the ground running, helping businesses see how easy it is to add recycling to their operations. Whether joining the glass pickup for bars and restaurants or more traditional paper recycling for small businesses, there are lots of options available. Contact Blythe to discuss at 205-383-7111 or sales@AEConline.org