

Member e-Newsletter

The National Trade Association Dedicated to the
Construction & Demolition Recycling Industry

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Association & Industry News

Article by: William Turley, Executive Director

C&D; Biomass is a Renewable, Sustainable Energy Source

With a new administration coming into Washington DC, there is much uncertainty over what will be the renewable energy policies of the Department of Energy and the Environmental Protection Agency, including energy generated by secondary materials. Still, we have recently seen interest in the private sector for all types of renewable energy. Bill Gates is leading a group of wealthy investors to foster major advances in clean energy production, while Leonardo DiCaprio has a foundation that promotes renewable clean energy that could create millions of green jobs.

The C&D; recycling industry should be a part of any discussion on renewable clean energy. Our industry has tons and tons of dry, high Btu secondary wood material that is currently ending up in landfills around the country because of a lack of biomass markets. We C&D; recyclers know how to extract from the C&D; materials stream's wood the dirt, aggregates, drywall, and metals a gasifier or incinerator facility doesn't want. CDRA members can provide the feedstock these facilities need.

We are all aware that because of low prices for other energy sources, such as natural gas, the C&D; biomass market is a challenge. Still, C&D; biomass should be considered in any federal renewable energy policies. Already, the U.S. EPA recognizes the C&D; biomass as a legitimate fuel and not just the burning of waste to reduce volume. For example, the agency designated C&D; biomass a legitimate fuel and exempted it from its onerous Non Hazardous Secondary Material rule for waste fuels as long as common Best Management Practices are used. Said the agency in its final ruling on the exemption:

- "(T)he Agency has determined C&D; wood is not discarded when: it is processed in accordance with best management practices described herein, it is legitimately used as a product fuel in a combustion unit, and when combustors of C&D; wood have obtained a written certification from C&D; processing facilities that the C&D; wood has been processed by trained operators."
- "(C&D; biomass) demonstrates that processed C&D; wood has an average as-fired energy content of 6,640 Btu/lb, which is greater than 5,000 Btu/lb, which the Agency considers to have a meaningful heating value."
- "The Agency compared the contaminant levels found in the processed C&D; wood to the contaminant levels found in clean wood and biomass materials since any unit burning processed C&D; wood can clearly burn clean wood and biomass materials as well...Agency finds that they support the final determination that processed C&D; wood meets the contaminant legitimacy criterion..." C&D; recyclers need to support any policy that considers C&D; biomass a renewable energy, which it is. Rest assured the CDRA will be working toward that goal.

USA Gypsum Launches New Website

USA Gypsum, gypsum products manufacturer and one of the largest gypsum drywall recyclers in the United States, announces the launch of its new website, research library and eCommerce store at www.usagypsum.com.

From the home page, site visitors can enter two separate sides of the site dedicated to either [Gypsum Drywall Recycling](#) or Gypsum Products. On the Drywall Recycling side, visitors will find information about the benefits of recycling drywall scraps and can learn how to responsibly and cost-effectively recycle gypsum drywall waste.

The gypsum products pages feature an extensive library of research documents and application tips. Gypsum continues to gain popularity as research and experience confirm its effectiveness as a tool to improve air, water and soil quality. Recently the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) officially recognized gypsum by releasing Conservation Practice Standard (CPS) Amending Soil Properties with gypsum products code 333, which confirms benefits and application criteria.

Customers will find detailed information on recommended gypsum products and applications. With direct access to the product shopping area, customers can quickly and easily order the products they need, whether it be a single 10-lb. bag to their home or a truckload of totes to their farm or business.

Founded in 1998, USA Gypsum provides economical solutions for disposing of drywall waste, pulling in drywall scraps from distribution and construction companies. During the past 11 years, USA Gypsum has diverted over 300,000 tons (600 million lbs) of drywall from area landfills, upcycling it for beneficial use in the form of gypsum fertilizer, soil conditioners and amendments, animal bedding, industrial uses and much more. In spite of this growth, they estimate less than 10% of drywall scraps generated in the North Eastern United States are recycled. USA Gypsum ships their gypsum products across the United States and Canada.

C&D; World 2017 For Your ConExpo-Con/Agg Badge

Attending C&D; World, the Annual Meeting of the CDRA, has always been a valuable source of information on the industry. But in 2017 we will be co-located with the huge ConExpo-Con/Agg equipment exhibition, and registering for CDRA meeting on Wednesday, March 8th means you will have a badge for CECA. This is a two-for-one value.

To register for the CDRA and get your ConExpo-Con/Agg badge, click [here](#).

The CDRA meeting is a half-day program that focuses on the issues that affect C&D; recyclers now. An economic update will be provided by Eli Lustgarten, ESL Consultants, as well as end market updates and a legislative report on the regulations and legislation that affect C&D;. As always, it is a great chance to mingle with your peers in the industr. The fundraiser on Wednesday night will be on the best spot on the Strip to see the NASCAR trucks roll into town that night.

Please contact the CDRA if you have any questions at info@cdrecycling.org; 866/758-4721.

Save the Date for CONEXPO-CON/AGG!

We proudly support [CONEXPO-CON/AGG](#). Join us at the 2017 show. [Register now!](#)

C&D; Recycling Facility Safety Manual Available

The Construction & Demolition Recycling Association has prepared the first ever safety manual specifically for mixed C&D; recycling facilities. Created by the CDRA's Risk Management Committee, chaired by John Schumacher, Assurance Agency, the document provides facility operators the basic information needed to give proper safety information for their employees. It is available for free to all CDRA members, who can download the manual at www.cdrecycling.org in the members-only section

Demolition Convention Set For January 2017

Demolition 2017, the Annual Meeting of the National Demolition Association, takes place Jan. 29-31 at [The Mirage](#) in Las Vegas. Besides an exhibit floor showcasing the latest for the demolition industry, a full program is headlined by Coach Herman Edwards. According to the NDA, Edwards, "Whether it is his faith, family, or football team, Herman Edwards exudes passion in all areas of his life. A successful NFL head coach turned in-studio analyst for ESPN, Edwards has a diverse background in professional leadership, and is one of the most recognized voices in sports today."

In addition to Edwards, also offered expert-led sessions offer the opportunity to increase knowledge, build skills on the topics and issues that are vital to the success of demolition businesses.

For more information on the event, go to www.demolitionassociation.com/convention.

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