

## The Evolution of the C&D Industry

By William Turley

One of the best parts of my job over the years has been the opportunity to visit with CDRA members at their places of business. It has been interesting to watch the evolution of the industry, especially the equipment and how it is used, from when the CDRA was formed 25 years ago.

At first glance, concrete recycling operations may appear to have not changed all that much from 25 years ago. But they have. How magnets are deployed, the addition of pickers to remove deleterious, how to place conveyors for optimum production, and the tremendous improvement of dust control systems have been strong improvements. The main end market, some type of base products remain, but now there are more sophisticated base products, such as cement stabilized roadbase.

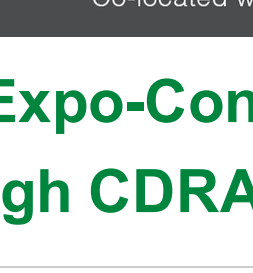
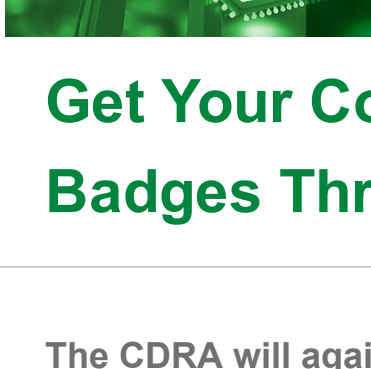
For mixed C&D operations, the changes have been more far-reaching. On the equipment and operations side, there are innumerable ways to skin the cat. No two operations are exactly alike and usually the facility will change over time to include updates, such as new types of screens or an air separator. While the picking line remains standard, in some operations those workers are being joined by robotic arms. Even the floor sort operations have improved the efficiency of their operations over the years.

Of course, the CDRA vendor members have been germane to the improvement of the processing equipment. End markets have evolved, too. Early on many operations were happy to pull the metals and make alternative daily cover. Some were making biomass, and a few others were already making a wide range of products. But those were few and far between. Today there is a wider range of end products made, though overall right now markets remain very challenging, especially for wood and C&D fines. Still, it is exciting to see what are some niche products for C&D that were not around two decades ago. This speaks to the ingenuity and hard work of the members of the C&D recycling industry.

The CDRA wants to do its part to help with the end products situation. As announced, we have formed an End Markets Committee to help provide guidelines and concepts for the materials created by our industry. We have some of the most innovative people in the industry as part of this group. One of the first projects the group will be monitoring is the work the University of Florida is doing on mixing biochar with C&D fines to make a useful product. This is an example of the long-time work the CDRA has done in service to the industry.

Currently, we have sent out dues renewal notices for 2020. We are grateful for the many companies that have already renewed their dues, and even have remained or become sponsors in order to provide the CDRA even more support. We thank all of you for your support and look forward to continuing to work with all of you in the future. Hopefully, I will be able to visit your place of business someday.

**William Turley is the Executive Director of the Construction & Demolition Recycling Association.**



**March 11, 2020**  
Las Vegas, NV



Co-located with ConExpo-Con/Agg

## Get Your ConExpo-Con/Agg Badges Through CDRA

The CDRA will again co-locate C&D World 2020, its Annual Meeting, on March 11 during the huge ConExpo-Con/Agg show March 10-14, 2020 in Las Vegas.

**[Registration is now open!](#)**

As always, attendees to C&D World will get badges to enter the equipment exhibition at the Las Vegas Convention Center, which is truly a sight to be seen. And attendees to C&D World will be treated to an excellent half-day program, the exciting fundraiser, as always, as well as room rates - reduced from what one can get from the show. So please make your plans now to have C&D World as part of your Las Vegas itinerary.

If you are not able to make C&D World but still want to go to ConExpo-Con/Agg, reduced rate exhibit hall badges can be purchased through the CDRA. More information will be coming out in the next 2 months.

Also, the CDRA will be sponsoring select education sessions at ConExpo-Con/Agg and can provide reduced rates to all sessions at the big show.

**For example, CDRA members will have this pricing for:**

- \$95 until January 17, 2020
- \$149 until March 9, 2020
- \$179 during CONEXPO-CON/AGG show days

**Additionally, CDRA members will be eligible to register for educational sessions at a discounted rate as follows:**

- \$495 for an all-session pass with USB recording
- \$345 for an all-session pass
- \$175 for a single-day pass
- \$59 per single session

So remember to use the CDRA as part of your ConExpo-Con/Agg plans.

[Register Today!](#)

## CDRA to Exhibit at NDA Annual Meeting

Join us for three days of networking and education for the demolition industry at Demolition Austin, the National Demolition Association's Annual Convention and Expo. Taking place February 22-25, 2020 in Austin, Texas, Demolition Austin will feature in-depth education sessions and the favorite 15-minute "Fast and Furious" presentations; opportunities to network with your peers and industry vendors; and the return of the Live *DEMOLITION* event where you can test equipment in real-time. Use Demolition Austin to gain the knowledge and industry updates you need to advance and strengthen your demolition business.

In 2019, we had more than 1,000 demolition professionals from across the country join us for Demolition Rockies and welcomed 89 exhibitors in the Expo. We look forward to building on this success in 2020. Exhibits sales have opened, and for more information on how to exhibit, please contact Ryan Leach, [rleach@demolitionassociation.com](mailto:rleach@demolitionassociation.com). For more information on Demolition Austin, go to <https://www.demolitionassociation.com/Education-Events/Demolition-Austin>.

[Register Now](#)

## 2020 International Biomass Conference & Expo

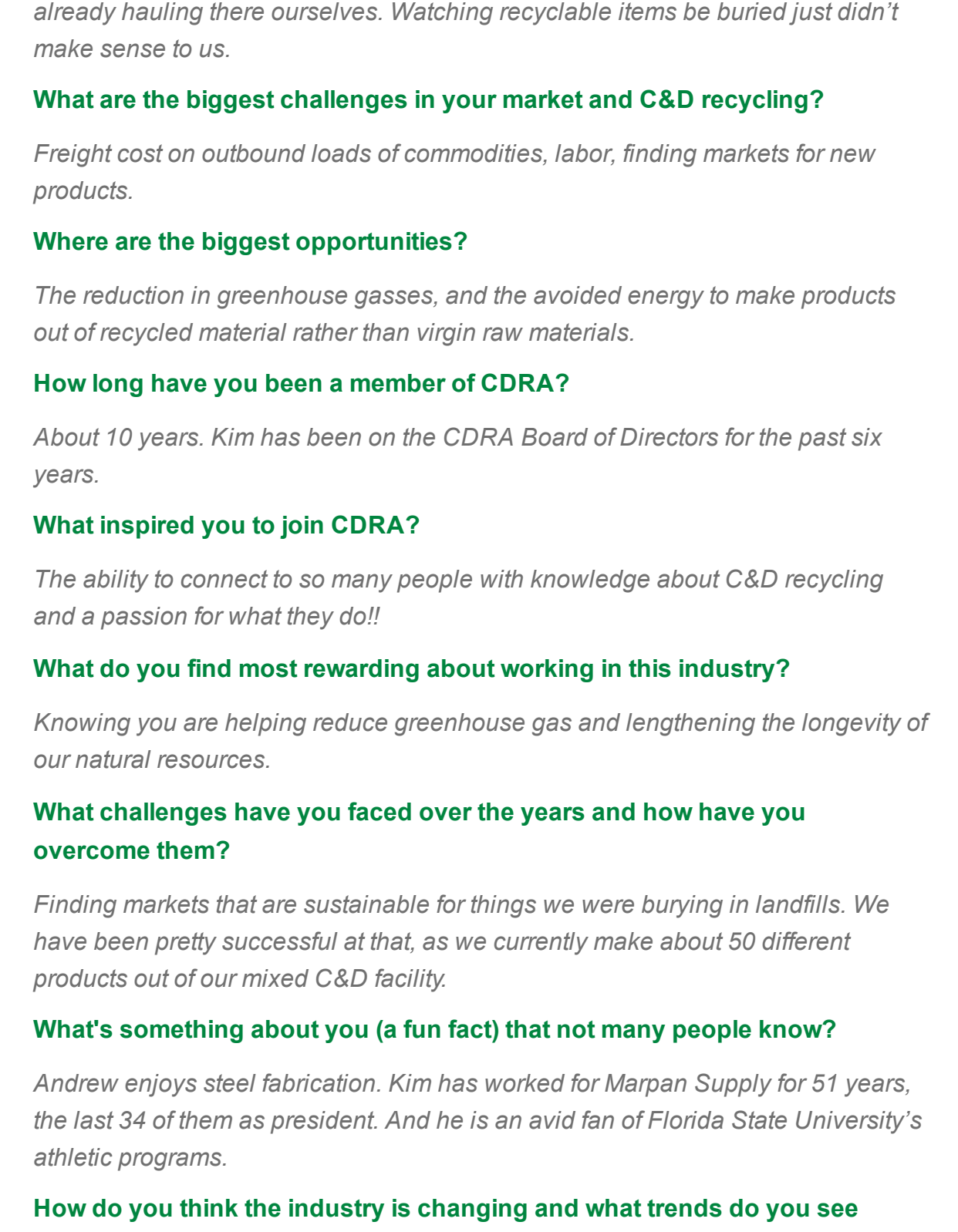
**February 3-5, 2020**

**Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center**

**Nashville, TN**

Organized by BBI International and produced by Biomass Magazine, this event brings current and future producers of bioenergy and biobased products together with waste generators, energy crop growers, municipal leaders, utility executives, technology providers, equipment manufacturers, project developers, investors and policymakers. It's a true one-stop-shop: the world's premier educational and networking junction for all biomass industries.

[Learn More](#)



## CDRA Member Spotlight: Kim & Andrew Williams Marpan Supply, Tallahassee, FL

**What materials do you recycle? Can you describe the volume and types of incoming materials you process?**

*We handle about 300 to 400 tons per day of construction and demolition debris, as well as Class III material.*

**How did you get started in the business?**

*We wanted to find an alternative to burying the material in the landfill that we were already hauling there ourselves. Watching recyclable items be buried just didn't make sense to us.*

**What are the biggest challenges in your market and C&D recycling?**

*Freight cost on outbound loads of commodities, labor, finding markets for new products.*

**Where are the biggest opportunities?**

*The reduction in greenhouse gasses, and the avoided energy to make products out of recycled material rather than virgin raw materials.*

**How long have you been a member of CDRA?**

*About 10 years. Kim has been on the CDRA Board of Directors for the past six years.*

**What inspired you to join CDRA?**

*The ability to connect to so many people with knowledge about C&D recycling and a passion for what they do!*

**What do you find most rewarding about working in this industry?**

*Knowing you are helping reduce greenhouse gas and lengthening the longevity of our natural resources.*

**What challenges have you faced over the years and how have you overcome them?**

*Finding markets that are sustainable for things we were burying in landfills. We have been pretty successful at that, as we currently make about 50 different products out of our mixed C&D facility.*

**What's something about you (a fun fact) that not many people know?**

*Andrew enjoys steel fabrication. Kim has worked for Marpan Supply for 51 years, the last 34 of them as president. And he is an avid fan of Florida State University's athletic programs.*

**How do you think the industry is changing and what trends do you see coming up on the horizon?**

*A) Mandated recycling goals and solutions to get to those numbers.*

*B) Automation.*

*C) Alternative energy solutions.*

**What advice would you give to someone interested in this industry?**

*Join the CDRA. You will meet people from across the country facing the same challenges you do and can talk with them about solutions.*

**Best piece of business advice you've gotten or learned over the years?**

*Never stop researching and learning. We are still learning new things after 11 years. Also, make it bigger than you think you need to (Everything).*

## Industry News

Good article about how a community (King County in Washington) is wrestling with its solid waste plan and considering WTE as the solution:

<https://www.wastedive.com/news/king-county-washington-cedar-hills-landfill-export-wte/567912/>

Sen. Susan Collins is now backing the RECYCLE Act, a bill the CDRA has already endorsed, to educate the public about recycling: :

<https://www.sunjournal.com/2019/12/02/susan-collins-backs-bill-to-bolster-local-recycling-rates-across-the-country/>

An article on WTE, using an Oregon facility that presents both sides' viewpoints:

<https://www.wastedive.com/news/covanta-marion-air-pollution-climate-greenhouse-gas-oregon/568268/>

## Submit Newsletter Content

Do you have industry content to be considered for CDRA's monthly e-Newsletter? We encourage you to submit ideas as often as you have them. Although not every news item is shared, we will review each submission based on our audience's interests and information needs.

Thank you!

[Submit Your News Item](#)

**Follow us on Social Media!**

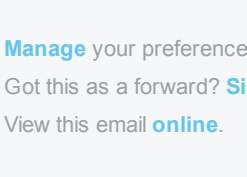


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