

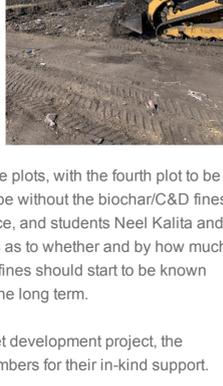
## Mixing C&D Fines and Biochar Research

### CDRA project proceeding in Florida landfill thanks to several members



With oversight from Dr. Timothy Townsend, four plots of land in the Sarasota County landfill have been prepared by University of Florida graduate students as part of the CDRA's ongoing efforts to help find end markets for C&D materials.

As background, the concept was to try to stop the development of H<sub>2</sub>S gas by C&D fines used as alternative daily cover in landfills, which had been a common market for the processed material until recently. Adding biochar to the fines in the lab has shown to attenuate the H<sub>2</sub>S creation, and the next step was a large-scale demonstration in a live landfill.



Different levels of biochar made from post-consumer B and C wood will be mixed in three of the plots, with the fourth plot to be used as a control to show what the baseline would be without the biochar/C&D fines mix. The plots are located not far from the landfill face, and students Neel Kalita and Nicole Robey oversaw the installation. Initial results as to whether and by how much the biochar attenuates the creation of H<sub>2</sub>S from the fines should start to be known within a month, and the plan is to monitor this over the long term.

While the CDRA is financially supporting this market development project, the organization owes a debt of gratitude to several members for their in-kind support.

First are the several members who donated C&D fines to test early in the project when we were checking feasibility in the lab. Also important is the supply of biochar donated from two sources, John Thomas at R&B Debris and Michelle and Paul Kuhar from Champion Waste & Recycling.

Currently, the project is moving forward thanks to the support of the Sarasota County Solid Waste Department, thanks to Jason Timmons, Solid Waste Engineer, and Lois Rose, Manager Landfill Operations. The CDRA member facility has generously donated fines, including adding gypsum to them in order to bring them up to levels seen throughout the country, and arranging for movement of the material around and placing it in the test plots.

Others involved in the project include:

With Sarasota County:

- Jeff Edwards, Maintenance Manager
- Frank Bennett, Skilled Trades Worker
- Chris Warren, Skilled Trades Worker
- Gary Bujnowski, Skilled Trades Worker
- Ben Lopez, Solid Waste Engineer Intern

Onsite Supporting Contractors:

- The crew at the WCA/GFL C&D Processing Facility onsite for supplying the RSM/drywall mixture
- The crew at Advanced Disposal/Waste Management for helping with stockpiling and moving materials for the project

The CDRA appreciates the in-kind support that all involved have provided to make this experiment work.

## CDRA Endorses RECYCLE Act Now Reintroduced in Congress

A bill recently reintroduced by lead sponsor Sen. Rob Portman of Ohio would provide \$100 million in federal funding for education of the general public on how to recycle properly, including for C&D materials. Unlike other recycling bills currently in Congress, this one did include C&D as part of its coverage. Here is a press release on the reintroduction:

[Learn More](#)

### CDRA Member Spotlight:

**Rody Taylor,**  
**Owner**

**KC Dumpster**  
**Lee's Summit, MO**



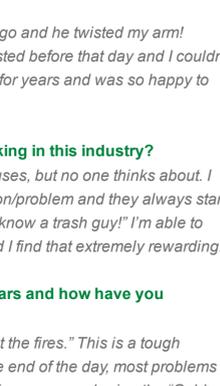
**What materials do you recycle? Can you describe the volume and types of incoming materials you process?**

*In addition to our hauling side, we operate a public disposal facility for our local city. At that site we currently recycle paper, plastic, cardboard, aluminum, steel, yard waste, clean lumber, concrete, electronics, and mattresses.*



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

*I was working for a masonry contractor and I noticed how much waste was at the jobsites I was on, so I approached the general contractor about hauling it off for them. That turned into a small business and grew over the last 16 years.*



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

*In the Midwest we still have cheap disposal rates at landfills and in the Kansas City area specifically, end markets can be difficult. I think the biggest challenge to me is educating key people about the advantages of C&D recycling.*

**Where are the biggest opportunities?**

*I like the quote that says, "Every problem is an opportunity in disguise." In my area, there is very little C&D recycling. That is a problem and a huge opportunity. I hope to be the guy who brings change to my community.*

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

*We have been a member for three years.*

**What inspired you to join CDRA?**

*I met Bill Turley at the WasteExpo a few years ago and he twisted my arm! Honestly, I didn't know that the organization existed before that day and I couldn't wait to join. I had been trying to do these things for years and was so happy to see that there is a group like this.*

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

*Waste is one of those industries that everyone uses, but no one thinks about. I am always getting calls from folks with a question/problem and they always start the conversation by saying, "I'm so happy that I know a trash guy!" I'm able to solve a problem and educate in the moment and I find that extremely rewarding.*

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

*I tell my wife that my job description is to "put out the fires." This is a tough industry, and we all face challenges daily. At the end of the day, most problems deal with people and personalities. In my experience, remembering the "Golden Rule" has served me well.*

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

*The story behind my name is a little interesting. My great-grandpa was a fat baby that apparently looked like a little toad, so they nick-named him "Toady." As a child it apparently evolved into "Rody" and that was what stuck. When I was born, my dad wanted me to be "Rody" but my mom thought that it was not a good choice. Obviously, dad won the argument.*

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

*I learned so much at the recent meeting in Austin about all the exciting trends and what's happening in other parts of the country. I think what impressed me the most was the possible uses of recycled drywall. The presentation about what they are doing to turn it into a useful product was interesting. That could be a big "game changer."*

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

*I talked with some folks last month about this very thing and my advice was to just "start small." I found a need and I plugged away for many years. Too many people want to jump into the deep water, and they dismiss the benefits of the process. A solid career (or business) doesn't happen overnight, it takes time.*

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

*The best piece of advice I received was to always "take care of your people." My old boss told me that years ago. I am successful because of the people around me that make me look good every day. When you take care of employees, they take care of you.*

**Would you like to have your company in a spotlight like this? Contact CDRA Executive Director William Turley at [turley@cdrecycling.org](mailto:turley@cdrecycling.org); 630-258-9047.**

## WasteExpo Moving Forward

Most of us have never experienced a pandemic before — or its consequences. But now, it's time to get back to business. And WasteExpo is taking steps to ensure your safety. For 50+ years, WasteExpo has provided the industry with comradery, opportunity, technology, and the most comprehensive education program in the industry.

Join WasteExpo at the leading solid waste and recycling event in North America, June 28-30, 2021 in Las Vegas.

CDRA leaders and committee members will be on hand in Las Vegas for an early summer Board meeting and other committee planning meetings. If you plan to remain in town through the end of WasteExpo, and wish to join us for these CDRA meetings, please reach out to Executive Director [Bill Turley](#) or Director of Operations [Peter Doherty](#) for the meeting schedule.

[Learn More & Register](#)

## Industry News

The state government of California put the waste and recycling industry into turmoil with an unexpected decision on treated wood disposal, making it the same as hazardous waste. Here is an article about the situation. CDRA Vice President Brock Hill, Premier Recycle, San Jose, CA, did a good job explaining to the reporter the situation it put the industry in:

[How a Surprising Newsom Veto threw California's Garbage, Building Industries into Chaos](#)

At its face-to-face meeting during the recent C&D World in Austin, TX, the Legislative Committee discussed at great length the effects the Environmental Justice movement will have on C&D recyclers, such as stoppage of a huge highway project in Houston. Imagine if you were expecting to sell 100,000 tons of recycled aggregate to that job, and this stopped it:

[DOT Halts Texas Highway Project in Test of Biden's Promises on Race](#)

Somewhat related to that, and not unexpectedly, the Palmer Renewable Energy permit in Massachusetts was canceled 12 years after it was issued. This article claims it was an EJ victory. This plant was designed to take C&D wood biomass, and now that potential outlet is gone:

[Mass. Revokes Air Permit For Controversial Biomass Facility In Springfield](#)

CDRA member DTG has made another acquisition, this one in the Seattle/Tacoma, WA area:

[DTG Recycle Acquires Kleensweep's Collection and Recycling Services Division](#)

## 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](#)

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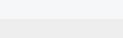


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