

What's Happening Legislatively In Your State?

One of the perks of being a CDRA member company is that we help you track state-introduced legislation that would affect your construction material recycling business. On a weekly basis, we send out a report prepared by Serlin Haley that provides information on legislation making progress in all 50 states that can affect C&D businesses in a variety of ways.

This service, which isn't inexpensive, is helpful because the overwhelming majority of construction material recyclers do not have the resources to hire a lobbyist to keep track of what their state legislature might be doing that could impact their businesses. And just because the bill isn't introduced into your state, many legislatures copy each others' actions, so similar legislation may be coming soon to a state capital near you.

For example, some bills may promote recycling by requiring a certain percentage of construction or demolition materials be recycled on each project, or that a higher level of recycled aggregates be used in state highway projects. There are also bills that can provide challenges to recycling businesses, such as environmental justice laws.

Here are some recent specific examples of bills described in the report:

Massachusetts

HB 2157, (HD 2540) reintroduced for the 2023-24 session on **Jan. 19**, would prohibit burning construction and demolition waste as biofuel. On **Mar. 16** the bill was referred to the Joint Committee on Public Health.

Hawaii

HB 1406, introduced on **Jan. 25**, would require the Department of Transportation to conduct a two-year study on the maximized use of recycled asphalt. After being amended and receiving favorable reports from three House committees, it passed the House on **Mar. 2** and proceeded to the Senate, where it was ultimately referred to three Senate committees: Transportation and Culture and the Arts, Agriculture and Environment, and Ways and Means. The first two of these, meeting jointly, amended it and reported it favorably on **Mar. 24**, sending it on to Ways and Means.

New York

AB 1836, introduced on **Jan. 23** by Majority Whip Bill Colton, would require all contractors in cities having a population of one million or more — meaning New York City — to recycle 50% of the waste generated on construction and demolition sites. Upon introduction, AB 1836 was referred to the Assembly Committee on Environmental Conservation. On **Mar. 9** the Assembly Environmental Committee took up the bill and reported it favorably, sending it over to the Assembly Codes Committee. On **Mar. 15** the Assembly Codes Committee likewise reported it favorably, advancing the language to the Assembly Ways and Means Committee. A Senate companion bill, **SB 4720**, was introduced on **Feb. 14** and referred to the Senate Committee on Cities.

AB 2550, introduced on **Jan. 26**, would require all contractors in the state to recycle or reuse at least 50% of the waste generated by construction and demolition debris. Upon introduction, the bill was referred to the Assembly Committee on Environmental Conservation. A Senate companion, **SB 5160**, was filed on **Feb. 23** and referred to the Senate Environmental Conservation Committee.

Pennsylvania

HB 379, introduced on **Mar. 13**, would amend the Pennsylvania Construction Code Act to set demolition standards for dwellings constructed before 1930. It was promptly referred to the House Committee on Housing and Community Development.

Illinois

SB 1323, introduced on **Feb. 7**, would require the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency to establish a process where communities not currently designated as environmental justice communities could petition for such a designation. The bill awaits a committee assignment. **SB 1823**, introduced on **Feb. 10**, runs parallel to the aforementioned SB 1323 and would require the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency to annually review and update its underlying data with regard to communities that could be designated as environmental justice communities. On **Feb. 28** the bill was referred to the Senate State Government Committee, which scheduled a hearing for **Mar. 9** but that has since been postponed, the bill was then sent back to the Committee on Assignments. A House companion, **HB 2620**, was introduced on **Feb. 16**, and on **Feb. 28** it was referred to the House Energy and Environment Committee, which took up the bill on **Mar. 8**. The committee voted to report the bill favorably, sending it to Second Reading. On **Mar. 15** the bill moved to the House Floor and advanced to Third Reading.

Massachusetts

HB 1644, (HD 2294) introduced on **Jan. 21**, would require the state to cap on the total number of Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) facilities that may be sited or expanded within any Environmental Justice Population neighborhood. On **Mar. 16** the bill was referred to the Joint Committee on the Judiciary.

HD 4161, filed on **Feb. 17** and dubbed the "Green Zones Act," would require the state's environmental department to conduct "environmental audits" of environmental justice communities in the state and create neighborhood-specific recommendations for improvement. A Senate version of this bill, **SD 2493**, was introduced on **Mar. 6**.

SB 529, originally introduced as SD 1240 on **Jan. 19**, would require the state to adopt regulations to deal with violations of permits by facilities in environmental justice communities. On **Mar. 10** SB 570 was referred to the Joint Committee on Environment and Natural Resources.

It should be obvious how legislation such as this could affect your business. The report also provides explanation on the status of each bill, and its probability of getting passed. Make sure to check the Legislative Report email the CDRA sends every week. It is better to know what is going on when a bill is being considered rather than having to find out later what happened.

For more information about this service, contact CDRA Executive Director Becky Caldwell, caldwell@cdrecycling.org.

Congratulations to the 2022 Safety Award Winners!

CDRA has long honored and recognized leaders in the C&D industry who show dedication to safe practices, and our 2023 awards ceremony at the Paris Hotel in Las Vegas, NV honored the recipients of the Best Practices in Safety Awards from 2022. The CDRA has created the Best Practices in Safety Awards program to recognize those companies that have achieved a high level of safety management. All member companies who submitted a request for consideration completed a detailed application and shared their latest safety management initiatives. Congratulations to the following companies, who achieved Silver or Gold award level this year.

Silver Award

- Construction & Demolition Recycling, Inc.
- Hainesport Transportation Group
- Rockwood Sustainable Solutions

Gold Award

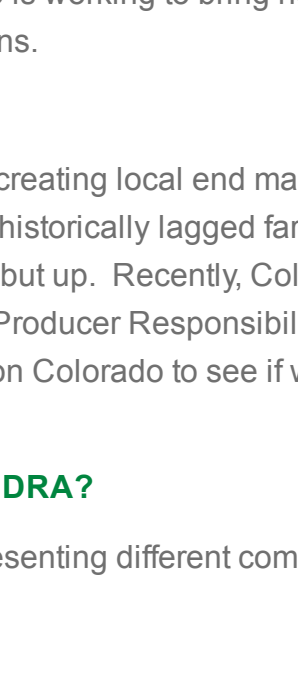
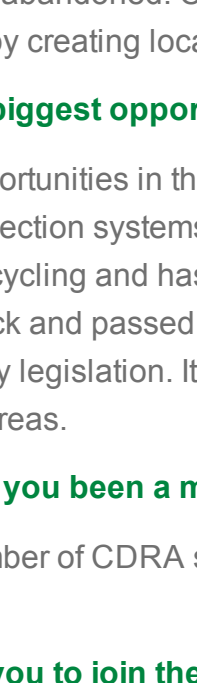
- American DND, Inc.
- Arcosa Crushed Concrete
- Champion Waste & Recycling Services
- Dem-Con Companies LLC
- DTG Enterprises, Inc.
- JR Ramon
- Lautenbach Recycling
- Michael Brothers Hauling Inc.
- Mount Materials
- Posillico Materials
- Premier Recycle Company
- Southwind RAS, LLC

Special thanks go to those involved in the selection process. We were happy to award a record number of Safety Awards this year! We hope that your company will consider applying for this free, members-only recognition program in fall 2023.

Congratulations to Timothy Townsend for the Publication of his book *Construction and Demolition Debris!*

We are thrilled to share the exciting news that one of our very own CDRA members, Timothy Townsend, along with his former student, Dr. Malak Anshari, has recently published a book on Construction and Demolition Debris with Springer Press. The book covers various fundamental concepts related to construction and demolition debris management, including three chapters specifically dedicated to recycling approaches and policies, processing for recycling, and markets. The book also includes photos from member facilities and equipment. We are proud to note that the CDRA's support has been specifically called out in the acknowledgments. We are delighted to have played a part in supporting this impressive achievement, and we extend our warmest congratulations to Timothy and his co-author on this milestone. We hope this book will help further elevate the profession of sound and sustainable construction and demolition debris management, which the CDRA has long promoted.

[Purchase the Book](#)



CDRA Member Spotlight of the Month: Laurie Johnson, Founder and CEO of Circular Colorado

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

Circular Colorado does not directly process materials. Circular Colorado was formed in 2021 by Laurie Johnson and a six-member advisory board of local recycling industry professionals who are dedicated to advancing the collection of recyclable materials and creating end markets to form circular economies. We were recently named as the contractor that will create and administer the new Circular Economy Development Center (CEDC) in Colorado that was brought about by the passing of Colorado **HOUSE BILL 22-1159**.

Our goal for the CEDC is to expand three existing material markets and create three new markets for materials that are currently going to landfills in Colorado. C&D materials are a major focus in new market creation. Our initial focus will be on asphalt shingles and wallboard (gypsum).

How did you get started in the business?

I got started in the recycling business promoting compost services in Arizona and then moved to advancing single-stream recycling across the country as the National VP with Recyclebank, a recycling incentive program targeted to assist city and county recycling programs. In 2017 I became the Executive Director for Recycle Colorado and took a deep dive into C&D and the development of end markets for both single-stream and C&D recyclables. I also worked for a local C&D hauling company in Denver and began to work on solutions for recycling C&D waste.

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

The biggest challenges in the Colorado market for C&D recycling are low landfill costs, a lack of policy supporting C&D recycling, and most critical barriers in permitting and available property with the appropriate industrial zoning. Additionally, the state deemed asphalt shingles non-recyclable due to large shingle piles that were eventually abandoned. Circular Colorado is working to bring new solutions for C&D materials by creating local market solutions.

Where are the biggest opportunities?

The biggest opportunities in this market are in creating local end markets and solutions for recycling systems. Colorado has historically lagged far behind the rest of the U.S. in recycling and has nowhere to go but up. Recently, Colorado jumped ahead of the pack and passed both the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) and circular economy legislation. It's now all eyes on Colorado to see if we can move the needle in both areas.

How long have you been a member of the CDRA?

I've been a member of CDRA since 2019 representing different companies and organizations.

What inspired you to join the CDRA?

I joined CDRA for two reasons. First is the focus on C&D and the fact that CDRA is a national organization. This promotes a broader sharing of ideas and resources. Second, I wanted to tap into the network of subject matter experts and CDRA attracts those.

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

My favorite things about the C&D recycling industry are that there's an opportunity to not only work to preserve resources but also to contribute to economic growth and vitality. The materials we are working to recycle have the potential to have many additional lives as new products.

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

The biggest challenges in C&D recycling and recycling, in general, have been creating the demand for recycling and finding ways to make it profitable enough to stay in business or start up a new recycling business. One of the biggest hurdles in recycling is the concept that it shouldn't cost money to recycle and it certainly shouldn't cost more than disposal, but often it does. This can make it difficult to acquire enough customers to support a healthy business. We need national marketing campaigns that begin to educate the general public on why recycling is important, why it can cost more than trash, but that it also creates more jobs and economic opportunities than disposal does. We also need a policy that supports recycling to assist with creating demand.

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

I have a business mentee in Uganda and participate in a coffee farm there.

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

Luckily, the industry is expanding and policies are beginning to be put in place to support recycling and the creation of end markets (circular economies). I think we are going to see the trend of EPR and circular economy continue across the U.S. which will support the advancement of recycling and producing products made from recycled materials. We are also seeing more required reporting, transparency, and data collection which also supports our industry and begins to legitimize it more.

I think we will soon see "trash" looked at as an economic opportunity versus something that is a one-time sale to a landfill.

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

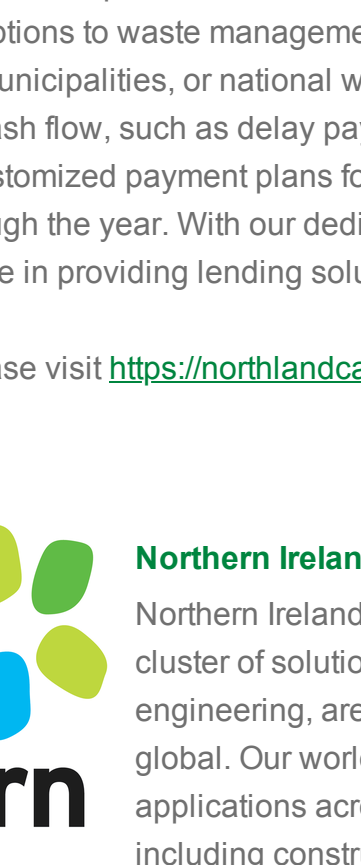
Join organizations like CDRA to submerge yourself in the industry and to surround yourself with knowledge and subject matter experts. The recycling industry is a collaborative space, and we need good people to continue to join. I would also tell someone to make sure they are well versed on all the policies, laws, rules, and regulations that affect the material(s) they are recycling.

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

The best thing I've learned over the years is to continue to expand your network. Don't create or start something in a bubble. You can never learn enough, and you don't have to reinvent the wheel.

Waste Expo

The CDRA is all set make an impact at **Waste Expo 2023**. Waste Expo 2023 is a premier event for waste management and recycling professionals to gather and discuss industry trends and innovations that will be held May 1st - 4th in New Orleans, LA. CDRA's presence at the event will provide a platform for members to network with peers, learn about the latest advancements in the industry, and showcase their products and services. This event is an excellent opportunity for the CDRA and its members to increase awareness and promote sustainable practices in the construction and demolition industry. Be sure to visit us at **Booth #3916!**



an event by
Waste360™

Upcoming Committee Meetings

Legislative Committee – May 11th from 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM ET

Membership & Marketing Committee – May 11th from 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM ET

Safety & Risk Management Committee – May 16th from 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM ET

CDRA will be at **Booth #3916** at the **Waste Expo** show in **New Orleans, LA** starting on **May 2nd**, and we hope to see you there!

*These dates and times are subject to change. Committee meetings are open to all members. To attend a meeting, please contact Michael Van Kerckhove at vankerckhove@cdrecycling.org.

Welcome, New Members!

Please join us in welcoming CDRA new members that have joined in the past year:



Hemmelgarn Services, Inc.

Hemmelgarn Services Inc. is a family-owned and operated business servicing the Dayton, Ohio area for over 30 years. Specializing in roll-off services for the collection, processing, and disposal of construction and demolition (C&D) and household debris, our goal is to redefine solutions to meet our customers' waste management, LEED recycling, and roll-off service needs. Materials currently being recycled include Cardboard, Concrete, Metal, Wood, and miscellaneous special waste streams.

For more information, please visit <https://hemmelgarnservices.com/>.



Northland Capital Equipment Finance

Finding the right lending partner can make all the difference. As a nationwide direct lender in the renewable energy, scrap metal, construction and demolition, and wood processing equipment industries, Northland Capital offers lending solutions that accommodate your brand, sales process, and equipment types. We are a valuable resource to understand how essential selling equipment is to your business and how essential equipment is to your customer's operations.

We provide customized options to waste management businesses, recycling companies, city or state municipalities, or national waste management corporations that match cash flow, such as delay pay to correspond with equipment production, customized payment plans for seasonal times, or fluctuating payments through the year. With our dedicated team in the industry, we are a valuable resource in providing lending solutions.

For more information, please visit <https://northlandcapital.com/>.



Invest Northern Ireland

Northern Ireland

Northern Ireland is home to a unique cluster of solution providers who excel at engineering, are innovative, and are truly global. Our world-class products have applications across different sectors including construction, mining, quarrying, demolition, ports, agriculture, airports, and recycling. In Northern Ireland, you will find engineering and manufacturing excellence supported by a comprehensive supply chain to ensure our solutions are reliable and high performing, always delivering economic and environmental benefits. With offices in Boston, New York, Chicago, and San Francisco, Invest Northern Ireland is ready to help distributors or operators in the US find the right equipment solutions for them.

For more information, please visit <https://www.investni.com/>.



Seneca Engineering

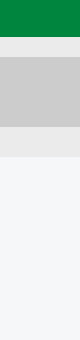
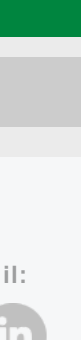
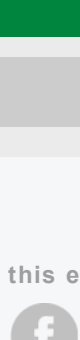
Established in 2019, Seneca Engineering, LLC (Seneca) provides a growing variety of

Engineering, Project Management, Compliance Support, and Construction Management services. Strategically established to provide engineering support to clients across Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Indiana.

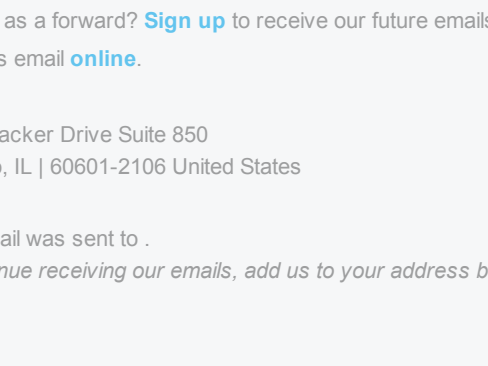
Over the past four years, Seneca has grown through its consulting engineering capabilities and long-term network across the region. Starting slowly with just a few staff, and a small handful of clients, Seneca has strategically networked and grown its client base to well over forty (40) clients in a variety of service areas.

For more information, please visit <https://www.senecaengr.com/>.

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