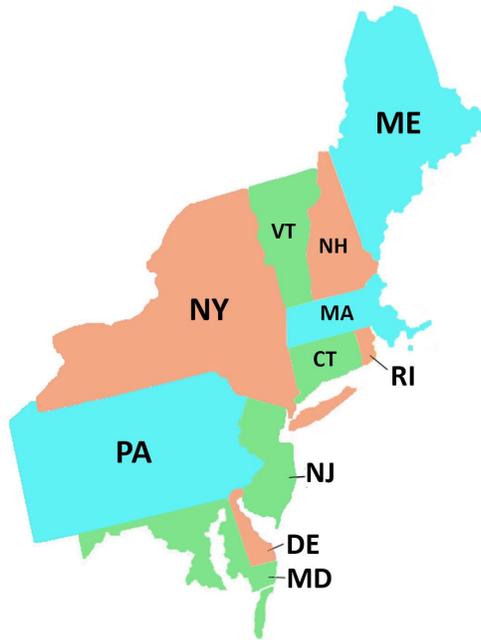




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FY22 Annual Report

July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022



NERC's mission is to minimize waste, conserve natural resources, and advance a sustainable economy through facilitated collaboration and action.

NERC is an equal opportunity employer and provider.

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INTRODUCTION

In fiscal year 2022, all NERC employees continued working from home and the practice of virtual events and presentations. As always, it was an extremely active and productive year. Among the organizational accomplishments were:

- Continued USDA grant to work on glass recycling in Maine
- Staffed several NERC committees: Bottle Bills, Organics End-Markets, Model Minimum Recycled Content Legislation for Glass Containers & Fiberglass, Model legislation for Minimum Postconsumer Recycled Content Requirements for Plastic Products and Packaging, and Regional Recycling Markets
- Initiated a multi-committee call and monthly summaries
- Awarded an extension of the Vermont State Standard Plan for electronics recycling contract
- Continued implementation of the Joint NERC-NEWMOA Strategic Action Plan
- Continued hosting the Government Recycling Demand Champion, Electronics Recycling Coordination Clearinghouse, and State Electronics Challenge programs
- 81 new documents and recordings, and 3 revised documents were posted, including webinar recordings (10) and more PowerPoint presentations
- Delivered 19 presentations, with almost 8,000 registrants
- Hosted 10 webinars with almost 8,000 registrants
- Expanded our social media presence
- Significantly increased website visits
- Added two additional Ex Officio Board Members

ORGANIZATION

Board of Directors

NERC is led by a Board of Directors (Board) with representatives from the dues-paying member northeastern states, as well as four Ex Officio members. The Board is a dynamic force that guides the organization and shepherds its success. In FY 2022 NERC's Board members were:

- **Connecticut:** Robert Isner, Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection
- **Delaware:** Rick Watson, Delaware Solid Waste Authority
- **Maine:** Megan Pryor, Maine Department of Environmental Protection
- **Maryland:** Kaley Laleker, Maryland Department of the Environment
- **Massachusetts:** Brooke Nash, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
- **New Hampshire:** Michael Nork, New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services
- **New Jersey:** Vacant, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
- **New York:** Terry Laibach & John Vana, New York Department of Environmental Conservation
- **Rhode Island:** Jared Rhodes, Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation
- **Vermont:** Josh Kelly, Vermont Agency of Natural Resources
- **Ex Officio:** Resa Dimino
- **Ex Officio:** Jen Heaton-Jones
- **Ex Officio:** Chip Foley
- **Ex Officio:** Chaz Miller

Officers of NERC

NERC's officers constitute the Executive Committee, which has general administrative oversight for the management of NERC and may act in lieu of the full Board of Directors between meetings. The Executive Committee consists of the President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. The Secretary is a non-elected position held by NERC's Executive Director.

- **President:** Josh Kelly, Vermont Agency of Natural Resources
- **Vice President:** Megan Pryor, Maine Department of Environmental Protection
- **Treasurer:** Rick Watson, Delaware Solid Waste Authority
- **Secretary:** Lynn Rubinstein, Executive Director, NERC

Staff

NERC staff is responsible for project development and implementation, providing member services, organizing conferences, workshops, and Board meetings, grant writing and fundraising, and the daily operation of the organization. There were four positions:

- Lynn Rubinstein, Executive Director
- Mary Ann Remolador, Assistant Director
- Robert Kropp, Bookkeeper/Office Manager
- Melissa Lavoie, Toxics in Packaging Clearinghouse Program Manager

Ms. Lavoie left NERC's employ at the end of December, coincident with the transition of the Toxics in Packaging Clearinghouse departure and move to the Northeast Waste Management Officials' Association (NEWMOA).

Advisory Members

NERC encourages the public and private sectors to become involved in the organization and offers the opportunity to join as non-voting Advisory Members. The result is a broadened and strengthened organization. One of the benefits to Advisory Members are "Advisory Members Only Luncheons" held during conferences. These discussions are always informative, interesting, and far reaching, and include important recommendations for NERC.

During FY 2022 there were 103 Advisory Members, the same as in FY 2021. Overall Advisory Membership included 5 Benefactors, 41 Sustaining Members, and 57 Supporting Members.

Another method of engaging Advisory Members is by recognizing significant contributions to support the longevity of NERC. Benefactors are honored with awards for their ongoing support.

Sustaining and Benefactor level memberships also have Member Spotlights published in the NERC Bulletin about their organization. The Member Spotlights are included in the Email Bulletin, on the NERC home page, and archived on the Member Spotlight section of the [NERC website](#).

Benefactors and Sustaining Members contribute at a higher dollar level than do Supporting Members, with Benefactors supporting NERC at the highest level. [Appendix A](#) details fiscal year 2022 Advisory Members.

Environmental Sustainability Leadership Award Winners

NERC presented its annual Distinguished Partnership Award and its 2021 Environmental Sustainability Leadership Awards as part of the NERC Virtual Fall Conference.

The Distinguished Partnership Awards went to the following organizations for their long-standing support of NERC and leadership in the environmental community:

- Bottle Crusher US
- Consumer Technology Association
- Panasonic
- Samsung
- Waste Management

Three outstanding programs received awards, as well as two special recognitions. Each of the winners was selected for its particularly high level of environmental achievement that supports NERC's mission. Awards were presented the winners in the opening session of the NERC's Fall Conference:

- *Advisory Member award* – Waste Management for recycling food waste at its CORE® facilities and generating green energy
- *Public Sector award* – Maryland Green Purchasing Committee for its Conserving Resources and Promoting Recycled Content through its state procurement program
- *Private Sector award* - Green Kelly Board for developing a process for recycling aseptic cartons into a usable product
- *Special Recognition* – Earthworm Recycling in recognition of more than 50 years of being a self-supporting non-profit dedicated to the promotion of recycling
- *Special Recognition* – The staff of the Northeast Recycling Council for their ongoing dedication to the organization and achievements in support of NERC

NERC in the News

NERC and its programs were recognized in many national and regional publications throughout fiscal year 2022. Eighty-four (84) news stories featuring NERC were posted in the "NERC in the News" section of the [website](#) during the fiscal year.

July 2021

- [RecycleCT launches RecycleCT Wizard app](#). The RecycleCT Foundation launches the Wizard App to help households make the correct recycling decisions. The article cites NERC's latest report on the blended value of a ton of materials marketed at MRFs in the Northeast.
- [Northstar Engages Wellington Dupont Public Affairs To Lead Government Engagement on the Reduction of Single-Use Asphalt Shingle Disposal Into Landfills](#). Efforts to reduce single-use asphalt shingle disposal into landfills across Canada cites NERC report, "Asphalt Shingles Manufacturing & Waste Management in the Northeast Fact Sheet".
- [Northstar Produces Liquid Asphalt, Fiber and Aggregate in Small Batch Commissioning Runs and Receives Preliminary Testing Results from Third Party Independent Lab](#). A report on the successful recycling of single-use asphalt shingles cites NERC's study of the impact of them on the waste stream.
- [Recyclers report strong demand for recovered paper persists in July](#). NERC's recent report reveals that demand for old corrugated containers (OCC) and mixed paper is increasing.

- [Confused about what can be recycled in CT? There's an app for that.](#) RecycleCT, a program administered by NERC, develops an app to clarify for Connecticut residents what should or should not go in recycling bins.
- [News from Circulate Capital, TOMRA Recycling and more.](#) An office within the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ) has joined NERC's Government Recycling Demand Champions program.
- [Changing dynamics of the C&D recycling industry.](#) NERC "created a helpful list of all statewide disposal bans and mandatory recycling guidelines in the country. The list is regularly updated, most recently in October 2020," the article states.
- [States and Federal Government Continue to Advance Plastics Recycling and Minimum Recycled Content Mandates.](#) NERC's consultation with Connecticut is cited in overview of states' efforts to improve plastics recycling.

August 2021

- [Organic growth: Grassroots efforts promote food-scrap composting on LI.](#) NERC's Assistant Director Mary Ann Remolador is quoted in a Newsday article about the growth of composting on Long Island NY.
- [NERC Blended Value of a MRF Ton Update Demonstrates Positive Trends in Region.](#) NERC's report on the blended value of a ton of materials in Northeastern MRFs has been updated to cover the period of April – June 2021.
- [How Upcycling Fights Food Insecurity and Climate Change - Part 2.](#) NERC hosts a webinar on preventing food waste. Part 2 of 2.
- [How Upcycling Fights Food Insecurity and Climate Change - Part 1.](#) NERC hosts a webinar on preventing food waste.
- [Northeast Recycling Council Virtual Fall Conference - Reuse, Solar Panel Recycling, Soil & Environmental Justice Oct. 12-14.](#) The [Northeast Recycling Council](#) will host its virtual Fall Conference October 12-14 with the theme-- [Reuse, Solar, Soil and Justice](#). Among the Conference presentations is a panel on reusing and recycling solar panels, reuse and environmental justice, the country's strongest environmental justice law and much more.

September 2021

- [In My Opinion: Steps to address diversity in recycling.](#) NERC's Assistant Director Mary Ann Remolador outlines NERC's efforts to improve diversity in the solid waste management industry.
- [Northeast MRFs enjoy higher commodity prices.](#) NERC's latest quarterly survey of MRFs in the Northeast reports the value of a blended ton of recyclables was \$125.13 during the second quarter, up 144% year over year and 41% from the first quarter of 2021.

October 2021

- [Why the EPA's Recycling Economic Information \(REI\) is Crucial to Demonstrating Industry Impact.](#) On a NERC webinar, EPA economist Lawrence Doppelt presents on the Agency's Recycling Economic Information (REI) report.
- [Pizza boxes can be recycled, experts say — but there are exceptions to the rule.](#) NERC study reveals that most pizza boxes can be recycled.
- [News from Mattress Recycling Council, Novelis and more.](#) NERC's first diversity, equity and inclusion (DE&I) training will be held December 9th.
- [Waste Advantage and Waste Dive Cover Matt Karmel's NERC Environmental Justice Presentation.](#) At NERC's Fall Conference, attorney Matthew Karmel discussed New Jersey's environmental justice law.
- [NERC requests comments for glass recycled-content model legislation.](#) NERC is requesting public comments for the Draft Glass Minimum Postconsumer Recycled Content Model Legislation.

- [**NERC Opens Public Comment for Draft Model Legislation on Glass Recycled Content.**](#) A webinar is scheduled for Nov. 3 at 10 a.m. EDT to discuss the Draft Model Legislation and to answer questions.
- [**Community engagement is critical to environmental justice progress: NERC conference.**](#) Environmental justice is highlighted in NERC's recent Fall Conference.
- [**Amid shipping crisis, recycling loads often 'first to get cut'.**](#) A session during NERC's recent all Conference focused on the impact of the global shipping crisis on the shipping of recycled material.
- [**Public Comment Period Open Until November 11 for Draft Glass Minimum Post-Consumer Recycled Content Model Legislation.**](#) NERC invites comments on the Draft Glass Minimum Post-Consumer Recycled Content Model Legislation.
- [**Why carton recycling has stalled in one state.**](#) NERC's most recent quarterly survey of MRFs determines that cartons comprise less than one percent of recyclables sold in the Northeast.
- [**Day 2 of NERC's Fall Conference Talks New Jersey's Environmental Justice Law, Communities and Solar Panel Recycling.**](#) Press coverage of Day 2 of NERC's Fall 2021 Conference.
- [**Final Day of NERC Conference Focuses on Reuse Markets and Economic and Social Justice Opportunities.**](#) Press coverage of the third and final day of NERC's Fall 2021 Conference.
- [**States and Federal Government Continue to Advance Plastics Recycling and Minimum Recycled Content Mandates.**](#) NERC is called on to consult with the Connecticut Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection to help develop recycled content requirements.
- [**Maryland Green Purchasing Committee Earns "Public Sector Environmental Sustainability Leadership Award" from Northeast Recycling Council...**](#) At NERC's Fall Conference, Maryland Green Purchasing Committee is awarded for its environmental sustainability.
- [**Day 1 of Northeast Recycling Council's Virtual Fall Conference Covers Environmental Justice, Recycling Policies and Compostable Packaging.**](#) Day 1 of NERC's Fall 2021 Conference.
- [**Pollution impacts are just a piece of environmental justice.**](#) EPA official Carlton Waterhouse speaks on environmental justice on Day 1 of NERC's Fall 2021 Conference.

November 2021

- [**EPA publishes finalized National Recycling Strategy.**](#) Carlton Waterhouse, deputy administrator of the EPA's Office of Land and Emergency Management, was a keynote speaker at NERC's Fall 2021 Conference.
- [**News roundup: Vermont Dept. of Health reports 222 new COVID-19 infections Monday.**](#) Vermont Public Radio news roundup includes NERC's report on increasing value of recyclables.
- [**NERC Recycling Markets Report Published – Continued Positive Growth.**](#) The 10th in NERC's series of quarterly reports on the market value of commodities from MRFs in the Northeast.
- [**Massachusetts banning disposal of textiles, mattresses and more organics in 2022.**](#) NERC's Executive Director Lynn Rubinstein is quoted.
- [**Solid Waste Working Group Holds First Meeting.**](#) NERC is a stakeholder in New Hampshire's Solid Waste Working Group.
- [**SWANA report examines the value of recyclables.**](#) SWANA's report cites NERC's Report on Blended MRF Commodity Values in the Northeast from April to June 30.

December 2021

- [**Blended Commodity \(Scrap\) Values in the Northeast: Northeast Recycling Council Report.**](#) NERC's report on blended commodity values in the Northeast is featured.
- [**How DEI Initiatives Assist Companies with Entering New Markets and Enhance Market Share.**](#) NERC hosted its [**first session in a series**](#) of diversity, equity and inclusion training events titled, "Making the Case for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion – Building the Foundation for DE&I in the Workplace."

- [**Eunomia Research's Perlman Creates Data-Driven Solutions.**](#) Perlman is working with NERC on model legislation requiring a minimum percentage of recycled content in glass.
- [**Our Shopping Obsession Is a Boon to Box Makers, But Not to Their Neighbors.**](#) NERC reports there are 30 new or updated recycled paper mills in the US since 2017.
- [**News from Association of Plastic Recyclers, Veolia and more.**](#) NERC will host a webinar on January 6, exploring the benefits and unintended consequences of recycled-content mandates.
- [**China's ban on scrap imports a boon to U.S. recycling plants.**](#) NERC's report on recycled paper capacity is cited.
- [**Northeast MRFs report skyrocketing bale values.**](#) NERC reports a sharp increase in recyclables prices during the third quarter of 2021.

January 2022

- [**Northeast Recycling Council Spring Virtual Conference April 12-13 - Seeking Circularity with Non-Traditional Solutions.**](#)
- [**U.S. Plastics Pact releases anticipated 'problematic' materials list.**](#) NERC is a member of the U.S. Plastics Pact.
- [**Northeast Recycling Council Makes Push for Minimum Post-Consumer Recycled Plastic Requirements in Region.**](#) NERC invites public comments on its [model legislation for minimum post-consumer recycled plastic requirements.](#)
- [**Experts discuss trade-offs of recycled-content mandates.**](#) NERC convened a webinar to discuss benefits and challenges of recycled content mandates.
- [**VIRTUAL EVENT: Northeast Recycling Council's Spring Conference.**](#) NERC's virtual Spring Conference will be held on April 12 & 13.
- [**New Jersey bill passes \(and other recycled-content updates\).**](#) NERC's recycled content draft legislation is posted for comments.
- [**NERC's Minimum Post-Consumer Recycling Content Legislation Aims to Boost Glass Markets.**](#) NERC has released its [Glass Minimum Post-Consumer Recycled Content Model Legislation.](#)
- [**Experts discuss pros and cons of recycled-content mandates.**](#) NERC hosts a webinar in which recycled content mandates are discussed.
- [**News from US Composting Council, Northeast Recycling Council and more.**](#) NERC [is offering](#) two diversity, equity and inclusion (DE&I) training sessions in February.
- [**Focus on recycled content prompts search for best way to hit targets.**](#) NERC and NEWMOA seek public comment for their model legislation on recycled content in plastic products.
- [**NERC requests comments for minimum postconsumer recycled content legislation.**](#) NERC invites public comments on its [model legislation for minimum post-consumer recycled plastic requirements.](#) The public comment period is open until February 11, 2022.
- [**Northeast Recycling Council Makes Push for Minimum Post-Consumer Recycled Plastic Requirements in Region.**](#) NERC invites public comments on its [model legislation for minimum post-consumer recycled plastic requirements.](#)
- [**Minimum Post-Consumer Recycled Content Model Legislation for Plastics - Call for Comments.**](#) The public comment period for the Minimum Post-consumer Recycled Plastic Content Model Legislation is open until February 11, 2022.
- [**Northeast Recycling Council Webinar: DE&I Training Series 2: Recognizing & Addressing Unconscious Bias.**](#) Upcoming NERC webinar: DE&I Training Series 2: Recognizing & Addressing Unconscious Bias
- [**ISRI Educates Industry on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Practices.**](#) The first session of NERC's series on DE&I is featured.

March 2022

- [Chinese paper giant will up intake of OCC in Wisconsin.](#) Article on recycled cardboard expansion cites NERC's eighth update to its Summary of Announced Increased Capacity to Use Recycled Paper.
- [NERC releases update on domestic recycled paper capacity increases.](#) NERC updates its quarterly Summary of Announced Increased Capacity to use Recycled Paper.
- [MRFs report bale prices cooled in late 2021.](#) NERC conducts its eleventh survey of recycled bale prices at Northeastern MRFs.
- [NERC Releases Update on Increased Capacity to Use Recycled Paper.](#) The update indicates progress in the use of recycled paper.
- [NERC Releases Update on Increased Capacity to Use Recycled Paper.](#) For the eighth time, NERC updates its survey of paper recycling infrastructure.
- [Recycling more expensive than landfill for city of Schenectady.](#) NERC's Assistant Director May Ann Remolador emphasizes the benefits of recycling over landfilling.

April 2022

- [Miami-Dade has millions of tons of trash and is running out of places to put it.](#) NERC Executive Director Lynn Rubinstein is interviewed by the Miami Herald.
- [Diversity, equity and inclusion vital to future operations.](#) NERC's Spring Conference session on diversity, equity and inclusion is focus of Resource Recycling review.
- [Session focuses on recycling batteries big and small.](#) NERC's Spring Conference session on battery recycling is focus of Resource Recycling review.
- [Spurring action.](#) NERC's support of multiple state efforts for market development is cited.
- [M&A trends, DEI improvements and the future of electronics repair are the talk of NERC conference.](#) Waste Dive reviews sessions from NERC's virtual Spring Conference.
- [NERC Wraps Up Its Spring Conference with Discussions on DE&I, Agricultural Plastics and C&D Debris Reuse.](#) Day 2 of NERC's Spring Conference 2022 is reviewed.
- [Northeast Recycling Council Holds First Day of their Spring Virtual Conference.](#) Day 1 of NERC's Spring Conference 2022 is reviewed.
- [A 'weird' new normal.](#) NERC board member Chaz Miller is chair of the Northeast Recycling Council-Northeast Waste Management Officials' Association (NERC-NEWMOA) regional recycling markets committee.
- [China's ban on scrap imports a boon to U.S. recycling plants.](#) NERC's Fall 2021 report on recycled paper capacity is cited.

May 2022

- [We Need to Rebuild the Recycling Brand.](#) Essay references [2019 NERC blog](#) emphasizing the importance of recycling.
- [Northeast Recycling Council Call For Papers For Fall Conference Nov. 2-3.](#) NERC is accepting presentation proposals for its Fall Conference to be held November 2-3.
- [NERC Announces Upcoming Retirement of Executive Director.](#) Lynn Rubinstein, longtime Executive Director of NERC, has announced she plans to retire.
- [NERC bale value study shows declining prices.](#) The blended value for a ton of recyclables decreased in the first quarter of 2022, NERC finds.
- [NERC Releases Latest MRF Values Report – Downward Trend.](#) The 12th in NERC's series of quarterly reports on the market value of commodities from MRFs in the Northeast.
- [AMERIPEN: 'New Recycled Content Mandates Doomed To Fail'.](#) NERC's proposed Minimum Post-consumer Recycled Plastic Content Draft Model Requirements for the Sale of Trash and Carry-out Bags and Food, Beverage, and Household Product Containers is cited.

- [How hot girl summer hurts the environment.](#) NERC's study of greenhouse gas emissions from manufacturing is cited.

June 2022

- [Recycling Itself Cannot Fix the Plastics Issue.](#) NERC's proposed draft model legislation for minimum recycled content is cited.
- [An overlooked source of global warming: all our stuff.](#) NERC proposes that its member states adopt a consumption-based model when calculating greenhouse gas emissions.
- [NERC executive director to retire in Fall 2022.](#) Longtime NERC Executive Director Lynn Rubinstein is set to retire.

PROJECTS & PROGRAMS

The projects and programs developed and implemented by NERC promote the mission and vision of the organization and are principally funded in four ways:

- Grants from state and federal agencies
- Dues paid by State and Advisory Members, donations from organizations and individuals, and contributions from Individual Supporters
- Contracts with entities that hire NERC to do work on their behalf – NERC's consultant services program
- Program sponsorship

NERC staff is responsible for grant and project development, including project and grant submittals, responses to RFPs, and outreach for potential consulting service projects.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Over the past year, NERC undertook several projects and initiatives supporting Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DE&I). They included:

DE&I Training Series - NERC, in collaboration with the West Michigan Sustainable Business Forum and a national Planning Committee, completed a four-part online training series. The training topics included:

- *Making the Case for DE&I*
- *Identifying and Addressing Unconscious Bias*
- *Creating Your DE&I Path*
- *Engaging with Diverse Communities*

All of the training presentations, recordings and recommended resources can be found in the [DE&I Training Archive](#).

DEI Connect - In May 2022, NERC developed the [DEI Connect](#) listserv. It is the first online forum in the US to support and promote diversity, equity and inclusion for the recycling and solid waste industries. There are 358 members.

DE&I Committee - In April 2022, the Board of Directors voted to form a DE&I Committee. The Committee's initial focus is to develop a DE&I mission statement, and to plan for a Spring 2023 Workshop about Recruiting and Retaining a Diverse Workforce.

Spring '22 Conference Session about Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

NERC's Spring '22 Conference included a session about Making DE&I Part of Your Operations. A [recording](#) of the session is available

Project Manager: Mary Ann Remolador, Assistant Director

Electronics Recycling Coordination Clearinghouse (ERCC)

The Electronics Recycling Coordination Clearinghouse (ERCC) is a forum for coordination and information exchange among the state agencies that are implementing electronics recycling laws, as well as impacted stakeholders. NERC provides administrative and financial management support, while the National Center for Electronics Recycling (NCER) manages programs and the [website](#).



[Membership](#) in the ERCC consists both of voting members, which are state or local governments that are implementing electronics recycling laws, and affiliate and non-voting members, consisting of industry and other organizations. Membership in fiscal year 2022 included 16 state voting members¹ and 27 Affiliate Members.

ERCC Program Accomplishments

ERCC took on several significant projects during the fiscal year. These were implemented by the NCER on behalf of the ERCC:

- **Hosted a successful in-person workshop** at the 2021 E-Scrap Conference in Chicago with the largest attendance of 80 attendees. The workshop covers topics on recent state program changes, pounds sold and collected, and the changing waste stream.
- **Updated the e-Cycle Compliance Calendar [website](#) and hosted a webinar to explain new functions.** After requesting input from all states with laws, updated site new content. The site hosts a comprehensive database of all the elements of the 25 state laws broken into tasks and attributes according to stakeholder. The website is free for any user thanks to a contribution from the Consumer Technology Association, which enabled its development.
- **Developed and tested a new database on non-compliant brands and manufacturers across state laws.** The new database allows states to verify non-compliant brands on a regular basis and provide retailers with a consolidated and up-to-date listing of brands that should not be sold in stores or online.
- **Held a productive 11th Annual, Virtual ERCC Member Meeting** with over 45 members participating. ERCC shared recent updates and helped prioritize activities for the coming year. Major topics discussed included the non-compliant database, Illinois Clearinghouse experience, lithium-ion battery issues, and potential new project areas.
- **Continued administration of the [eCycleRegistration](#) site.** This website enables manufacturers to register the common information on their covered products in one place, instead of separately in each state. There are currently eight states allowing the use of eCycleRegistration website for their registrations. More than 300 manufacturers have registered their information in the system.
- **Represented ERCC** at various conferences and webinars, including:

¹ California, Connecticut, Hawaii, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, North Carolina, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Vermont, Washington DC, and Wisconsin

- E-Scrap 2021, November 2021
- E-Waste Academy Managers Edition, May 2022
- **Continued market share data reports program.** That report provides discounted market research data and analysis for 14 different states on covered electronics for implementation of state law targets and registration fee levels. Members continued discussions on larger picture issues of market share data quality and challenges.

Project Managers: Lynn Rubinstein, Executive Director, NERC and Jason Linnell, NCER

Funding: ERCC Membership dues and fees

Timeframe: Ongoing

Glass Recycling in Rural Communities in Maine

NERC continued its work on a project funded by a USDA Solid Waste Management grant. The project includes working with nine rural communities in Maine to develop and sustain safe and economically feasible glass recycling for their residents. The participant regional recycling organizations, communities, and project partners include: North Aroostook Solid Waste Association - Eagle Lake, New Canada, Wallagrass, Winterville, Unorganized Territory (Township 15, Range 6); Unity Area Recycling Resources Center - Jackson, Thorndike, Troy, and Unity; Maine Department of Environmental Protection (ME DEP); and the Maine Resource Recovery Association (MRRA).

NERC has provided ongoing technical assistance to the project partners with identifying glass recyclers that serve Maine; developing resources to inform and educate the public about the new glass recycling programs; developing glass collection and handling safety education for transfer station attendants, promoting glass recycling and the project resources through organizing and facilitating two webinars, postings on social media, writing and distributing press releases, articles, and announcements. All resources developed are available on the [project's webpage](#).

Project Manager: Mary Ann Remolador, Assistant Director

Funding: USDA Rural Utilities Services

Timeframe: October 1, 2020 – September 30, 2022

Reloop

NERC was hired by Reloop to assist with surveying MRFs in the region for a study about the potential impact of Bottle Bill legislation.

Project Manager: Lynn Rubinstein, Executive Director

RecycleCT Foundation

NERC is under contract to the RecycleCT Foundation to serve as its fiscal agent and also to provide assistance with meeting minutes and associated requirements.

Project Manager: Lynn Rubinstein, Executive Director

Timeframe: Contract continues through October 2023.

The Recycling Partnership

NERC had three contracts with the Recycling Partnership during the fiscal year, addressing the *Demand Landscape for Recycled Content from brands and recyclers, assisting with the development of circularity definitions for the Circularity Council, and conducting research and providing data points for the Partnerships MRF Database.*

Project Manager: Lynn Rubinstein, Executive Director

Toxics in Packaging Clearinghouse

For many years, NERC provide administration and staffing to the Toxics in Packaging Clearinghouse (TPCH). That relationship ended in January when its Board made the decision to migrate to the Northeast Waste Management Officials' Association (NEWMOA). The decision was a reflection of shifting priorities, with a focus on PFAS and other plastic additives of concern, substances that are also a priority for NEWMOA.

Timeframe: NERC relationship ended January 2022

Vermont State Standard Plan for E-Scrap Management

NERC is a subcontractor to the National Center for Electronics Recycling (NCER) in the implementation of the Vermont "State Standard Plan" for the collection and recycling of e-scrap under the State electronics take-back law. NERC's primary roles are to manage the request process for pick-ups from collection points; work with the state of Vermont to update educational materials; and secure waste sorts at the participant recyclers as well as compliance audits. NERC also collaborates with NCER in program administration and relations with the state agency administering the program. The contract with the state was renewed through March 2023.

Project Manager: Lynn Rubinstein, Executive Director

Funding: Vermont Agency of Natural Resources

Timeframe: January 1, 2018 – March 31, 2023

ONGOING PROJECTS & PROGRAMS

In addition to contract and grant funded projects, many ongoing programs and projects support NERC's mission and provide value to NERC members and the region.

Bottle Bill Committee

In the spring of 2021, a Bottle Bill Committee was formed. The Committee is open to state and Advisory Members. The Committee has six calls per year that explore the success and challenges associated with existing bottle bills in the region, the relationship to recycling in general, litter, and sustainable programs, as well as opportunities for change and improvement. The Committee regularly has guest presenters. The Committee was staffed by Lynn Rubinstein.

Conference, Workshop, Webinars, & Board Meetings

NERC's events are well attended and acclaimed for offering a unique forum for discussions among government and industry. They focus on emerging issues and host timely conversation designed for professionals in the fields of reuse, recycling, recycling market development, food scrap management, difficult to recycle materials

management, and sustainability. They offer in-depth information exchange and professional presentations, as well as, at conferences, networking opportunities. Archives of previously held event agendas and presentations are available on the [NERC website](#).

The Fall 2021 Conference—*On the Horizon: Reuse, Solar, Soil & Justice*—included sessions about: federal recycling policies and environmental justice initiatives; recycling policies; front of house food scraps and compostable packaging; the country’s strongest environmental justice law; ocean transportation issues and impacts on recycling markets; reuse and recycling of solar panels; empowering communities through reuse, repair and upcycling; and reuse and environmental justice. The Conference was held virtually and attracted 154 attendees. The Conference presentations can be found [here](#).

The Spring 2022 Conference—*Seeking Circularity with Non-Traditional Solutions*—included sessions about: mergers and acquisitions in recycling; packaging and right to repair; exploring emerging strategies with batteries; making diversity, equity and inclusion part of your operations; agricultural plastics challenges and innovation; new strategies for reusing construction and demolition materials. The Conference was held virtually and attracted 137 attendees. The Conference presentations can be found [here](#).

The NERC Board of Directors held virtual Board meetings in October and April. Minutes from Board meetings are posted on the NERC website.

Email Bulletin

NERC’s Email Bulletin (Bulletin) is a monthly electronic newsletter that provides regular updates on NERC’s activities and publications as well as State and Advisory Member developments. There are 8,431 subscribers – an increase of 13% over the previous fiscal year. The Bulletin is posted and [archived](#) on the NERC website.

Project Manager: Lynn Rubinstein, Executive Director

Environmentally Preferable Products Listserv (EPPnet)

In 1998, NERC established [EPPnet](#), the Environmentally Preferable Products Listserv. EPPnet is the only national listserv dedicated to the topic of environmentally preferable purchasing. EPPnet enables users to easily and immediately share product specifications, vendors, prices, strategies for achieving green product procurement goals, and federal procurement policies. There are 160 members of the listserv. EPPnet is promoted through NERC presentations about the organization, as well as an occasional Email Bulletin article.

Project Managers: Lynn Rubinstein, Executive Director

Glass Committee & Model Legislation

NERC’s 16-person Glass Committee includes NERC Board and Advisory Members, and is chaired by Megan Pryor, Maine (see Committee list below). Formed in 2017, the Committee’s goals are to better understand the recycled glass value chain and gaps in the Northeast, and to identify the role that NERC could play in promoting greater diversion of glass containers to the highest value end uses. The Committee has calls every other month.

Committee Members

NERC Board and Designees

Chris Nelson	Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection
Laura Pointek	Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection
Rick Watson	Delaware Solid Waste Authority
Jennifer Heaton-Jones	Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority, Connecticut
Megan Pryor, Chair	Maine Department of Environmental Protection
Brooke Nash	Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
Gary Feinland	New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
Chaz Miller	Ex-Officio

Advisory Members

Steve Hebert	Bottle Crusher US
Susan Collins	Container Recycling Institute
Brett Biggers	ISRI
Justin Short	ISRI
Reagan Bissonnette	Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRRA)
Laura Hennemann	Strategic Materials
Mike Noel	TOMRA
Pat Grasso	Urban Mining Industries

In addition to discussing glass issues and market updates, the Committee initiated the development of the model legislation for minimum post-consumers recycled glass (description below).

Glass Model Legislation

With the assistance of a Work Group, NERC completed the model legislation for minimum post-consumer recycled content requirements for glass beverage and food containers, and fiberglass insulation. A link to the Model Legislation can be found [here](#).

Work Group Chairs:

- Chris Nelson, Supervising Environmental Analyst of the Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection
- Stephen Burm, Director of State Government Affairs at Anheuser-Busch with technical assistance from Ed Ferguson, Director of Sustainability at Anheuser Busch.

The goals for developing the model legislation are to:

- Develop markets for post-consumer glass containers.
- Increase the use of post-consumer glass containers in the manufacture of new beverage and food containers and fiberglass insulation.

Stakeholders invited to participate in the Work Group include:

- Brands
- Glass Container Manufacturers
- Fiberglass Insulation Manufacturers
- Glass Recyclers/Beneficiators
- Industry Associations
- Distributors/Retailers
- Haulers/Material Recycling Facility Operators

- State Environmental Agencies
- State Recycling Organizations
- Environmental Advocacy Groups

A revision to the model legislation is in progress to add provisions for glass used by eligible secondary end uses.

Model Legislation Contact: Mary Ann Remolador, Assistant Director.

Government Recycling Demand Champion Program

The Government Recycling Demand Champion program was launched in April 2020 in partnership with the Association of Plastic Recyclers (APR). It is a national incentive program to support increased purchasing of products with post-consumer recycled plastic resin by the public (non-federal) sector, as well as public and private schools, colleges, and universities.

The following organizations have joined the program:

Champions

- City of Austin (TX)
- Hudson Valley Improvement Authority (NY)
- Maryland Department of General Services
- North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality Environmental Assistance & Customer Services
- Santa Monica (CA)
- State of Maine Division of Procurement Services
- Tompkins County Recycling & Materials Management (NY)

Advocates

- City of Middletown, Connecticut
- New Hampshire R4 Program

State Recycling Organization Advocates

- Association of New Jersey Recyclers (ANJR)
- Commonwealth of Massachusetts Operational Services Division
- Louisiana Recycling Coalition
- Maryland Recycling Network
- New York State Association for Reduction, Reuse and Recycling (NYSAR3)

The program asks that participants that are enrolled as Champions, submit annual purchasing data and in exchange receive a sustainability report based on that activity. The first round of such efforts occurred in fiscal year 2022. Of the five Champions that could have reported, we received data from two. Their purchasing reflected the following environmental impacts. Collectively, their purchase of products with post-consumer plastic accounted for the use of 6,400 tons of post-consumer content resin, avoided greenhouse gas emissions 6,600 metric tons carbon equivalent, equivalent to taking 1,500 cars off the road for a year, electricity for 1,210 homes for a year, and more than 800 million smartphones charged. Purchases included plastic bags, can liners, recycling containers, general office desktop supplies, erosion control, and signs, among others.

Project Manager: Lynn Rubinstein, Executive Director

Timeframe: Ongoing

Information Clearinghouse & Technical Assistance

One of NERC's most important roles is educating its constituents about source reduction, reuse, recycling, composting, environmentally preferable purchasing, and decreasing the toxicity of the solid waste stream. All of its projects and programs contribute to these efforts. NERC is regularly contacted—by phone and email—with questions and requests for assistance from the public, state and federal agencies, businesses, and the media. NERC staff makes every effort to respond to these requests as fully as possible. It is important to note that NERC has allowed, and continues to allow, broad access to our website as a matter of public service and a prudent practice to carry out the mission of the organization.

Material Reuse Deep Dive Forums

NERC, with the assistance of a Planning Committee of reuse practitioners from around the country are in the process of planning a series of free, quarterly Deep Dive Forums. These virtual discussions will focus on the role of material reuse organizations in working with and building the resiliency of local communities. The presenters to be featured will talk in-depth about the programs they've developed to provide resources and serve the needs of residents, work toward policy solutions, and create economically viable systems.

By material reuse, we are referring to the reuse of durable goods, including: construction materials, consumer and household items, electronics, books, textiles, and fixtures and furnishings.

The Forum Planning Committee includes:

- Pam Howland of Build Reuse, Massachusetts
- Nancy Meyer of Community Forklift, Maryland
- Diane Cohen of Finger Lakes Reuse, New York
- Brooke Nash of the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
- Emily Barker of Minnesota Reuse
- Heather Trim of Zero Waste Washington

The first Forum is scheduled for September 7, 2022.

Forum contact: Mary Ann Remolador, Assistant Director.

Organics Management Listserv

NERC's [Listserv for Advancing Organics Management in the Northeast](#) was launched in the spring of 2015. The listserv presents an opportunity to share information about what's happening with organics management. The listserv is unique in that it is open to anyone interested in advancing organics diversion in the Northeast through promotion of the organics management hierarchy (i.e. reduction, recovery, composting, and anaerobic digestion). The Organics Management Listserv is promoted through NERC presentations about the organization, as well as an occasional Email Bulletin article. There are currently 87 members, up 5%.

Project Manager: Lynn Rubinstein Executive Director.

Press Releases

NERC maintains a [web page](#) dedicated to its press releases and they are archived on the NERC website for one year. The 19 press releases distributed in Fiscal Year 2022 were:

- June 3, 2021: NERC is Now Accepting Applications for its Environmental Sustainability Leadership Award
- June 10, 2021: Call for Papers for NERC's Fall 2021 Conference
- June 17, 2021: NERC Releases Latest Update on Increased Capacity to Use Recycled Paper
- August 17, 2021: On the Horizon: Reuse, Solar, Soil & Justice—NERC's Fall Virtual Conference
- August 19, 2021: NERC Blended Value of a MRF Ton Update Demonstrates Positive Trends in Region
- October 11, 2021: Public Comment Period Open Until November 11 for Draft Glass Minimum Post-Consumer Recycled Content Model Legislation
- October 12, 2021: NERC Announces its 2021 Environmental Sustainability Leadership Award Winners
- November 2, 2021: NERC Recycling Markets Report Published – Continued Positive Growth
- November 29, 2021: First Two Trainings of NERC's DE&I Series Scheduled - Dec 9 & Feb 2
- January 4, 2022: Minimum Post-Consumer Recycled Content Model Legislation for Plastics - Call for Comments
- January 11, 2022: NERC Releases Model Glass Minimum Post-Consumer Recycled Content Legislation
- January 28, 2022: Seeking Circularity with Non-Traditional Solutions—NERC's Spring Virtual Conference
- February 11, 2022: NERC's DE&I Training Series Continues with Two More Trainings
- March 10, 2022: NERC Releases Update on Increased Capacity to Use Recycled Paper
- May 11, 2022: NERC Releases Latest MRF Values Report - Downward Trend
- May 18, 2022: NERC Announces Upcoming Retirement of Executive Director
- May 19, 2022: NERC Creates DEI Connect Listserv
- June 1, 2022: Annual Environmental Leadership Award - Applications Being Accepted
- June 15, 2022: Resa Dimino & Jen Heaton-Jones Join NERC Board

Project Staff: All staff

Regional Recycling Market Development Committee

In fall 2018, NERC formed a Regional Recycling Market Development Committee. NEWMOA is a participant in this effort, with NERC as the lead organization. The Committee has the following priorities:

- Mixed paper markets
- 3 – 7 plastics markets
- Increased use of postconsumer recycling content in products

The Committee continues to grow in membership and participation over the year, with more than 30 state and advisory members. Chaz Miller, NERC Ex Officio Board Member, is the Committee chair.

Accomplishments this fiscal year include:

- Held nine calls, including eight guest speakers.
- Published four updates to the expanded paper recycling capacity report:
 - [NERC Report on Blended Value of a MRF Ton in the Northeast - August 2021](#)
 - [NERC Northeast Recycling Market Report October 2021](#)
 - [NERC Northeast Recycling Market Report January 2022](#)
 - [NERC Northeast Recycling Market Report April 2022](#)
- Published NERC Email Bulletin articles and three press releases about publications and distributed on listservs.

The Committee was staffed by Lynn Rubinstein.

Recycling Markets Value Reports

NERC was the recipient of a grant from EPA Region 3 to incorporate Region 3 states into its blended value of a MRF ton study. The study is conducted quarterly. In FY 2022, three reports were published with this funding:

- [NERC Northeast Recycling Market Report January 2022](#)
- [NERC Northeast Recycling Market Report October 2021](#)
- [NERC Report on Blended Value of a MRF Ton in the Northeast - August 2021](#)

While the grant has ended, the quarterly surveys continue through the Regional Recycling Markets Committee.

Project Managers: Lynn Rubinstein, Executive Director

Funding: EPA Region 3

Timeframe: March 2020 – April 2022

Social Media Program

Blog

[NERC's Blog](#) presents articles on a wide range of topics, from reuse to composting—and lots in between. We offer insights into current happenings, notable projects and lessons learned, replicable project ideas, and more. Some of our blog articles are instructive, while others tend toward opinion pieces. We welcome and post a wide range of guest articles as well. The blogs are posted weekly.

Facebook, Twitter, & YouTube

NERC has an active [Facebook page](#) and is on [Twitter](#). There are now 973 Facebook followers and 3,725 Twitter followers. This represents a 3.8% increase in the number of Facebook followers and a 23% increase in Twitter followers.

NERC maintains a [YouTube](#) feed where all webinar recordings are posted.

LinkedIn

There are 352 followers of NERC's [LinkedIn](#) account, an increase of 31% from last year.

Project Staff:

- Lynn Rubinstein, Executive Director – Blog, LinkedIn, and YouTube
- Robert Kropp, Office Manager – Blog, Twitter, and Facebook

State Electronics Challenge

The State Electronics Challenge (SEC), launched in 2007, is a voluntary program that encourages state, tribal, regional, and local governments, including schools, colleges, universities, other public entities, and non-profit organizations to:

- Purchase greener electronic office equipment
- Reduce the impacts during use through energy and paper conservation
- Manage obsolete electronic office equipment in an environmentally safe way.



Government entities and organizations participate as "Partners" in the program. The SEC provides Partners with free resources and technical assistance for improving electronics management practices and offers annual recognition to Partners that have achieved specific goals. At the end of fiscal year 2022, 171 government and non-profit entities—representing more than 233,000 employees, in 39 states and the District of Columbia, have signed on as SEC Partners.

The table below summarizes the environmental results of Partners' efforts to "green" the lifecycle of their electronic office equipment in calendar year 2021 as reported by 21 Partners; from purchasing EPEAT® (Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool) registered computers and imaging equipment, to lowering the energy consumption in use, extending the lifetime of equipment, and responsibly recycling office electronics at the end of their service life.

Calendar Year 2021 Partner Environmental Benefits

	Purchasing EPEAT® Products & Paper Use Reduction	Use	Reuse & Recycling	TOTAL BENEFITS	
Reduction In	How Much?		How Much?	Equivalent To	
 Energy Use	115,919,748 kWh	16,832,989 kWh	7,908,154 kWh	140,660,892 kWh	Electricity to power 11,579 U.S. households/year
 Greenhouse gas emissions	1,601,701 metric tons of carbon equivalents	4,102,251 metric tons of carbon equivalents	804,468 metric tons of carbon equivalent	6,508,420 metric tons of carbon equivalents	Removing 1,394 cars from the road/year
 Toxic materials, including lead & mercury	3,142 lbs.	4,687 lbs.	-	7,830 lbs.	Weight of 1,556 bricks
 Municipal solid waste	574,994 lbs.	14,078,432 lbs.	2,127,708 lbs.	16,781,133 lbs.	Waste generated by 4,101 households annually
 Hazardous waste	-	2,827 lbs.	1,317 lbs.	4,143 lbs.	Weight of 16 refrigerators
 Material conservation	22,628 lbs.	307,706 lbs.	-	330,333 lbs.	Weight of 4 18-wheeler trucks

The SEC recognized 15 Partners for their outstanding work in electronics stewardship in calendar year 2021. SEC Partners were eligible for one of three recognition levels – Bronze, Silver, or Gold - based on completion of SEC program requirements.

SEC Partner	Recognition	Lifecycle Phases
Borough of State College, Pennsylvania	Gold	Purchasing, Use, & End-of-Life Management
Centre County Recycling & Refuse Authority, Pennsylvania		
City of Corvallis, Oregon		
City of Fort Collins, Colorado		
City of La Crosse, Wisconsin		
City of Maplewood, Minnesota		
City of Providence, Rhode Island, School Department		
Manitou Springs School District, Colorado		
New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA)		
Ball State University, Indiana		
City of Columbia, South Carolina	Silver	Purchasing, & End-of-Life Management
State of Maryland		
Maryland Department of Transportation		Purchasing & Use
Upper Merion Township, Pennsylvania		
City of Keene, New Hampshire		

Project Manager: Lynn Rubinstein, Executive Director

Timeframe: Ending June 30, 2022, after 15 years.

Webinars

NERC hosted 10 webinars this fiscal year with almost 6,000 registrants from around the country. All of the webinar recordings and presentations are available on [NERC's website](#) and [YouTube](#) channel. Following is a list of webinars hosted by NERC. The webinars were co-sponsored with NEWMOA.

Date	Topic	Registrants
July 14	Growing the Upcycled Food Economy	694
October 19	Achieving Net Zero GHG's in the Solid Waste Industry	573
October 26	Jobs & the Economy: Recycling Economic Information Studies	443
November 8	Fate of Non-Organic Packaging Materials from De-Packaging Operations	595
January 6	Post-Consumer Recycled (PCR) Content Mandates	944
February 23	End Markets for Finished Compost	749
April 20	Food Waste Reduction Strategies & Tools for Businesses & Institutions	656
May 3	Extended Producer Responsibility Strategies for Gas Cylinders	253
June 1	Purchasing Standards for Low Carbon Concrete	461
June 14	Avoiding Contamination in Food Waste Feedstock for Composting	521
Total Registrants		5,889

The webinars were supported by the following sponsors:

Gold

- Vanguard Renewables

Silver

- TOMRA
- Quantum BioPower
- Waste Management

Bronze

- Mattress Recycling Council
- Sure-Close

In addition to the above listed webinars, there were webinars associated with specific projects:

- Rural Glass Recycling
- Draft Model Minimum Recycled Content Legislation for Glass Containers & Fiberglass
- Draft Plastic Post-Consumer Minimum Recycled Content Legislation Overview

Project Manager: Lynn Rubinstein, Executive Director

Website

The NERC website is one of NERC’s primary resources for promoting public education and action in support of sustainable materials management. Website update and maintenance, including publishing new documents and resources, and keeping them updated, is an ongoing focus of staff efforts. During FY 2022, NERC averaged more than 13,000 visits per month – a 21% increase from the previous fiscal year; and more than 24,000 page views per month, also an increase of 21% from the previous year.

Several documents and resources on the website were updated or added during the year. In total, 81 new documents and recordings, and 3 revised documents were posted.

New documents and resources:

- [Achieving Net Zero GHGs in the Solid Waste Industry webinar recording](#)
- [Addressing Organics Contamination in Seattle - policy & outreach](#) Presentation
- [Avoiding Contamination in Food Waste Feedstock for Composting webinar recording](#)
- [An Approach for the Management of Gas Cylinders EPR presentation](#)
- [Extended Producer Responsibility Strategies for Gas Cylinders Recording](#)
- [Fuel Cylinders the Problem & Concerns for Municipalities Presentation](#)
- [Strategies to Reduce Contamination - Large-Scale Organics Facility](#) Presentation
- [Application of Life Cycle Assessment for Cement & Concrete presentation](#)
- [Casella Net Zero Climate Benefit presentation](#)
- [Compost End Markets Naturcycle presentation](#)
- [Compost End Markets OCRRA presentation](#)
- [Compost End Markets WeCare Denali presentation](#)
- [Concrete CO2 Limit Setting Port Authority NY NJ webinar presentation](#)
- [DE&I Training 1 Presentation: Cheryl Coleman, ISRI](#)
- [DE&I Training 1 Presentation: Tamara Lundgren & Stef Murray, Schnitzer Steel](#)

- [DE&I Training 1 Recording - Making the Case for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion](#)
- [DE&I Training 2 Recording - Recognizing and Addressing Unconscious Bias](#)
- [DE&I Training 2 Slides - Nidhi Turakhia and Willie Johnson](#)
- [DE&I Training 3 Recording - Part 1](#)
- [DE&I Training 3 Recording - Part 2](#)
- [DE&I Training 3 Slides - Robyn Afrik](#)
- [DE&I Training 4 Recording \(English\)](#)
- [DE&I Training 4 Recording \(Spanish\)](#)
- [DE&I Training 4 Slides - Berenice Garcia Tellez & Jose Luis Ramos](#)
- Glass Recycling Resources
 - **Site Visit Videos of Unity Area Recycling Center's Glass Recycling & Crushing**
 - [Part 1](#)
 - [Part 2](#)
 - [Part 3](#)
 - **Signs & Handouts**
 - [Unity Glass Recycling 24x36 Sandwich Board Sign](#)
 - [Unity Glass Recycling Aluminum Sign 12x16](#)
 - [Unity Transfer Station Glass Safety Poster](#)
 - **Marketing Materials**
 - [Unity Glass Recycling Handout Letter Size](#)
 - [Unity Glass Recycling Program Pictures](#)
 - [Unity Press Release](#)
 - **Videos of NASWA's Glass Collection & Recycling Efforts**
 - [Part 1](#)
 - [Part 2](#)
 - [Part 3](#)
 - **Signs**
 - [NASWA Glass Recycling 24x36 Sandwich Board Sign](#)
 - [NASWA Glass Recycling Aluminum Sign 12x16](#)
 - [NASWA Transfer Station Glass Safety Poster](#)
 - **Marketing Materials**
 - [NASWA Glass Recycling Handout Letter Size](#)
 - [NASWA Glass Recycling Program Pictures](#)
 - [NASWA Press Release](#)
 - **Webinars**
 - [Successful Glass Recycling in Rural Communities Webinar Presentation](#)
 - [Successful Glass Recycling in Rural Communities Webinar NRRRA's Glass Programs Bonnie Bethune Presentation](#)
 - [Successful Glass Recycling in Rural Communities Webinar Recording](#)
 - [Nuts and Bolts to Starting a Glass Recycling Program in a Rural Area Webinar PowerPoint](#)
 - [Nuts and Bolts to Starting a Glass Recycling Program in a Rural Area Webinar Recording](#)
- [Growing the Upcycled Food Economy webinar recording](#)
- [ISRI Recycling Economic Information Study - National presentation](#)
- [Jobs & the Economy: Recycling Economic Information Studies webinar recording](#)
- [Low Carbon Concrete Lessons from Oregon webinar presentation](#)
- [Low Carbon Concrete Material Impacts Embedded Carbon Policy Options webinar presentation](#)

- [Minutes from NERC Board April 2022 Meeting](#)
- [Model Glass Minimum Post-Consumer Recycling Content Legislation](#)
- [Model Plastic Post-Consumer Recycled Content Legislation Overview recording](#)
- [NERC Annual Meeting & Board Minutes - October 2021](#)
- [NERC Federal 990 Form](#)
- [NERC FY22 Operating Plan & Budget](#)
- [NERC Northeast Recycling Market Report April 2022](#)
- [NERC Northeast Recycling Market Report January 2022](#)
- [NERC Northeast Recycling Market Report October 2021](#)
- [NERC Report on Blended Value of a MRF Ton in the Northeast - August 2021](#)
- [NERC-NEWMOA Joint Initiative Annual Report](#)
- [Model Supplier Letter Requesting PCR Information](#)
- [NERC FY21 Annual Report](#)
- [Fall '21 Conference Presentations](#)
- [NRRRA's Glass Programs Presentation](#)
- [NWRRA Net Zero presentation](#)
- [Packaging EPR in New York presentation](#)
- [Purchasing Standards for Low Carbon Concrete webinar recording](#)
- [Quantum BioPower Depackaging Presentation.pdf](#)
- [RecycleCT Foundation Recycling Economic Information Study - Connecticut presentation](#)
- [Recycled Content Mandates David Allaway Presentation](#)
- [Recycled Content Mandates Steve Alexander Presentation](#)
- [Recycled Content Mandates: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly](#)
- [Recycled-Content-Mandates-Mark-Murray-Presentation](#)
- [Spring '22 Conference DE&I Session Recording](#)
- [The Spectrum of Approaches to U.S. Packaging presentation](#)
- [Upcycled Food Economy Webinar presentation](#)
- [Using AI to Reduce Food Waste presentation](#)
- [Webinar Recording - Food Waste Reduction Strategies & Tools for Businesses & Institutions](#)

Revised documents:

- [Government Recycling Demand Champion Fact Sheets Updated](#)
- [NERC Advisory Membership Brochure](#)
- [Solid Waste Facilities in the Northeast Updated](#)
- [Summary of Announced Increased Capacity to use Recycled Paper Updated March 2022](#)
- [Updated State Program Contacts](#)

NERC maintained three websites: the [NERC website](#), the [State Electronics Challenge website](#), and for part of the year, the [Toxics in Packaging Clearinghouse website](#).

Program Staff: All NERC staff update and maintain the website.

ADDITIONAL STAFF ACTIVITIES

Ameripen

NERC participates as a Technical Assistance Committee member of Ameripen. In fiscal year 2022, Lynn Rubinstein was active in the Recycling Market Development workgroup. Ameripen is a membership organization committed to leading the packaging industry through advocacy based on science, and enhancing the understanding of the role packaging plays in a more sustainable society, economy, and environment

Circularity Council

The Recycling Partnership convened the Pathway to Circularity Industry Council (the Circularity Council) to assess what actions must take place to help the U.S. recycling system accept more packaging. Stakeholders from across the recycling industry have been calling for a much-needed transparent and inclusive process to assess packaging recyclability. With the Circularity Council (see full list of members [here](#)), The Recycling Partnership sought to answer that call by engaging 35 senior industry leaders representing various material types, brands, government, Materials Recovery Facilities (MRFs), NGOs, retailers, and trade associations. The Council met monthly for most of the fiscal year and published an assessment toolkit. Lynn Rubinstein represented NERC on the Council and on its market development committee.

Joint Strategic Action Plan: NERC & NEWMOA

In June 2017, the NERC and NEWMOA Boards of Directors entered into a Joint Strategic Action Plan to further action on matters of mutual concern. In the fall of 2019, that Plan was updated and expanded to reflect current priorities and activities. Every year NERC and NEWMOA jointly develop a workplan that relates to the priorities outlined in the Joint Strategic Plan. We are pleased to share the remarkable progress that has been made in the fourth year of the joint initiative. After the close-out of each fiscal year (July 1 to June 30), the organizations jointly issue an Annual Report to share their accomplishments. The following outlines joint accomplishments during this period.

Priorities for Action

The Joint Strategic Action Plan identified the following key areas of shared interest:

- Food scrap reduction, recovery, and management
- Improving Quality & End-Markets for Recyclables
- Increasing the use of recycled content in products
- Product stewardship
- Climate change and impacts on the recycling and solid waste infrastructure
- Waste tires
- Construction and demolition (C & D) materials
- Emerging contaminants in the solid waste stream
- Bottle bill coordination
- Household hazardous waste

Achievements during the fifth year of our Joint Strategic Plan included:

- Joint Webinars:
 - 10 joint webinars with almost 8,000 registrants
- Other activities:
 - Publication of five resources on markets for recyclables
 - Development of draft Model legislation for Minimum Postconsumer Recycled Content Requirements for Plastic Products and Packaging
 - Submittal of successful joint grant application to EPA to conduct a compliance assistance and environmental justice project for anaerobic digestion operations in the region
 - Formed an Environmental Justice Workgroup
 - Coordination of and support for seven joint Workgroups or Committees with numerous virtual meetings
 - Regular reports for each groups' Board on the status of activities under the Joint Plan, in addition to an Annual Report
 - Regular, at least monthly calls of the NERC and NEWMOA Executive Directors to coordinate and plan activities

Massachusetts Reuse & Recycling Work Group

Massachusetts' Reuse & Recycling Work Group focuses on reuse activities and projects throughout the State. Mary Ann Remolador participates in the calls.

New Hampshire Solid Waste Working Group

The New Hampshire Solid Waste Working Group is a statutory committee formed by [HB 413](#) (2021) to assist the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services with planning and policy initiatives related to solid waste management. Established for a period of five years (until November 1, 2026), the Working Group is comprised of members representing various public and private entities involved with solid waste management. NERC is an officially designated group holding a permanent seat on the Working Group. Lynn Rubinstein participates in the monthly meetings, and on the Recycling & Composting Subcommittee, which also meets monthly.

US Plastics Pact

NERC is an "Activator" in the [US Plastics Pact](#) – meaning we are a signatory and participant. There are monthly virtual calls and annual reporting requirements. Lynn Rubinstein has been representing NERC on these calls.

Staff Presentations

Staff regularly make presentations about NERC's projects and resources, either as part of a project being undertaken by NERC, speaking at an event on a NERC project, or presenting on a concept or activity that NERC has been involved with. This year, staff made 19 presentations – all of which were virtual due to COVID. There were 7,939 registrants. A list of presentations can be found in [Appendix B](#).

CONCLUSION

Fiscal Year 2022 was a year of significant accomplishments, along with continuing increased visibility and recognition for NERC. NERC staff continued to demonstrate their commitment and passion for the

organization with outstanding and successful work and diligence. Likewise, the dedication and enthusiasm of the Board of Directors and Advisory Members have been critically important to NERC's ongoing successes.

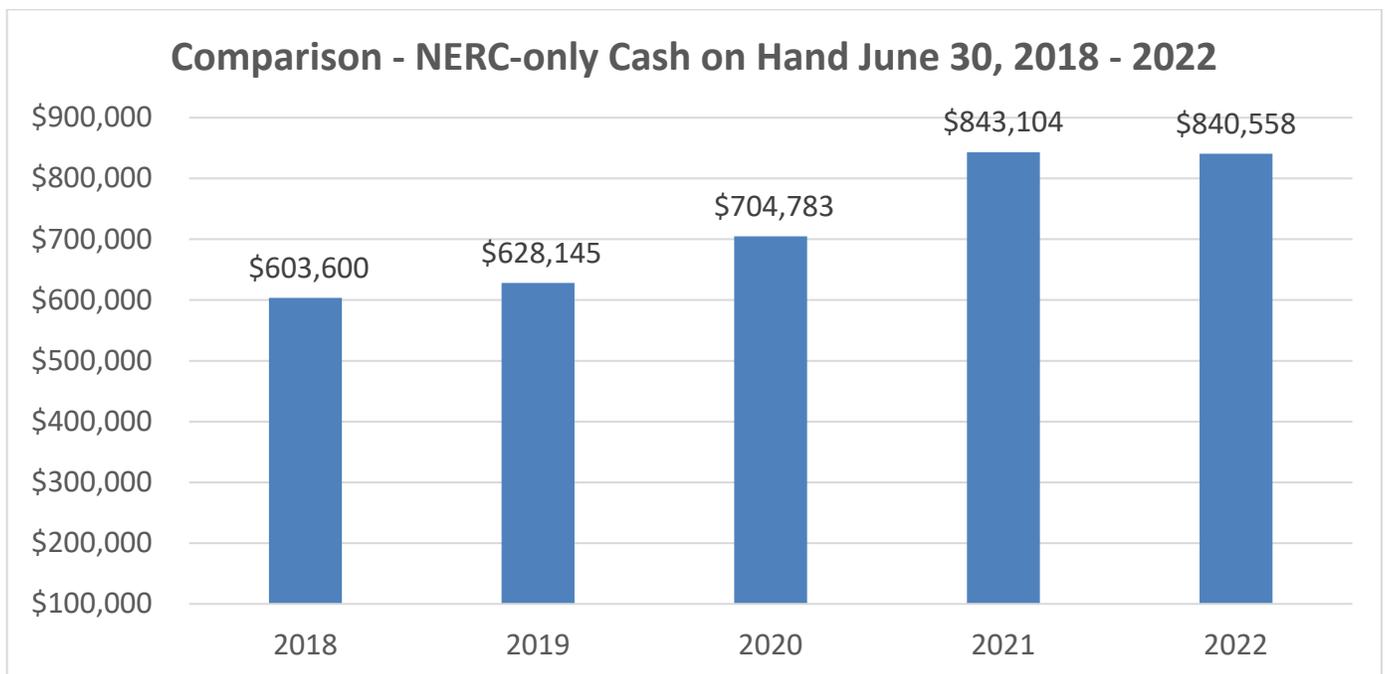
FINANCES

An overview of budget to actual for each of the NERC programs are presented on an accrual basis, and follows on the next page. The NERC Audit FY 2022 is available [online](#).

NERC Cash on Hand as of June 30, 2022

	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total
NERC	\$151,229	\$747,329	\$840,558
ERCC	\$154,629	\$0	\$154,629

As described above, in early February the Toxics in Packaging Clearinghouse (TPCH) left NERC and moved to NEWMOA. All funds in their bank accounts (\$74,090.72) were transferred to NEWMOA and the bank accounts closed.



BUDGET TO ACTUAL ACCRUED FY2022

NERC			
	Budget	Actual Accrued	% of Budget
Revenue			
Conference Sponsorship	\$50,000	\$43,000	86%
Grants/Consulting	\$96,326	\$114,759	119%
Interest	\$8,000	\$3,213	40%
State Membership Dues	\$84,465	\$79,965	95%
Advisory Membership Dues	\$155,000	\$143,950	93%
Registrations	\$65,000	\$54,555	84%
State Travel Accounts	\$6,000	\$6,000	100%
Reimbursed Expenses	\$1,000	\$1,384	138%
Total revenues	\$465,791	\$446,825	96%
Release from Cash Reserves	\$0	\$0	0%
Total	\$465,791	\$446,825	96%
Expenses			
Advertising	\$4,000	\$0	0%
Bank service charges	\$6,500	\$4,260	66%
Contractors	\$4,500	\$4,228	94%
Equipment purchases	\$2,000	\$2,703	135%
Equipment repairs	\$750	\$610	81%
Gifts & awards given	\$2,750	\$2,705	98%
Insurance	\$3,750	\$4,478	119%
Internet	\$3,900	\$4,157	107%
Office supplies	\$750	\$158	21%
Permits	\$1,000	\$1,642	164%
Personnel expenses	\$305,170	\$295,522	97%
Postage	\$25	\$167	669%
Printing (copying)	\$500	\$109	22%
Professional services	\$15,500	\$22,501	145%
Promotion & marketing	\$1,500	\$1,500	100%
Program - meeting expenses	\$50,000	\$500	1%
Registrations	\$1,500	\$2,191	146%
Rent	\$13,700	\$13,051	95%
State travel costs	\$6,000	\$6,200	103%
Subscriptions	\$3,000	\$400	13%
Telephone	\$5,600	\$5,523	99%
Travel	\$3,000	\$2,338	78%
Total Expenses	\$7,500	\$3,282	44%
Net Subtotal	\$442,895	\$378,226	85%
Released from Restricted	\$18,093	\$14,832	65%
NET for Fiscal Year	\$40,988	\$83,432	

ERCC			
	Budget FY22	Actual Accrued	% of Budget
Revenue			
Memberships	\$130,000	\$152,660	118%
Market Share	\$180,000	\$174,585	97%
Interest	\$250	\$221	88%
Ecycleregistration	\$6,750	\$6,750	100%
Meeting sponsorships	\$2,500	\$0	0%
State Travel Reimbursement	\$0	\$1,500	0%
TOTAL	\$319,500	\$335,715.32	105%
Expenses			
NCER - Administration of Member Services	\$90,000	\$84,287	94%
NERC – Management of Invoicing & NCER contract	\$24,000	\$24,000	100%
IT Services	\$25,000	\$27,583	110%
Meeting & workshop expenses	\$7,500	\$411	5%
Travel	\$7,500	\$975	13%
Postage, printing & phone	\$30	\$0	0%
Survey Monkey subscription	\$350	\$305	87%
Bank fees	\$900	\$948	105%
Permits	\$1,000	\$61	6%
Market Share	\$158,000	\$156,829	99%
TOTAL	\$314,280	\$295,400	94%
Net	\$5,220	\$40,315	

APPENDICES

A. Advisory Members

B. Staff Presentations

*Appendix A - Advisory Members FY22
Distinguished Benefactor*



Benefactors



Sustaining Members



Members continue on next page.



A SOUNDVIEW PAPER COMPANY



Northeast Region



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REVERSE LOGISTICS GROUP



US Composting Council®

Supporting Members

- [Addison County Solid Waste Management District \(ACSWMD\)](#) (Vermont)
- [Ag Container Recycling Council](#)
- [BioCycle](#)
- [Call2Recycle](#)
- [Carpet America Recovery Effort \(CARE\)](#)
- [Carton Council](#)
- [Centre County Recycling & Refuse Authority](#) (Pennsylvania)
- [Chittenden Solid Waste District](#) (Vermont)
- [City of Newburyport, Massachusetts](#)
- [City of Salem, Massachusetts](#)
- [Connecticut Junk Removal, LLC](#)
- [Connecticut Recyclers Coalition \(CRC\)](#)
- [Container Recycling Institute](#)
- [Delaware River & Bay Authority](#)
- [ecomaine](#)
- [EFS-plastics](#)
- [Environmental Education & Research Foundation \(EREF\)](#)
- [Fast-Track Materials Group](#)
- [Fibre Box Association](#)
- [Foam Cycle](#)
- [Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority](#)
- [International Sleep Products Association](#)
- [Interstate Refrigerant Recovery](#)
- [Machinex Technologies](#)
- [Maine Resource Recovery Association \(MRRA\)](#)

Members continue on next page.

- [Materials Innovation & Recycling Authority \(MIRA\)](#)
- [MSW Consultants](#)
- [National Center for Electronics Recycling \(NCER\)](#)
- [New England Biosolids & Residuals Association \(NEBRA\)](#)
- [New York City Bureau of Recycling and Sustainability](#)
- [New York State Association for Reduction, Reuse and Recycling \(NYSAR3\)](#)
- [News Media Alliance](#)
- [New York City Bureau of Recycling and Sustainability](#)
- [Northeast Resource Recovery Association \(NRRRA\)](#)
- [Northern Virginia Waste Management Board](#)
- [Novamont North America](#)
- [Oak Ridge Waste and Recycling](#)
- [Pennsylvania Recycling Markets Center \(RMC\)](#)
- [Product Stewardship Institute \(PSI\)](#)
- [Professional Recyclers of Pennsylvania \(PROP\)](#)
- [Quantum Biopower](#)
- [RECYC-QUÉBEC](#)
- [ReLoop](#)
- [Resource Recycling Magazine](#)
- [Resource Recycling Systems \(RRS\)](#)
- [Responsible Purchasing Network](#)
- [Rockland Green](#)
- [Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resource Recovery Authority \(SCRRRA\)](#)
- [Sustainable Electronics Recycling International \(SERI\)](#)
- [Sustainable Packaging Coalition \(SPC\)](#)
- [TechSoup Global GreenTech Program](#)
- [Tetra Tech](#)
- [Town of Bedford, Massachusetts](#)
- [Town of Ipswich, Massachusetts](#)
- [Urban Mining Northeast](#)
- [Vanguard Renewables](#)
- [WasteCap Resource Solutions](#)

Appendix B – Staff Presentations

As a result of the continuing COVID-19 pandemic, there were no in-person presentations made this year.

Event	Topic	Staff Member	Type	Registrants
July 2021				
NERC/NEWMOA webinar	Growing the Upcycled Food Economy	Lynn Rubinstein	Webinar	694
October 2021				
NERC/NEWMOA webinar	Achieving Net Zero GHG's in the Solid Waste Industry	Lynn Rubinstein	Facilitated Webinar	573
NERC/NEWMOA webinar	Jobs & the Economy: Recycling Economic Information Studies	Lynn Rubinstein	Facilitated Webinar	443
November 2021				
National Recycling Coalition Congress	Buying Recycled Matters: Government Recycling Demand Champions & State Electronics Challenge Programs	Lynn Rubinstein	Panel	200
NERC/NEWMOA webinar	Fate of Non-Organic Packaging Materials from De-Packaging Operations	Lynn Rubinstein	Facilitated Webinar	595
December 2021				
NERC Webinar	Making the Case for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DE&I)	Mary Ann Remolador	Facilitated Webinar	260
January 2022				
Recycling Organizations Council Meeting	NERC's Work on Glass	Mary Ann Remolador	Presentation	35
NERC/NEWMOA webinar	Post-Consumer Recycled (PCR) Content Mandates	Lynn Rubinstein	Facilitated Webinar	944
February 2022				
Massachusetts Recycling Market Dev Committee	NERC's Focus on Recycling Market Development	Mary Ann Remolador	Presentation	30
NERC Webinar	Identifying & Addressing Unconscious Bias	Mary Ann Remolador	Facilitated Webinar	406
NERC Webinar	Creating a DE&I Path	Mary Ann Remolador	Facilitated Webinar	360

Event	Topic	Staff Member	Type	Registrants
NERC/NEWMOA webinar	End Markets for Finished Compost	Lynn Rubinstein	Facilitated Webinar	749
March 2022				
NERC Webinar	Engaging With Diverse Communities	Mary Ann Remolador	Facilitated Webinar	365
April 2022				
NERC/NEWMOA webinar	Food Waste Reduction Strategies & Tools for Businesses & Institutions	Lynn Rubinstein	Facilitated Webinar	656
May 2022				
NERC/NEWMOA webinar	Extended Producer Responsibility Strategies for Gas Cylinders	Lynn Rubinstein	Facilitated Webinar	253
June 2022				
NERC Webinar	Successful Glass Recycling in Rural Areas	Mary Ann Remolador	Facilitated Webinar	193
NERC Webinar	The Nuts & Bolts to Starting a Rural Glass Program	Mary Ann Remolador	Facilitated Webinar	201
NERC/NEWMOA webinar	Purchasing Standards for Low Carbon Concrete	Lynn Rubinstein	Facilitated Webinar	461
NERC/NEWMOA webinar	Avoiding Contamination in Food Waste Feedstock for Composting	Lynn Rubinstein	Facilitated Webinar	521

Summary: 19 presentations, with 7,939 registrants