



**NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER
SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER**



EBC Eighth Annual New England “Talking Trash” Conference

Future Look of Solid Waste Management in New England

Friday, April 9, 2021

Virtual Conference – Zoom

In Partnership with

ecomaine

MassRecycle

National Waste & Recycling Association

Northeast Resource Recovery Association

Solid Waste Association of North America – Northern New England Chapter

Solid Waste Association of North America – Southern New England Chapter

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AGENDA

8:45 a.m. **Welcome:** Daniel K. Moon, President & Executive Director
Environmental Business Council

Conference Introduction and What You Will Learn

- David A. Murphy, P.E., Conference Chair and Moderator
Chair, EBC Solid Waste Management Committee
Vice President, Tighe & Bond

9:00 a.m. **U.S. EPA Perspective – The State and Vision of Solid Waste Management**

- Nena Shaw, Acting Director, Resource Conservation and Sustainability
Division U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

9:15 a.m. **Industry Perspective – “State of Waste” in New England**



Dan Emerson

Regional Vice President of Operations
Casella Waste Systems



Christopher P. DeSantis

Area Vice President
Waste Management of NE & UNY



Kurt Lavery

Market Vice President, Northeast
Republic Services, Inc.



Bruce Stanas

Corporate Vice President-Waste Disposal
WIN Waste Innovations



Paul Gilman, Ph.D.

Senior Vice President and Chief Sustainability Officer
Covanta Energy

10:35 a.m. **Break – agenda continued on next page**

10:45 a.m. Industry Panel Discussion

Moderator: Reagan Bissonnette, Executive Director, NRRRA

Panel Members:

- Dan Emerson, Casella Waste Systems
- Bruce Stanas, WIN Waste Innovations
- Chris DeSantis, Waste Management of NE & UNY
- Dr. Paul Gilman, Covanta Energy

11:30 a.m. Networking Break

11:50 a.m. Association and Industry Insights and Reactions

Moderator: David Murphy, Tighe & Bond

Panel Members:

- Reagan Bissonnette, Executive Director, NRRRA
- Brian Card, President, SWANA Southern New England Chapter
- Gretchen Carey, President, MassRecycle
- Steve Changaris, Northeast Vice President, NWRA
- Kevin Roche, President, SWANA Northern New England Chapter

12:30 p.m. Adjourn

CONFERENCE CO-CHAIRS

Reagan Bissonnette, Executive Director
Northeast Resource Recovery Association
2101 Dover Road, Epsom, NH 03234
603.736.4401 x116 | rbissonnette@nrrarecycles.org

Reagan Bissonnette is the Executive Director of the Northeast Resource Recovery Association, where she oversees all aspects of NRRRA's activities. Reagan's priority is to advance NRRRA's mission to partner with municipalities to make recycling strong through economic and environmentally sound solutions. She writes and speaks extensively on the subject of recycling and waste reduction, including in regional and national forums. Reagan has testified before the New Hampshire legislature on bills impacting solid waste and recycling matters.

Reagan received her law degree from Boston College Law School and a degree in Biology from Washington University in St. Louis. She is certified as a Principal Operator through the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services Solid Waste Facility Operator Training and Certification Program. Reagan lives in Concord, New Hampshire with her husband and son and serves on the board of the Concord Public Library Foundation.

Brian Card, PE, MBA, Senior Project Engineer
Wheelabrator Technologies
100 Arboretum Drive, #310, Portsmouth, NH 03801
M 774.570.2353 | bcard@wtienergy.com

Brian is a Civil/Environmental Engineer and has worked in the solid waste field for over 25 years focusing mainly on design, permitting, construction and operation of landfills and transfer stations in numerous states along the East Coast. For 13 years, Brian managed the full facility operations and engineering group at the Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation. In January 2020 Brian joined Wheelabrator Technologies as a Senior Project Engineer assisting the company in a wide variety of complex projects across its facilities.

Brian holds a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Worcester Polytechnic Institute and a Master of Business Administration, focusing on finance, from Queens University of Charlotte, NC.

David A. Murphy, P.E., Vice President
Tighe & Bond
177 Corporate Drive, Portsmouth, NH 03801
603.433.8818 | M 617.319.0447 | damurphy@tighebond.com

David Murphy is a civil environmental engineer with 34 years managing major and complex projects and a wide variety of clients. He has managed all engineering and construction for CRS in the aftermath of the 2004 Tsunami in Banda Aceh, led an Environmental Engineering firm, and managed major and complex projects for the Commissioner's office of the Massachusetts DEP for near 9 years helping to manage the environmental oversight of the \$14.5 Billion Big Dig, Quincy's Granite Links project, the Boston Harbor dredge project, and numerous other Mega projects. For twelve years he has served at Tighe & Bond as Vice President new serving as Client Service Leader for all Eastern New England municipal clients while managing over one hundred and fifty projects including Solid Waste Management, Materials Management, Renewable Energy Site/Civil, & Coastal Engineering, and works closely with Real Estate Development Market.

Kevin Roche, President, SWANA – Northern New England Chapter
General Manager, ecomaine
64 Blueberry Road, Portland, Maine 04102
207.773.1738 | roche@ecomaine.org

As the result of a nationwide search to lead ecomaine, Kevin joined the organization in 2004 and has served as CEO & General Manager. He has worked in the field of solid waste management since 1990, soon after the first sightings of the "garbarge" (garbage barge). His experience has moved him across the country including positions as the Director of Solid Waste for Broome County (New York), Materials Recovery Manager for the City of Glendale (Arizona), Plant Manager for Metro Waste, Owner of a recycling facility in Rochester, New York, Solid Waste Coordinator for Monroe County, and GIS Specialist for the City of Rochester. Kevin is a 1989 graduate of the University of Buffalo, where he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Geography. He entered the field of solid waste with passion for integrating the mapping of trash collection routes into Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

At ecomaine, Kevin's priority is to advance the organization's mission in providing comprehensive long-term solid waste solutions in a safe, environmentally responsible, economically sound manner and remain a leader in raising public awareness of sustainable solid waste management strategies. Outside of work, Kevin enjoys spending time with his family, wood-working, rooting for the Bills, and on the back of a horse.

SPEAKERS

Gretchen Carey, President, MassRecycle
Recycling and Organics Coordinator, Republic Services
31 Milk Street, Boston, MA 02109
M 617.784.8390 | gcarey@massrecycle.org

Gretchen Carey has worked in the environmental field for over a decade as a volunteer, municipal recycling coordinator, and now the Republic Services Recycling and Organics Coordinator for New England. Along with training and educating on recycling, she is helping to build the organics infrastructure in New England. Gretchen is President of the Board of Directors for the statewide recycling group, MassRecycle, and hosts a monthly podcast there. She is a LEED Green Associate, a Zero Waste TRUE Advisor, a member of the EBC Solid Waste Management Leadership Committee. She is also co-founder of GreenLabs Recycling, a hyperlocal start-up company dedicated to saving clean lab plastic from the trash in the Greater Boston area by helping it get recycled it into new products.

Steve Changaris, Northeast Regional Vice President
National Waste & Recycling Association (NWRA)
508.839.4751 | schangaris@wasterecycling.org

Steve is a 25+ year veteran of NWRA, which is a 50+ year old Arlington, VA trade based group that is dedicated to the promotion of private sector companies that offer environmentally sound and economically efficient management of recyclables, organics and other solid wastes.

Steve covers the northeastern states of New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Hampshire, Vermont and Maine. He works with the region's recycling and waste companies and interacts on their behalf with state, local, regional, special authority and county level officials. He works with both elected legislative officials as well as administrative and regulatory officials in all solid waste environmental areas.

Steve holds a master's degree in political science and his role at NWRA is to work for industry consensus on issues with independent waste company owners, executives of publicly traded companies, engineers, recyclers, facility operators, policy folks, lawyers and more. Once this process yields a consensus for action on an issue, Steve then goes about working with his members and others to see that the industry's voice is heard on the matter at hand.

Steve was recently appointed as the Keep Massachusetts Beautiful Board of Directors, the state's Keep America Beautiful affiliate, from his position as NWRA MA Chapter Director. He resides in Massachusetts with his wife Anne. He has two adult children and two grandsons.

Christopher P. DeSantis, Area Vice President, New England and Upstate New York
Waste Management
26 Patriot Place, Suite 300, Foxborough, MA 02035
508.549.8989 | cdesantis@wm.com

Chris DeSantis is a 32-year waste industry executive serving as Area Vice President for Waste Management of New England and Upstate New York. Chris is responsible for all WM operations and functions throughout the area including collection, disposal and recycling. In addition to P&L responsibility, Chris oversees market development, strategic planning, acquisitions and divestitures, client relations and employee engagement.

Dan Emerson, Regional Vice President of Operations
Casella Waste Systems, Inc.
110 Main Street, Suite 1308, Saco, ME 04072
207.791.2380 | M 207.650.1468 | dan.emerson@casella.com

Dan Emerson is an accomplished waste and recycling industry executive with over 27 years' experience. Dan is responsible for all Collection, Transfer and C&D Processing operations in ME, MA and NH. Dan has a demonstrated history of growth, leadership, operations management, finance and accounting, sales, recruiting, disposal, transportation, recycling and processing, construction, landfills, team building, acquisition management, safety and government affairs for one of the largest waste and recycling companies in the nation, Casella Waste Systems, Inc (CWST).

Dan was born and raised in the industry as part of a family owned and operated business that started in 1945 by his grandfather known as George Emerson & Sons, Inc/Enviropac and sold to Casella in 1996 to provide more opportunity for their customers and employees. Prior to the post of Regional Vice President of Operations, Dan held a number of increasingly responsible roles in executive and general management throughout Casella's Eastern Region. Dan is known for his leadership, operational experience, ability to adapt and solve complex problems, strong project management skills, integrating acquisitions and construction from building hauling companies, transfers stations, landfills to processing facilities.

Dan also understands the importance of customer care and building laser focused teams to be a leading service provider. It takes continued education, training, leadership and dedication to build high performing teams that support a common goal and Dan has been a leader in Casella building that culture. Continuous improvement is a core value not only for Dan, but for Casella as well and he continues to drive improvement in all levels of the organization while delivering business results and fiscal responsibility. Dan's broad institutional knowledge of the industry and Casella has given him the ability to adapt to the ever-changing business climate and generational challenges we've faced for the past several years.

Paul Gilman, Ph.D., Senior Vice President and Chief Sustainability Officer
Covanta Holding Corporation
Morristown, New Jersey
862.345.5000 | pgilman@covanta.com

Paul Gilman was appointed senior vice president and Covanta's first chief sustainability officer in 2008. He is responsible for Covanta's safety, health and environmental compliance programs and sustainability initiatives that seek to reduce Covanta's environmental impact while increasing the use of its technologies.

Prior to joining Covanta, Dr. Gilman was the director of the Oak Ridge Center for Advanced Studies. From 2002 until 2004, he served as the assistant administrator for Research and Development and Science Advisor at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Prior to joining the EPA, Dr. Gilman was director for Policy Planning at Celera Genomics and was the executive director of the life sciences and agriculture divisions for the National Research Council of the National Academies of Sciences and Engineering.

In addition, Dr. Gilman has held several senior-level positions with the federal government including associate director of the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Natural Resources, Energy, and Science, and was executive assistant to the Secretary of Energy for technical matters. He has 13 years of experience working on the staff of the United States Senate in various capacities, including as a Congressional Science Fellow sponsored by the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Dr. Gilman received both Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts degrees in Earth and Planetary Sciences from Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, MD. He earned his Ph.D. in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, also from Johns Hopkins University.

Kurt Lavery, Market Vice President, New England
Republic Services
320A Charger Street, Revere, MA 02151
617.838.8793 | klavery@republicservices.com

Kurt Lavery has been in the waste industry with Republic Services for 10 years, beginning his career as a general manager in both Tyngsboro and Boston. Kurt recently took over the market vice president position responsible for New England, West Virginia, and western PA and has P & L and operational oversight for 8 business units with 29 separate divisions including hauling operations, transfer stations, landfills, and recycling centers. In addition to the oversight of these operating units, Kurt is responsible for market and business development, acquisitions, team-building and employee engagement.

Nena Shaw, Acting Division Director
Resource Conservation and Sustainability Division
Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery
Office of Land and Environmental Management
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20004
202.564.5106 | Shaw.Nena@epa.gov

Nena Shaw has 25 years of environmental law and policy experience from work in the public and private sectors. Nena is the Acting Director for the Resource Conservation and Sustainability Division in the Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery within the Office of Land and Emergency Management. She holds degrees from Duke University School of Law and the University of Michigan School of Natural Resources and Environment. Nena worked as a corporate environmental attorney at several law firms. In addition to her current role, Nena provides valuable perspectives from her work in both regulatory and voluntary spheres at EPA, having served in Region 3, the Offices of Water, Air and Radiation, and Enforcement and Compliance Assurance, and in the immediate office of the Office of the Administrator, and the Office of Policy.;

Bruce Stanas, Corporate Vice President, Waste Disposal
WIN Waste Innovations
100 Arboretum Drive, #310, Portsmouth, NH 03801
bstanas@wtienergy.com

As Vice President of Waste Disposal, Bruce Stanas is responsible for developing and overseeing the waste supply structure of WIN Waste Innovations, formerly Wheelabrator Technologies. He is focused on managing existing internal and external waste suppliers as well as identifying new waste supply opportunities. In addition, Stanas and his team directly or indirectly manage and support a number of "Front of Scale" activities including marketplace planning, legislative and regulatory affairs, community partnering, and waste by rail activities all in markets serviced by its network of two rail-based landfills, 13 merchant waste-to-energy facilities, and 13 waste transfer/processing facilities.

Bruce began his career in 1986 at BFI's regional office in Boston working exclusively within the market development organization. He held various positions, culminating in his role as Vice President, Northeast Region/Eastern Canada. Through merger activity, he transitioned to Allied and Republic, holding various positions of increasing responsibility including roles as Regional Vice President, Area President and Senior Municipal and Government Affairs Manager.

In January 2016, after nearly 30 years with BFI and its successor companies, Bruce joined Wheelabrator Technologies as Corporate Vice President of Fuel Supply where he has been tasked with building out the company's waste disposal sales organization. This move came shortly after WM sold its waste-to-energy assets to Energy Capital Partners (ECP). In February 2019, ECP sold its Wheelabrator assets to Macquarie, which also purchased the collection, transfer, and landfill assets of Tunnel Hill Partners. Today, after several strategic acquisitions in the Northeast markets, Wheelabrator and Tunnel Hill are now operating under a new name—WIN Waste Innovations.

Throughout Bruce's 35-year career in the Solid Waste industry, his oversight has always included at a minimum, responsibilities within the New England markets. Bruce received his undergraduate degree in facilities management and an MBA in Finance, both from the University of Massachusetts in Amherst, MA. Bruce is married to his wife, Debra, and has three lovely daughters: Audrey, Olivia and Rose.