

P O Box 212 Denali National Park, AK 99755  
Ph: 907.683.2597 | Fax: 888.325.1938 | [www.denali.o](http://www.denali.o)

March 17, 2020

Administrator Andrew Wheeler  
Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW  
Mail Code: 1101A  
Washington, DC 20460

Administrator Wheeler:

I write today to lend support for implementing a nationwide standard for recycling labels as introduced by the nonprofit Recycle Across America. Denali Education Center (DEC) is a nonprofit partner of Denali National Park and Preserve (Denali NP&P) that provides educational programming for youth and adults that connects people to Denali and wild places everywhere. We have been involved with the Denali Zero-Landfill Initiative, a Subaru of America, Inc. and National Parks Conservation Association-led project to create a model for all National Parks to reduce waste.

In 2016, Denali NP&P improved its recycling infrastructure including the implementation of standardized recycling (and landfill) labels on all bins throughout the park. In the years since, the park has experienced a drastic reduction in the contamination of recyclables. The results were so stunning, in fact, that Denali Education Center, as the community outreach and education partner in the zero-landfill initiative, adopted the labels as the number one example for gateway community businesses of something they can do that will make an impact in their recycling efforts. We are hoping to get the labels adopted throughout the tourism industry in Alaska, “from ship to shore,” as we like to say, due to the high percentage of Alaska visitors who arrive via cruise ship.

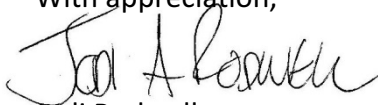
Almost all of the recycling from the Denali Borough (where Denali’s main tourism gateway resides) and Mat-Su Borough (where Talkeetna, Denali’s southern gateway community resides) goes to the Valley Community for Recycling Solutions (VCRS) recycle center in Palmer. This recycling center is crucial to the success of Denali’s recycling efforts and relies on receiving clean materials. VCRS has been able to hold on to certain markets where many recycling centers have lost business due to contamination of the materials provide. The Recycle Across America labels are a major factor in VCRS’s recycling stream being clean and marketable.

It's hard to express the impact the standardized labels have made on our community and the impact they are starting to make within the state of Alaska. Locally, students organized a Zero-Landfill Ambassador Program, conducted a waste audit in their school, and started a recycling program implementing the standardized labels on all their bins. Businesses are finding that their recycling volumes have increased exponentially with the adoption of the labels and with very little contamination. The examples are many and the success storytelling could go on.

Thank you for your time reading letters of support for Recycle Across America's standardized labels! Recycling may be far from many people's minds at this time but I can't think of a *better* time to start making some real change that will benefit the future of America's recycling programs, making them viable and lucrative.

I am available to you should you have questions or would like to hear more about our experience working with the federal government, local governments, businesses, the tourism industry, schools, community members, and guests from around the globe to help reduce the amount of trash going to Denali's only landfill.

With appreciation,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jodi A. Rodwell", written in a cursive style.

Jodi Rodwell

Executive Director

Jodi@denali.org



PO Box 48 | Denali Park, AK 99755 | 907-683-2904 | Fax: 907-683-2906  
www.huskyhomestead.com

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March 16, 2020

Senator Lisa Murkowski  
522 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington DC 20510

Dear Senator Murkowski:

I am writing in support of nation-wide standardized labels for recycling bins to help people recycle properly wherever they are. I believe this will make a positive impact on recycling in the United States during a critical time for our environment.

Many years ago, I implemented a paper recycling program for the office at our place of business. Since then, it has gradually grown to include recycling cardboard, glass, steel, aluminum, and plastics 1,2 & 5 for our entire staff.

Last summer (2019), we were visited by Mitch Hedlund with Recycle Across America, who provided us with standardized labels. Those labels allowed us to expand our recycling program to our tour facility where thousands of guests visit us each year. Visitors from all over the world were able to easily recognize and understand the labels. Having that visual reminder also encouraged individuals to choose to recycle. Between June 19, 2019 and December 18, 2019, Husky Homestead was able to recycle over 1,000 pounds of materials that would otherwise have ended up in a landfill.

Recycle Across America's standardized labels enable citizens to recycle right and become good stewards of the environment. The labels make it easy to understand what needs to be done. With the help of these labels, more people will be educated and enabled to act to conserve and protect our planet's resources.

Sincerely,

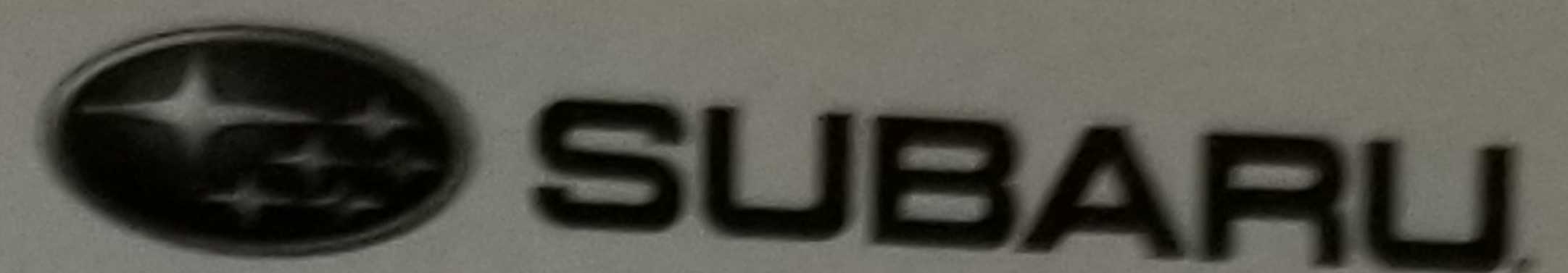
*Carrie Skinner*

Carrie Skinner  
General Manager  
Husky Homestead | Jeff King, Inc.

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Board Member  
Zero Landfill Initiative





Subaru of America, Inc.  
One Subaru Drive  
Camden, NJ 08103-9900  
856-488-8500  
www.subaru.com

June 27, 2019

Ms. Michelle Hedlund  
Executive Director  
Recycle Across America  
4337 Wilshire Blvd.  
Mound, MN 55364

Dear Mitch,

Thank you so much for your inspiring email regarding the ripple effect that Subaru has helped to create, but we must also thank you and what you are doing to help with recycling efforts in the U.S. and throughout the world. The standardization of the recycling signs will help because I agree with you that for most people the signs are confusing. I know depending on where I might be, I am confused and wonder if I am putting waste in its proper place.

As you point out, Denise has done a tremendous job in trying to simplify the recycling activities within the National Parks and we are pleased with the progress we have been making so far. Denise is perfect for this job because of her outstanding accomplishments in getting our manufacturing facility in Lafayette Indiana to be a zero-landfill plant, which was the first one in the U.S.

What you are doing fits into our goals to bring awareness to the huge waste issue in our country and around the world. If we can make people understand that by taking these small measures to simply recycle waste properly, it will reduce the amount of waste going into landfills and reduce pollution. Thank you for taking on this issue!! What you are doing aligns with our goals to make our society better for our future generations.

Thank you again for your thoughtful email and for all you are doing in developing consistent signage that the public will easily understand and get behind. As Confucius said, "A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step." We are still at the beginning of our journey, but we are making progress!! Let's keep the faith!!

Best wishes and continued success.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "TJ Doll", written in a cursive style.

Thomas J. Doll  
President & CEO

TJD/dh



July 9, 2019

Mitch Hedlund  
Executive Director  
Recycle Across America

Dear Mitch,

It was wonderful to meet with you and Mark Andrew yesterday in our offices to discuss ways we can work together to advance recycling in the U.S. ISRI promotes safe, economically sustainable and environmentally responsible recycling, and with a membership and mission that includes – but also extends well beyond – municipal recycling, we support Recycle Across America's efforts to promote society-wide standardized labeling system on bins and carts as a vital part of the solution to increasing the quality of the nation's recycling stream.

Recycling works in the United States today, but it is not without challenges, especially when it comes to the residential recycling sector. We are seeing several pressure points in the residential recycling infrastructure today, and the standardized labeling system you have developed provides a critical part of the solution for addressing one of the biggest challenges - contamination in the stream resulting from misinformation (and lack of information) as to what is recyclable and can go into the bin. And while only 30 percent of the material recycled in the U.S. comes from residential recycling efforts - and the other 70 percent sourced from commercial and industrial operations across the country - the blue bin or cart at the end of the driveway is the most visible part of America's recycling infrastructure and therefore has an outsized impact on the perception and performance of recycling overall in the U.S.

Manufacturers will only purchase recycled materials if it meets their quality requirements. Recycle Across America's standardized labeling system results in measurable reductions in contamination, and significant increases in not just the quality of the recyclables, but in overall recycling rates.

The recycling industry appreciates your leadership in promoting standardized messaging as an important element in solving the problems we face today with confusion at the bin, and we look forward to working with you on ways to further advancing recycling!

Sincerely,



Robin Wiener  
President





July 5, 2019

Administrator Andrew Wheeler  
Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Mail Code: 1101A  
Washington, DC 20460

Administrator Wheeler:

I write today to lend support for the standardized bin labeling solution introduced by the national non-profit, Recycle Across America®. Rhode Island became the first state in the nation to adopt these standardized labels for our mixed recycling program in 2016. Until that time, every town, agency, school, business, institution, and organization in Rhode Island had been conveying recycling rules to the public in their own way. Bins, carts, and containers were all labeled differently, and conflicting information was sent to residents.

Rhode Island is fortunate to have one, unified mixed recycling program; however, we lacked one, unified message. This led to confusion for the public at the bin and, ultimately, to high levels of contamination in our mixed recycling. At a time when the market for recycled commodities is tight, quality is of the utmost importance.

Since working with Recycle Across America® to create a standardized label for RI, over 80,000 labels have made their way onto bins in our state. In addition, we have used the label as the symbol and foundation for all public education about recycling, promoting it through a local version of Recycle Across America's Let's Recycle Right!® campaign. This initiative—to standardize bin labels and all related messaging about recycling—was recently given the Gold Award - Public Awareness Campaign by the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA).

Compared to the year prior to this campaign, the number of tons rejected from our Materials Recycling Facility for poor quality decreased by 18%. We still have work to do, increasing the reach of the labels to every corner of the state, but the results thus far have been promising. We look forward to a day where everyone sees the same, simple, consistent messaging about recycling right, wherever they live, learn, work, or play.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Joseph Reposa", is written over a blue circular stamp that partially overlaps the signature.

Joseph Reposa  
Executive Director  
RI Resource Recovery

65 Shun Pike Johnston, Rhode Island 02919  
401-942-1430 | [www.rirrc.org](http://www.rirrc.org)





Stadium in Minneapolis, MN.



**Alliance:** U.S. Bank Stadium is one of the newest venues in the country. Why is sustainability so important to your organization, and what are some things we might not know about your sustainability operations?

**BV:** Sustainability was a key consideration in the design, construction, and operation phases of the life of the stadium. In the Minneapolis/Saint Paul market, there is a large drive from the state and local government to engage in sustainable operations. The stadium partners also understand that we have a large platform to drive positive environmental change, and with events like the X-games, Super Bowl, and the NCAA Final Four, we realize that we have a large opportunity to engage and encourage fans and staff to think more sustainably in their day-to-day lives. The stadium is exploring all options to mitigate its carbon footprint in the following areas: transportation, energy use, water use, and waste management.

**Alliance:** One element of your sustainability work that stands out is your pursuit of/classification as a zero waste venue?

**BV:** Yes. Since July 2016, U.S. Bank Stadium has managed to increase its diversion rate from 20% up to 83% at our most recent event, the NFL Vikings/Saints playoff game on January 14, 2018. It is our goal to achieve the zero-waste mark for the Super Bowl, as well as continue to meet that goal for all major events moving forward.

**Alliance:** Signage is often a major challenge in getting fans to sort their waste properly. Have you had any successes in getting/using messaging, signage, or other fan education tools to help promote better waste practices and decrease your contamination rates?

**BV:** We have partnered with a non-profit called Recycle Across America (RAA) for our waste signage in the facility. This organization aims to implement standardized waste signage nationwide, so when people go to different areas of the country, they can see consistent waste signage that will help minimize confusion. For example, the Minneapolis/Saint Paul Airport installed RAA signage, so fans who come to the Super Bowl will see similar signage both at the stadium and at the airport. By partnering with RAA, we hope to continue to educate fans about recycling and composting on a larger scale than just at the stadium. One of our ongoing goals of the operation is to increase and improve the signage and fan communication efforts.





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www.huskyhomestead.com

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March 16, 2020

Senator Dan Sullivan  
702 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington DC 20510

Dear Senator Sullivan:

I am writing in support of nation-wide standardized labels for recycling bins to help people recycle properly wherever they are. I believe this will make a positive impact on recycling in the United States during a critical time for our environment.

Many years ago, I implemented a paper recycling program for the office at our place of business. Since then, it has gradually grown to include recycling cardboard, glass, steel, aluminum, and plastics 1, 2 & 5 for our entire staff.

Last summer (2019), we were visited by Mitch Hedlund with Recycle Across America, who provided us with standardized labels. Those labels allowed us to expand our recycling program to our tour facility where thousands of guests visit us each year. Visitors from all over the world were able to easily recognize and understand the labels. Having that visual reminder also encouraged individuals to choose to recycle. Between June 19, 2019 and December 18, 2019, Husky Homestead was able to recycle over 1,000 pounds of materials that would otherwise have ended up in a landfill.

Recycle Across America's standardized labels enable citizens to recycle right and become good stewards of the environment. The labels make it easy to understand what needs to be done. With the help of these labels, more people will be educated and enabled to act to conserve and protect our planet's resources.

Sincerely,

*Carrie Skinner*

Carrie Skinner  
General Manager  
Husky Homestead | Jeff King, Inc.

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Board Member  
Zero Landfill Initiative



Email dated: July 9, 2019

Dear Mitch,

The Metropolitan Airports Commission began using Recycle Across America's standardized labeling on the trash and recycling bins at Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport in December 2017. At that time, we were experiencing a recycling stream contamination rate of up to 44%. By May 2018, six months after implementing the RAA labeling, we noted a 28% reduction of contamination in the recycling stream.

We have found using RAA standardized labeling to be valuable in advancing our efforts to reduce contamination and improve our recycling performance. We are pleased to be a part of the growing ecosystem of entities and venues utilizing RAA standardized labeling to help people recycle right.

Sincerely,

Naomi Pesky

**NAOMI PESKY** | *Vice President, Strategy and Stakeholder*

*Engagement* | **O:** 612-713-8782 | [www.MetroAirports.org](http://www.MetroAirports.org)

**Metropolitan Airports Commission** | 6040 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55450







July 10, 2019

Administrator Andrew Wheeler  
Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Mail code: 1101A  
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Mr. Wheeler,

3M supports collaborating with key stakeholders to develop a standardized national recycling strategy that strengthens markets and reduces contamination in the recycling stream.

As part of 3M's commitment to accelerating a circular economy, the company is designing more and more products that are made with recycled content.

For example, in 2019 3M converted Scotch-Brite® scouring solutions to use recycled fibers. The company is also launching a new 3M™Thinsulate™Insulation down replacement for outerwear made with 100% recycled plastic waste.

Designing products that use less material and minimize waste makes the best and most efficient use of the planet's finite resources. It's good for the planet and good for business.

Supporting the development of a more robust recycling system in the U.S. is important to make sure the entire system functions and it's possible for one manufacturer's waste to be utilized as another's raw material.

Labeling--as done by Recycle Across America--is one key component of an overall system that helps ensure that we have sufficient availability and quality of post-consumer recycled raw materials at the right price.

We support Recycle Across America in their efforts to advance standardized recycling labels and help increase the amount and quality of recycled content.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gayle Schueller", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Gayle Schueller





June 28, 2019

Administrator Andrew Wheeler  
Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Mail code: 1101A  
Washington, DC 20460

Compumetric Engineering has long held a passion for doing the right thing. Nearly 20 years ago, we saw a need to protect wildlife, especially bears, from being destroyed because of human-bear conflicts. As a sheet metal manufacturer, we had the resources to make a difference and sought to fabricate bear-resistant trash cans and recycle bins under the name BearSaver. This proved to be a successful endeavor and gave us the opportunity to engage with the federal government as well as thousands of other customers. Our first customers were with the National Park Service and, through their education efforts and our bear-resistant product offerings, the frequency of bear-related damage incidents sharply declined.

Our labeling for many years was basic and non-informative and, while we did our best to cover all the recycle streams, it didn't seem good enough to make a difference in cross contamination. The labels were simply block letters with single words such as trash, glass, etc. Our customers...and the environment...deserved better and we were fortunate enough to partner with Recycle Across America (RAA) to utilize their well-thought-out standardized labeling. This was the solution our customer base had been waiting for. Instead of just a word on a label, we could help reduce contaminants using labels that showed exactly what was supposed to go inside of our bins. When we first started offering standardized labels, we gave our customers a choice and they unanimously chose the RAA labels. It didn't take long before we made standardized labels the default, not only for BearSaver but also for our other company, Securr. Securr provides trash cans and recycle bins to a vast array of customers such as municipalities, airports, hotels, restaurants and dozens of other entities where proper labeling is critical.

Since important BearSaver customers like Yosemite, Denali and Grand Teton National Parks have gone to standardized labeling, we've used them as an example when working with all of our other customers in bear-habituated areas. The response has been overwhelmingly favorable, and in some cases, pre-existing customers are removing the old block letter labeling in favor of the RAA labels.

1390 S. Milliken Avenue  
Ontario, California 91761  
Website: [www.bearsaver.com](http://www.bearsaver.com)

Phone: 909-605-7666  
Fax: 909-605-7780  
Email: [sales@bearsaver.com](mailto:sales@bearsaver.com)



Our relationship with RAA has been completely pleasurable and our vast customer base is the beneficiary of our unique partnership. Our websites proudly offer RAA standardized labels and, because of all the positive feedback we've received, our everyday use and promotion of this superior labelling solution will continue, thereby making a positive impact in the effort to improve recycling results across America.

Steve Thompson  
Director of Marketing and Sales  
Compumetric Engineering Inc  
dba BearSaver and Securr  
Office 909-212-5386  
Cell 714-225-4306

1390 S. Milliken Avenue  
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550 BOWIE STREET, AUSTIN, TEXAS 78703  
WWW.WHOLEFOODS.COM  
AMERICA'S HEALTHIEST GROCERY STORE

July 2, 2019

Administrator Andrew Wheeler  
Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Mail code: 1101A  
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Wheeler,

For almost five years, Whole Foods Market has been working with Recycle Across America (RAA), which has benefitted the company, local schools and communities where the program operates.

We have donated more than \$70,000 to the Labels for Schools, a program that not only inspires and educates students about the importance of recycling, but also provides real savings for these school systems. Some school systems across the country are saving tens to hundreds of thousands of dollars on trash hauling fees annually due to the success of standardized labels.

One of our regions added three new stores in the first year working with RAA but did not add trash volume. In fact, their volume decreased significantly, and Whole Foods Market Team Members were excited to see their recycling rates increase.

For almost 40 years, caring for the environment has been central to our mission and how we operate. We know that when signs are not simple and uniform that contamination can happen at the bin, and recycling haulers and facilities may reject materials. We are working to eliminate confusion at the bin, and Recycle Across America has been a valuable partner in our efforts.

We hope using a national, standard recycling strategy that incorporates Recycle Across America's labels may be implemented quickly to help our cities and towns, schools and businesses increase recycling rates and save money, as well as help make our waterways and protected lands cleaner for all.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K Loftus".

Kathleen M Loftus  
Vice President, Sustainability  
Whole Foods Market





July 8, 2019

Mr. Andrew Wheeler  
US Environmental Protection Agency (MC 1101A)  
1200 Pennsylvania Ave NW  
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Wheeler:

On behalf of the Wayne Green Team, I am writing in support of society-wide standardized labels for recycling bins to help people recycle properly wherever they are, much like standardized road signs help people drive properly all over our country. The recent House appropriations bill to fund a national recycling strategy will make a positive impact on recycling in the United States during a critical time for the materials industry and our environment.

For background, Wayne is a rural community in northeast Nebraska with a population of 5,600. We have a unique blend of industry, agriculture, and higher education, serving as the home to Wayne State College. Our community actively works to minimize waste, increase sustainability, and further conversation and awareness about the impact humans have on our environment. The Wayne Green Team regularly hosts zero waste programs, such as yearly electronics recycling collections, Earth Day celebrations, and education campaigns on how to recycle right. We have also received the Green Team of the Year Award from the Nebraska Recycling Council.

Given our rural location and distance from major recycling centers, we often face challenges in finding haulers to collect reusable materials, and what materials they do accept must be clean. We believe clear, standardized labels have helped increase recycling and reduce contamination in our city's public bins and will help our nation even more as part of a broad recycling strategy.

In 2015, we started using Recycle Across America's standardized labels on sets of trash and recycling bins in our downtown business core and community activity center. Our community finds the labels easy to read and understand. A consistent message is also key to recycling right, so we are now working to place more of these labels on every recycling bin in our community's parks and in our public schools. At least one business has already begun using these labels on their office bins, and we hope to encourage more to do the same.

We thank you for your efforts and concern for improving recycling in the United States. A national recycling strategy will lead to a growing market of reusable materials with great economic benefit to our citizens and industry, while eliminating the wastefulness of sending recyclable materials to landfills. Let's recycle right!

Sincerely,

Sandy Brown  
Chair of the Wayne Green Team





# Reagan Magnet School

2321 E. 21<sup>st</sup> Street Odessa, TX 432-456-1189  
Fax 432-456-1188

June 25, 2019

Dear Administrator Wheeler:

My name is Anese Forsyth, and I am a second-grade teacher and a concerned citizen from Odessa, Texas. I want to thank you very much for communicating with Congress about the need and importance of developing a standardized method of recycling for the United States. Using labels such as those that Recycle Across America has developed are desperately needed to eliminate confusion at the recycling bin and provide a consistent and uniform method of recycling.

I helped create a recycling program at my school, Reagan Elementary, and Recycle Across America provided the standardized labeling for the bins. These labels are a critical component in helping people understand what to recycle and where to put the items. Our school had previously recycled zero plastic but after implementing a school-wide recycling program in December of 2018, our school and the surrounding community helped us fill a giant dumpster 11 times with clean plastic — which amounted to more than 500,000 pieces of plastic recycled in less than seven months. The City of Odessa communicated with our green team that our plastic was so clean that it met the strict guidelines that China has implemented.

We need consistent labeling to prevent cross-contamination, and citizens need to be able to see uniformed labels clearly, so they know what they need to place in those bins. If we don't have that communication nationwide, it will cause too much confusion.

Recycle Across America's standardized labels enable citizens to recycle right and become good stewards of the environment. I know that if my second graders can understand this, that we as adults can, and we must act to conserve and protect resources as my students have.

Sincerely and respectfully,  
Anese Forsyth



INDIAN RIVER COUNTY  
SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL DISTRICT

Landfill / Administration / Recycling  
1325 74<sup>th</sup> Avenue SW  
Vero Beach, FL 32968

Phone: 772-770-5112  
Fax: 772-770-5296



Assessment Fees  
1801 27<sup>th</sup> Street  
Vero Beach, FL 32960

Phone: 772-226-1300  
Fax: 772-226-1578

July 11, 2019

Ms. Mitch Hedlund  
Recycle Across America

(Sent via email: [mitch@recycleacrossamerica.org](mailto:mitch@recycleacrossamerica.org))

RE: Indian River County Solid Waste Disposal District  
Letter of Support for the Standardization of Recycling Cart Labels

Dear Ms. Hedlund,

As the managing director for the Indian River County Solid Waste Disposal District (SWDD), it is my pleasure to provide a letter of support to Recycle Across America (RAA) for the standardization of recycling cart labels. We applaud RAA for bringing the issue of recycling contamination to a national level and appreciate the efforts by Representative McCollum and EPA Administrator Wheeler for caring about U.S. recycling, closed-loop manufacturing and the issues of waste in oceans.

Indian River County, Florida started a county-wide single stream program in October 2015 with the delivery of over 70,000 recycling carts to all single family and multi-family residents. Overall, the new program has been very successful in increasing participation; however, we have also faced challenges with recycling contamination due to confusion at the cart. We strongly support the standardized labels as a way provide simple and effective education on how to recycle right!

We know that this will be a county wide success as we are currently utilizing the RAA labels in 20 public schools in Indian River County as well as using them in our County government buildings.

We believe the standardization of recycling labels is vital to improving the effectiveness of educating our residents and lowering our contamination rate. Our primary issues are the economic challenges of implementing a countywide change of this magnitude. We appreciate any assistance from RAA in terms of grant funding.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at 772.770.5112.

Sincerely,

Himanshu H. Mehta, P.E. (FL)  
Managing Director



Sue Flak, SWDD Recycling Education and Marketing Coordinator

*S.W.D.D., helping you Think Green, Live Green.*

*Printed on Recycled Paper*





Good morning!

I have some good news! Senator Mullis seems very interested in my proposal. Now he doesn't want to go as far as requiring the schools to recycle but rather issuing a mandate that will incentivize schools to recycle.

I still think this is a huge win. He's already called several Georgia Lawyers and legislative drafters to begin researching the best way to do this. He even wants me to testify in front of a GA Senate Committee. Needless to say I think this is going to go somewhere.

I also made it clear the importance of using the labels from RAA. He agreed and I would only imagine they will be included somehow in this mandate.

Unfortunately the next GA Assembly session isn't until January but we're heading in the right direction. He also seemed interested in Coke partnering with GA Schools (Although I wouldn't promise that to Coke quite yet).

You were a big part in this victory so thank you from the bottom of my heart for being so helpful. Hopefully we will be working together to provide GA Schools with RAA Labels!

Thanks again,

Cooper Shull

Above is a letter from a high school student in Georgia, who reached out to Recycle Across America and asked if it would be okay if he advocated for the standardized labels in the state of GA. He wants recycling to be mandated in all K-12 schools in Georgia and that all schools use the standardized labels.

Unbeknownst to Cooper at the time of his letter, all of the Atlanta Public K-12 Schools now use the standardized labels and as a result their recycling levels increased and their contamination levels went to zero, according to a study performed by the recycling hauler for the school district, Republic Services.

Also, Woodward Academy located in Atlanta, is the largest private K-12 school in the U.S. and they also use the standardized labels on their recycling bins. So progress has begun in Georgia already, but Cooper would like to see this progress be throughout his entire state.





September 21, 2013

Chris Salgado  
President, Kiehl's Since 1851  
435 Hudson Street,  
New York, NY 10014

Dear Kiehl's,

Although the United States is home to just 5 percent of the world's population, it generates 30 percent of its trash. The average American creates a staggering 4.5 pounds of garbage daily. Almost everything we do creates waste, and as a society we are currently producing more waste than ever before. In light of this staggering fact I feel it is important to thank you for the opportunity to work with *Recycle Across America* to distribute standard labels around the nation to our National Wildlife Federation Eco-Schools. More importantly I want to thank you for being a leader in sustainability and seeing the benefit in educating our young leaders of tomorrow. Your generosity and support has given many school districts and their schools the opportunity to address our nation's consumption and waste habits and challenges. I can only hope, moving forward, that your support will continue as we, *Recycle Across America* and Eco-Schools USA, continue to spread our sustainability message and resources to more K-12 schools nationwide.

Warmest Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'J. Hammonds'.

Jennifer R. Hammonds  
Manager, STEM Education  
National Wildlife Federation – Eco-Schools USA

***NWF – Inspiring Americans to protect wildlife for our children's future***





To Administrator Andrew Wheeler

2 July 2019 Jakarta, Indonesia

Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Mail code: 1101A  
Washington, DC 20460

Indonesian Waste Platform is a national network of stakeholders related to solving waste pollution problems in Indonesia. <http://www.indonesianwaste.org>

One reason for Indonesia's widespread litter problem is the failing collection system. Consumer confusion about proper waste separation is aggravated by the unclear markings on waste bins.

We have contacted Recycle Across America (RAA) regarding their longstanding expertise in disseminating standardized labels.

We are now collaborating with RAA to explore how we can create a synergy in bin labelling, in order to create an international bin language, understandable for anyone anywhere.

Indonesian Waste Platform is co-founding member of the International Waste Platform, with members in Indonesia, Portugal, Australia, Africa (regional), USA (Jenna Jambeck - international -data collection), Germany, Canada, New Zealand, Taiwan and Ghana.

Other networks subsequently joined - Philippine Waste Platform, Movimento Tasi Mos in Timor-Leste, Vietnam Zero Waste Alliance, Russia Waste Hub, Malaysians Against Marine Debris, One Wave in Japan.

Stakeholders from Nigeria, India, Congo and Costa Rica joined as individual organizations.

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Yours sincerely,  
Nina van Toulon

Founder - Coordinator Indonesian Waste Platform