



NEWSLETTER

FALL / WINTER 2017

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Cox Awards Grant to ARC!

by Whitney Yoder, Cox Public Affairs Manager for Arkansas

COX is happy to provide a grant for \$12,500 to the Arkansas Recycling Coalition. ARC has a strong history of working collaboratively with the public and private sector to further sustainability initiatives in Arkansas. ARC was chosen by COX from a large group of sustainability organizations throughout a four-state area to receive the COX Conserves Chairman's Cup award.

On hand for the presentation...

Pictured front row left to right: Alford Drinkwater and Don Curran, ARC Board of Directors and Cherie O'Mary, ARC Executive Director.

Representing the Cox team...

Pictured from left to right: Douglas Thomas (Co-Chair Cox Conserves Council), Curt Stamp (Arkansas Market Vice President), Todd Parker, Whitney Yoder, Brandon Widows, and Josh Parker (Cox Conserves – Arkansas Market Team).



The COX employees are all part of the Central Region COX Conserves Council and work together on sustainability and conservation initiatives in the Arkansas market to ensure that COX is zero waste to landfill by 2024.

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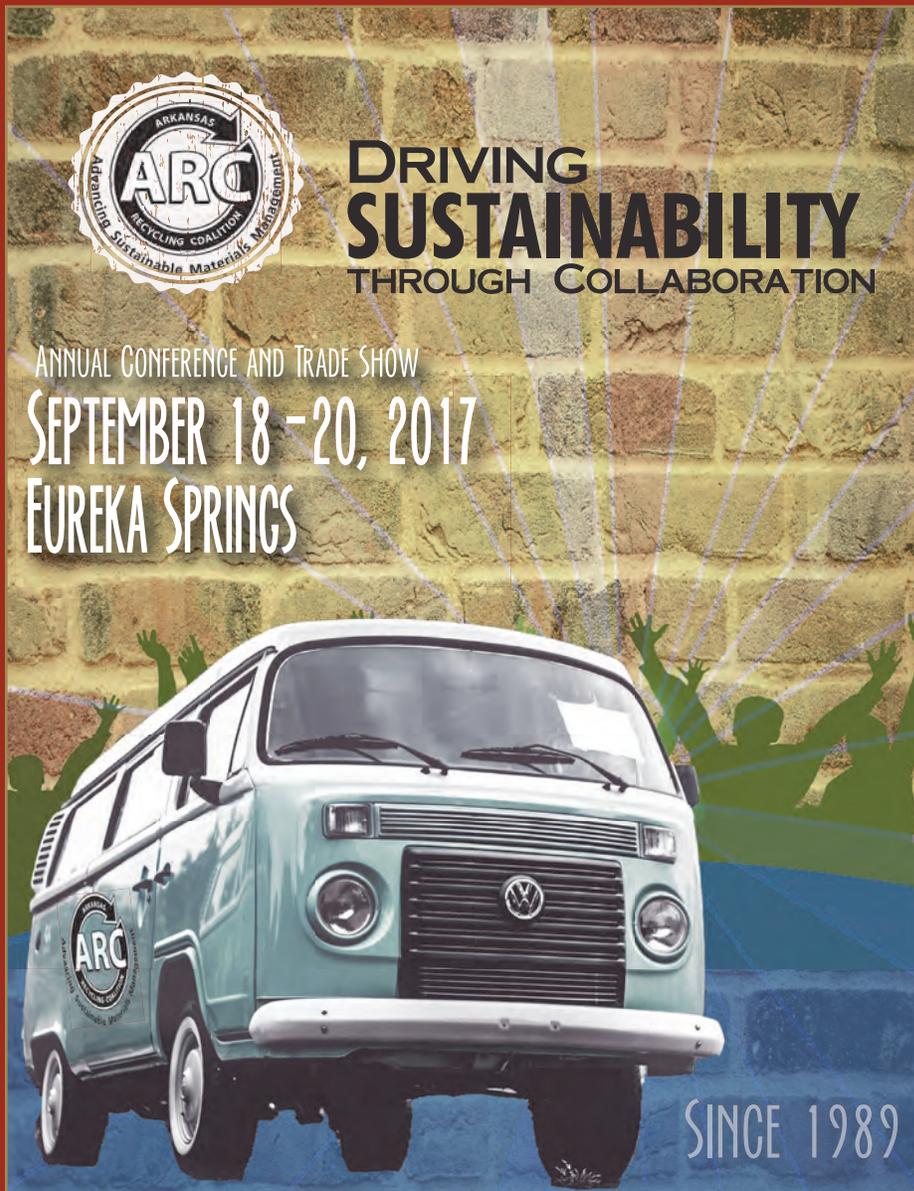
Diamond & Platinum Sponsors



Thanks for Another Great Conference!

The 27th Annual Arkansas Recycling Coalition Conference, Awards Program and Trade Show which took place September 18-20, 2017, at the Best Western Inn of the Ozarks and Convention Center, Eureka Springs, Arkansas.

Thanks to all our sponsors, speakers, exhibitors and attendees who helped make 2017 a success!



2017 Award Recipients



*GOVERNMENT RECYCLING
EDUCATION PROGRAM OF THE YEAR
City of Fayetteville*



*CORPORATE RECYCLER OF THE YEAR
L'Oreal USA*



*LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
John Roberts – Regional Recycling &
Waste Reduction District (Retired)*



*COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT
PROGRAM OF THE YEAR
Conway EcoFest*

*INDIVIDUAL RECYCLER OF THE YEAR
Not shown: John Pope – Van Buren*

KVBB Director Receives State Recycling Award

By TANIAH TUDOR, Press Argus-Courier Staff

A Van Buren man known for his contributions to the beautification of the city was recently awarded for his individual efforts to increase recycling programs at the state and local levels. John Pope, Keep Van Buren Beautiful executive director, received this year's Individual Recycler of the Year Award from the Arkansas Recycling Coalition.

Each year, the honor goes to a person "who has made a significant contribution to the advancement of waste reduction, recycling, and sustainability in Arkansas over the past year," according to the ARC website. "I'm overwhelmed," Pope said. "It's a highly respectable group."

Pope was named the recipient of the honor at the ARC conference in September. Robert Phelps, former director for Keep Arkansas Beautiful, nominated Pope for this year's award. "John has been a champion for recycling ever since he became involved in Keep Arkansas Beautiful and Keep America Beautiful," Phelps said. "Some of the things he has accomplished there in Van Buren ... have really impressed me."

Pope has worked on numerous recycling and beautification projects in Van Buren and throughout the area, including city-wide clean ups twice a year, a yearly electronic waste collection and ongoing cigarette litter prevention. He helped create a Van Buren School District recycling program, and started a regional recycling competition for schools participating in Recycle-Bowl.

As state commissioner for Keep Arkansas Beautiful for several years, Pope worked to get communities across the state to host annual America Recycles Day events. Pope is most proud of a partnership he fostered between Keep America Beautiful and the national Lions Club organization to collect and redistribute used eyeglasses, he said. Most recently, Pope helped get Van Buren and Keep Van Buren Beautiful selected to be the focus of a Keep America Beautiful recycling training video.

Phelps, who served on the Arkansas Recycling Coalition board from 1998 until 2017, has seen "a number of deserving individuals receive the award," he said. "But I couldn't think of anyone that deserved it more than John - I'm delighted and elated that he was a recipient this year," Phelps said.

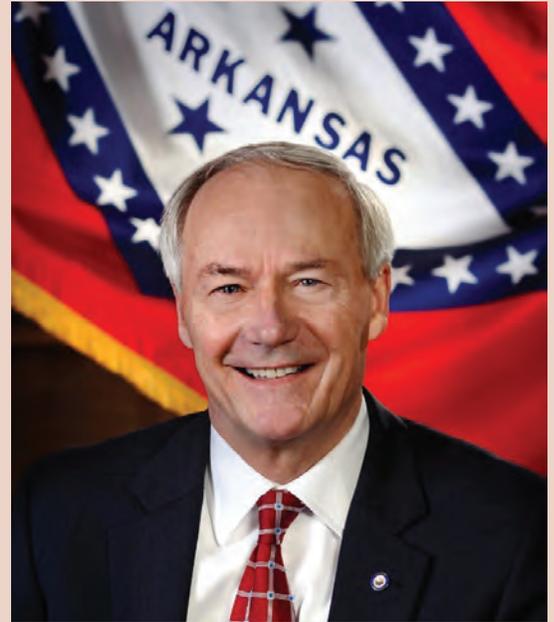
Keep Van Buren Beautiful has won several awards for its efforts, including the President's Circle Award and cigarette litter prevention award from Keep America Beautiful, and the Shine award from Keep Arkansas Beautiful. Pope also has been awarded for his efforts in heading the Van Buren affiliate. "Normally, everything I do is with Keep Van Buren Beautiful and Keep Arkansas Beautiful, and there's no individual recognition," Pope said. "Individual recognition is unusual, and it feels great."



Keep Van Buren Beautiful Executive Director John Pope with his Individual Recycler of the Year Award from the Arkansas Recycling Coalition

Governor's Address: The Great Arkansas Cleanup

(Column Transcript)



No one is more passionate on the subject of trash and litter than Mark Camp, the new director of the Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission. And to my surprise, he has informed me that discarded cigarettes are the No. 1 litter issue in Arkansas. It's Mark's responsibility to see that we clean them up.

The topic is timely today because we are in the midst of the [2017 Great Arkansas Cleanup](#). Volunteers around the state are scouring the roadsides and beating the bushes, bagging up fast-food wrappers, old tires, discarded shoes, dirty diapers and a wide variety of other man-made debris.

Mark is stepping into the big shoes of a couple of others who were passionate about keeping Arkansas picked up. The late Carl Garner started it all as chief of the engineering division for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Greers Ferry Project. Mr. Garner loved the lake, and in 1969, he started what became an annual cleanup around the lake.

In 1985, then U.S. Senator Dale Bumpers helped pass the Carl Garner Federal Lands Cleanup Act, which requires a clean-up of all federal lands the weekend after Labor Day.

For the past 20 years, Bob Phelps was the executive director of Keep Arkansas Beautiful. He retired this summer, and Mark took over.

Arkansas is one of the Top 10 states for pounds of trash per person – not a statistic we should brag about. Mark attributes our ranking to our consumption of fast food – the wrappers and cups often end up everywhere but a trash can. Mark notes that people in pickups inadvertently contribute to the problem when they deposit their trash in the truck bed. More often than not, the wind blows the trash out.

As for cigarette butts, Mark can tick off many problems. For instance, the butts are made of cellulose acetate, not cotton, and that's a plastic that doesn't biodegrade. The filters are designed to remove toxins from tobacco smoke, so each butt is a poison-filled capsule that birds and other animals ingest. Rain washes the butts into storm drains, and they eventually travel into our waterways, where fish can swallow them.

At [KeepArkansasBeautiful.com](#), Mark and his staff have posted information about clean-up events around the state. You can register to volunteer. This year's campaign ends October 31. In 2016, 14,000 volunteers picked up over 500,000 pounds of trash – that's 252 tons. Volunteers collected 1.8 million pounds of bulky waste and over 9,500 tires. Volunteers cleaned 1,100 miles of roadside, 1,300 miles of waterway and 17,000 acres of parks and other public areas. Volunteers also planted over 4,300 trees, shrubs and flowers.

Arkansans are generous people who take care of a need when they see it. The numbers from last year's Great Arkansas Cleanup bear that out. I'm confident that when Director Camp releases the numbers from this year's campaign, the statistics will be equally impressive. Thank you for taking care of our state.

Electronics Recycling UNPLUGGED

By: Carol Bevis, Regional Recycling and Waste Reduction District

The Regional Recycling and Waste Reduction District held a fall e-waste collection on September 27 and 28, 2017. Over 500 people dropped off electronics to be recycled.

Results of the collection were 199,646 pounds, 1373 CRT's (cathode ray tubes) compared to the Spring and Fall Collection 2016 collected 177,001 pounds and 1067 CRT's.

CRT's continue to be collected in large quantities. These constitute massive amounts of hazardous waste for the environment. To promote public health and welfare, these materials must continue to be collected and recycled.



ARC's MISSION is to function as a non-profit coalition of individual, community, nonprofit, government, NGO and private enterprise members dedicated to advancing the principles of REDUCE, REUSE, REPURPOSE, and RECYCLE as the Primary Means of SUSTAINABLE Waste Management in Arkansas.



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!

Keep up with the latest ARC news and happenings:
www.facebook.com/arkansasrecyclingcoalition

Coming Events

October 25-27, 2017
Arkansas Environmental Federation Conference
Hot Springs

November 8-9, 2017
SERDC Fall Forum
Asheville, NC

February 22, 2018
School Environmental Science Summit
Virco Manufacturing – Conway

April 5, 2018
Recycling Summit for Professionals –
Virco Manufacturing – Conway

October 8-10, 2018
28th Annual ARC Conference –
Best Western Inn of the Ozarks
Eureka Springs

Welcome New & Returning Members

ACE Glass – Little Rock

Arkansas Steel Associates, LLC – Newport

Cox Communications – Springdale

dw Wire Sales, LLC – Carthage, MO

OK Recycling Assn (OKRA) – Tulsa, OK

Thompson Recycling Company, Inc – Searcy

Dwight Dicus – Dover

Gary Kohrs – Cabot

Environmental Issue: Illegal Disposal in Saline County

The position of Illegal Dumps Control Officer is a creation of Arkansas State legislature which recognized that illegal dumping and burning of household trash in the Natural State is a serious environmental concern. There are thirty licensed IDCOs in the state who are trained by the Arkansas Environmental Training Academy, tested by the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality and licensed by the Arkansas Pollution Control & Ecology Commission. The IDCO is statutorily authorized to civilly enforce Arkansas' environmental statutes and county ordinances.

Saline County presents unique environmental issues. Because residential trash pick-up is not mandatory but elective; Saline County has experienced, historically, a serious burning and dumping problem. The IDCO enforces state statutes, county ordinances and Solid Waste District regulation regarding the illegal dumping of household waste, trade waste, tires, white goods, and construction & demolition materials. The IDCO also enforces state statutes and local ordinances when the illegal burning of non-organic waste is reported and investigated. Such non-organic waste includes: household waste, waste tires, trade waste, and construction & demolition materials.

After an illegal dump or burning site is discovered the IDCO investigates to find materials in the site that indicates identifying information of the person violating environmental laws. If there is a lack of identifying information, the IDCO can utilize other investigative tactics to ensure the person(s) in violation are held accountable and proper cleanup

and disposal is achieved. The IDCO capitalizes on these opportunities to first educate these residents about the state laws concerning our environment. This education process results in the resident receiving an initial written warning ticket with the requirement that the site be cleaned-up. If the violation continues, the IDCO issues a civil citation. This will bring the resident responsible for the violation before the County Circuit Court.

While the IDCO works closely with law enforcement, because of the civil nature of their enforcement authority, the Saline County IDCO places their enforcement emphasis on working with the people who have done the illegal dumping or burning through discussion, education and monitoring of the site. Typically, the IDCO receives complaints of environmental violations from many sources: referrals from ADEQ along with the city and county code enforcers, anonymous tip from the District's TIP LINE and complaints via telephone, email and from the District's website link. During the last sixteen months, because of the IDCO engagement with residents, over 76,376 pounds of illegally dumped materials have been cleaned up- without court involvement- and properly disposed of at a Class I landfill in 2017. Due to the actions of the District's IDCO, Saline County is cleaner by over 130,376 pounds, since 2016.

Recycle Saline
IDCO
Shane Knight

2018 Annual Conference and Trade Show

The ARC 28th Annual Conference and Trade Show will be held at the Best Western Inn of the Ozarks, Eureka Springs, Arkansas, October 8-10, 2018.





America Recycles Day – How Can YOU Make a Difference?

America Recycles Day (ARD), an initiative of Keep America Beautiful, is a nationally recognized day dedicated to promoting and celebrating recycling efforts in the United States. For the past 20 years, thousands of local event organizers mobilize throughout their community to educate friends, colleagues and classmates about recycling on or around Nov. 15

One of the biggest barriers to recycling is knowing what items can (and cannot) be recycled. In honor of America Recycles Day 2017, The Arkansas Recycling Coalition is working with Keep America Beautiful (KAB) to promote and spread awareness of what can and cannot be recycled. We invite you to plan your own ARD event by taking advantage of the wide variety of tools and resources available to make event planning easy and impactful. Once planned, register your event so it is officially part of the national network of America Recycles Day events!

“In our most recent survey, 78% of participants indicated they want more information about what to recycle. America Recycles Day provides the opportunity to do just that and to make recycling a common practice every day of the year,” said Brenda Pulley, senior vice president, recycling, Keep America Beautiful. “We invite you to host an event within your

community, inviting your family and friends from work, school, and your neighborhood to participate in America Recycles Day and to take the #BeRecycled Pledge in a collective national effort to improve recycling in our country.”

Events can occur at any time during the fall leading into the official America Recycles Day celebration on Wednesday, Nov. 15. Events can be as small as an exhibit in front of a retail location, a bill insert to your community residents on what can be recycled or as large as a collection event for the entire community. What is important is spreading the word about the recycling Dos and Don'ts in your community!

Additionally, as part of the America Recycles Day campaign, we encourage you to invite your network to join the movement by taking the #BeRecycled Pledge. This pledge is a promise to actively choose living a recycled lifestyle by committing to “Reduce. Reuse. Recycle and Buy Recycled.” in all aspects of daily life.

Learn more about America Recycles Day at:
<http://www.AmericaRecyclesDay.org>

For questions, contact Isaac Nicholson at 202-688-0604 or inicholson@kab.org.



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Forum Seating is limited! Be part of the discussion today.

[Register Now](#)

You're invited to the
2017 SERDC Fall Forum
November 8-9, 2017
Hyatt Place, downtown Asheville, NC



KEEP CALM. RECYCLE.

Import Bans Contamination Market Impacts New Challenges
Better Practices Consistent Messaging Overcoming Obstacles

SERDC RECYCLING FORUM

November 8-9, 2017 • Asheville, North Carolina

Meet some Industry Experts and Learn How to Prepare for Changes

It's no secret that the past few months have created a level of uncertainty about the stability of the recycling industry like no other time period. We're going to address this head on and work together to keep recycling an integral part of our economy and the material supply chain to manufacturing in the Southeast.

Thursday, November 9 will be a full day of topics, including:

- **Material-Specific Market Complexities and Trends**
- **Brand Owner Perspectives and Impacts**
- **Applying Resources to Opportunities Panel**

[Full Agenda](#)



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