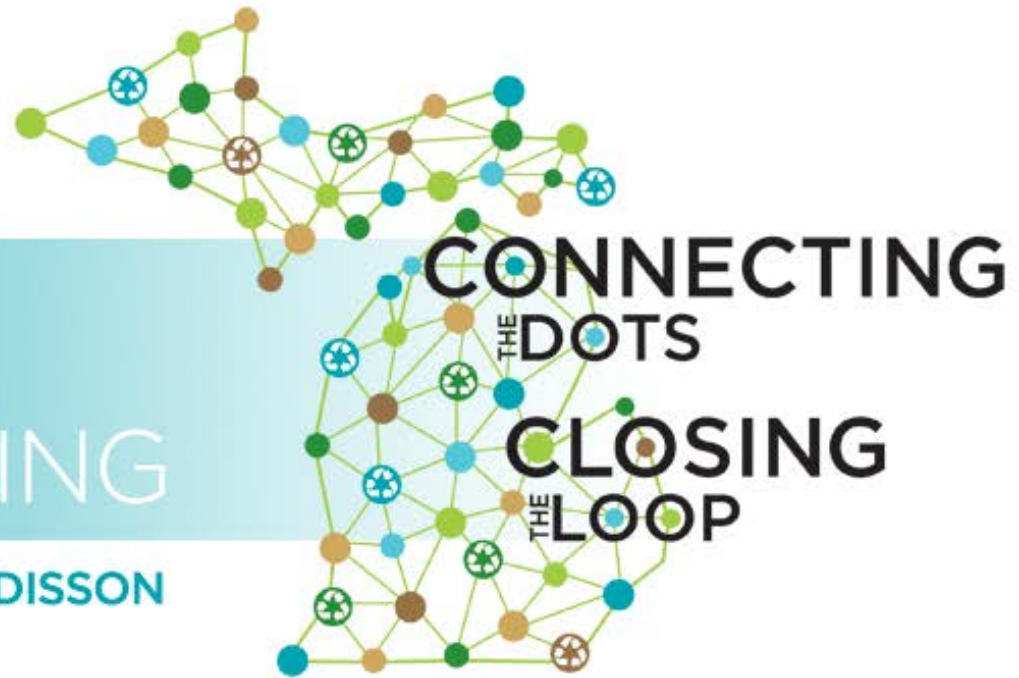


Foam Recycling Coalition: Programs, Resources, Projects



36TH ANNUAL
CONFERENCE &
STATE OF RECYCLING

MAY 15-17, 2018 KALAMAZOO RADISSON





FOODSERVICE PACKAGING
INSTITUTE®

Foam Recycling Coalition

Matt Todd | May 2018



- Established in 1933
- Only industry trade association in North America solely focused on all single-use foodservice packaging products
- Members include:
 - Converters and their raw material and machinery suppliers (roughly 85% of the industry);
 - Foodservice distributors and operators

Background on Recovery Work

- 2011: Paper Recovery Alliance (PRA)
- 2012: Plastics Recovery Group (PRG)
 - Both formed under the industry's association
 - Bring together the entire value chain
- 2013: PRA and PRG align project work
- 2014: Foam Recycling Coalition (FRC) formed

Foam Recycling Coalition



Foam Recycling Coalition

Goal

- To support the recycling of post-consumer foam polystyrene (PS) foodservice and protective packaging.

Current Foam Recycling Coalition Members



Foam Foodservice Packaging: The Basics

- What is it?
 - Cups, plates, bowls, clamshells, trays (cafeteria and processor), egg packaging
- How much*?
 - By weight: less than 1% of municipal solid waste
 - By units: About one-third of plastic FSP
- Where to recover it?
 - Curbside and Drop-off
 - Commercial and institutional

Foam Recycling Coalition

Project Work

- General education about foam recycling
- Understanding end markets
 - End market study
- Grant program
 - FRC offers grants to public and private businesses in the U.S. and/or Canada to recycle foam FSP and protective packaging
 - Recipients will receive funding for equipment, technical assistance
 - 2 grants awarded in 2015, 3 awarded in 2016, 4 in 2017.
 - 2018 grants announced in early summer 2018.
 - www.recyclefoam.org

Grant Program

Purpose:

- Increase public access to post-consumer foam recycling through curbside and/or drop off programs
- Drive actual recovery of foam (increased tons)
- Generate success stories

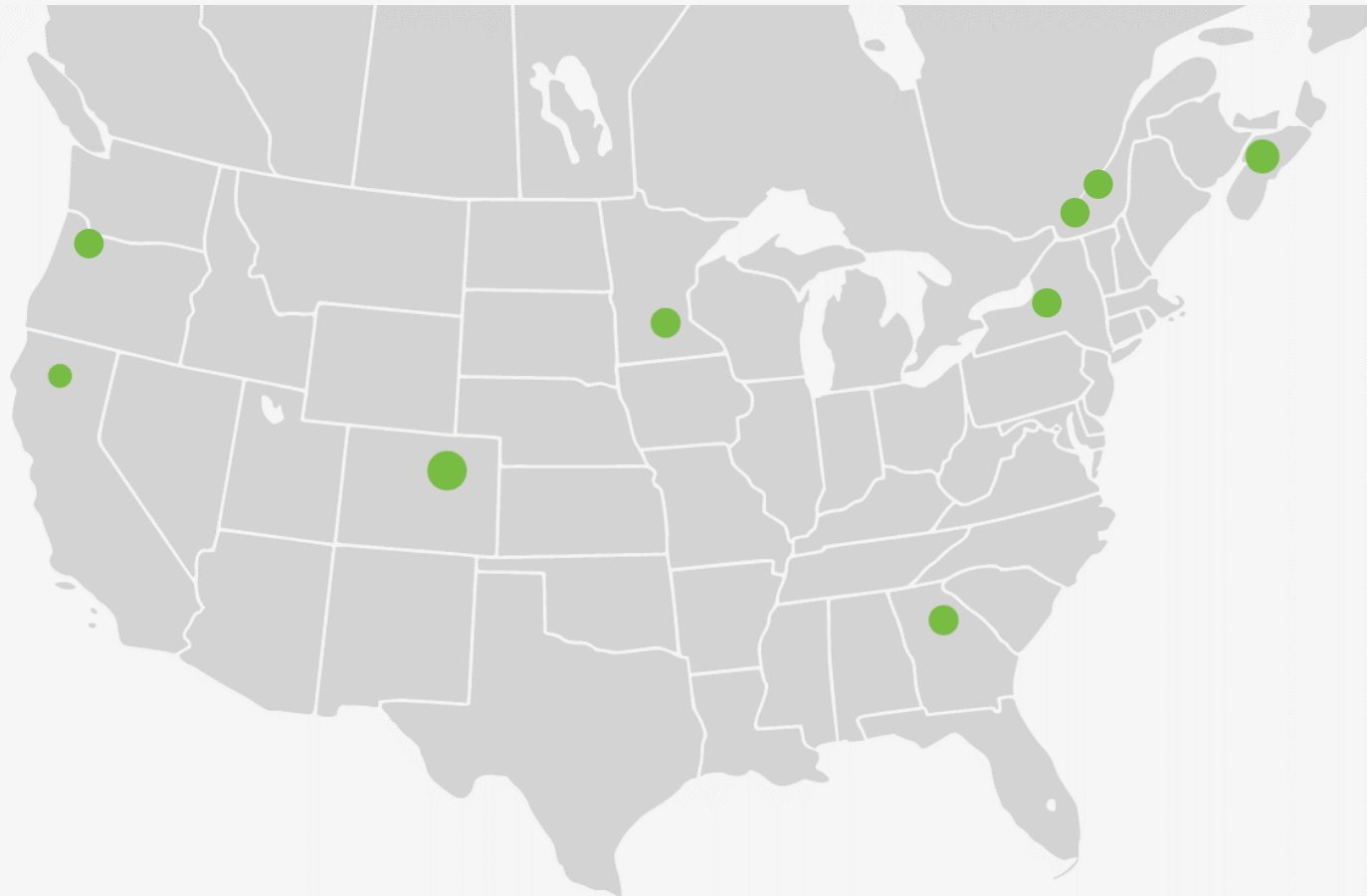
Provide funding for:

- Foam recycling equipment (up to \$50,000/grant)
- Technical assistance to grant recipients and others interested in adding foam to their curbside recycling programs

FRC Grant Communities

FRC GRANT COMMUNITIES

- Metro Denver, CO
- Colchester County, Nova Scotia
- Athens-Clarke County, GA
- McLeod County, MN
- Redding, CA
- Madison County, NY
- Agilyx – Tigard, OR
- Pyrowave – Valleyfield, Quebec, Canada
- Gaudreau Environment – Victoriaville, Quebec, Canada



Active Grant Programs

Start Date	Program	Type
Sept 2015	Alpine Waste & Recycling	MRF
April 2016	Colchester County, NS	MRF
Nov 2016	McLeod County, MN	hybrid
May 2017	Redding, CA	hybrid
June 2017	Athens-Clarke County, GA	Drop-off
Aug 2017	Madison County, NY	Drop-off
Dec 2017	Agilyx Corporation (OR)	Secondary processor

County of Colchester, Nova Scotia

- Provides recycling services to 130,000 residents.
- Transports collected recyclables to county-owned and operated dual-stream MRF.
- County estimated foam polystyrene comprised 1%, or 620 tons, of annual municipal waste stream.
- Awarded \$50,000 grant from FRC to purchase foam densifier.
- Foam densifier installed in MRF in April 2016.



Foam PS Recycling in County of Colchester

- Within the first 6 months, the county recovered 8 tons of densified foam, increasing month over month.
- County has secured an Asian export market for their densified foam.
- Manufacturers use PS pellets to make products like decorative molding and other building products.



Key Learnings and Recommendations:

- Found that grant funding significantly lowered barriers of initial costs in order to participate.
- Through careful planning and promotion, the County has found they are ripe for foam polystyrene recycling.

Alpine Waste and Recycling Denver, CO



- Locally owned and largest independent waste and recycling operations in Colorado.
- Alpine services residential and commercial customers.
- Began accepting foam prior to their new operations in 2015.
- Alpine used the \$45,000 FRC grant as an investment tool to assist and justify the cost/benefit of recovery foam at their new single stream MRF.

Foam PS Recycling at Alpine

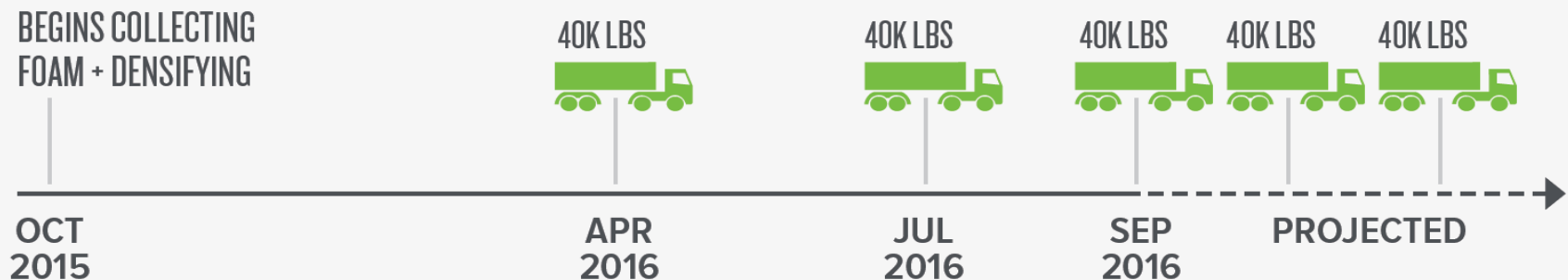
- Alpine found both west coast and Midwest end market options for their densified foam, but use an Asian export market for best pricing (range of \$.06/lb. - \$.12/lb.)



Foam PS Recycling at Alpine

- Alpine promoted their kick-off event during America Recycles Day.
 - Contest for Denver area residents to bring the largest amount of foam to Alpine's recycling facility, winner would win a free lunch for two weeks from a local restaurant!

UPTICK IN FULL-TRUCK FREQUENCY FOR ALPINE WASTE AND RECYCLING



Redding, CA program

- 92,000 population
- Drop-off
- Transition to curbside
- City-run program
- City owned MRF



Redding, CA



FOODSERVICE PACKAGING
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- 0.62 lbs/capita recovered
- Commodity grade plastic
- High demand



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