

Company Updates

RDS - VIRGINIA

**SERVING VIRGINIA'S
RECYCLING NEEDS SINCE
2004**

Quarterly Updates
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IN THIS ISSUE

Introducing: Employee of the Month!

Korte Street on the Map

Market Analysis

Spread the Word!

New Faces at RDS

**BIRTHDAYS AND WORK
ANNIVERSARIES**

Introducing: Employee of the Month!

The unexpected trials and turbulence that the year 2020 brought both in our professional and personal lives takes no lengthy explanation. Luckily, recycling was recognized as the essential service it is, which allowed RDS to remain open and operating throughout the lockdown. Still, the unpredictability and restricted way of living provided a reminder to take the much-needed time to let those around us know how appreciated they are.



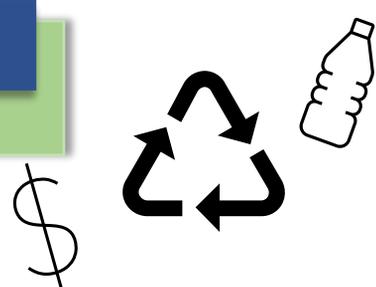
Having officially launched in October, Business Development and Outreach Manager Lauren Cutlip introduced the RDS Employee of the Month program. The program begins each month with managers at each location submitting to Lauren a nomination form on a selected employee who has gone above and beyond what is expected of them. From here, one employee is chosen and recognized among the staff with a customized plaque and VISA gift card. We could all use a pick me up these days, so we are excited to continue this program moving forward.



Korte Street on the Map

Did you run into issues, a dead end at railroad tracks maybe, when you first tried to navigate through a maps application like Waze to find our Korte Street facility? Well, it should be updated and ready for use now, try it out! For extra help to drivers and visitors navigating to the facility, we also painted a big RDS sign near the road to indicate where we are!





Where is the recycling market now?

According to RecyclingMarkets.net, Natural HDPE plastic values have hit a record high in recent months.

- The price of natural HDPE (#2 bottles, primarily milk jugs) bales have surpassed 61 cents per pound for the first time this October, having climbed from the average 55.13 cents in September and from just 46.38 cents a year ago.

We are also seeing increases in color HDPE (#2 plastics containers, primarily laundry detergent bottles) with a 69% increase between September and October.

Reflecting on the year... OCC was selling for just \$27 a ton one year ago, now going for about \$60 per ton. Mixed paper has seen a similar climb, with the measly \$10 per ton a year ago rising to an average of \$40 per ton in recent months. However, steel cans have seen a drop of about \$15 per ton within the past year, and PET bottles have dropped a few cents per pound across the year.

Overall, the recycling market continues to function through these unprecedented times, as there will always be a need for materials to reprocess into new products, especially as more companies commit to using post-consumer materials in their manufacturing.

- Just look at PepsiCo, who spent about \$200 million of its “Green Bond” to purchase recycled PET plastic over the past few years, according to a recent report by the company.
- Sustainability commitments are expected to increase as consumers continue to demand green initiatives, a win for conservation efforts and overall good news for the recycling and environmental industries!

Spread the Word!

Our employees see firsthand the types of contamination that come through our facility, and each bit of it makes our jobs a little harder. The more we can spread the word about proper recycling practices to our friends and family, the better!

This time of year, we see bagged leaves end up on our sorting line, which there is typically separate collection for by the city (if you're in the City of Roanoke, check out the [Leaf Collection calendar.](#)) With the holiday season there is also more string lights that cause tangling in our equipment, and as always, the countless plastic bags that we want kept out.

Who can you remind on what to recycle today?



New Faces at RDS



We are excited to announce the addition of Natalie DePerio to the RDS team as our Controller in the Corporate, Virginia Beach office! Natalie brings nearly 30 years of experience in accounting and financial management, with a bachelor's degree in accounting and minor in management. Welcome to the team and thanks for all your help, Natalie!

Also new to RDS is our Korte Street maintenance mechanic, Howard Parker! Howard has put his electrical engineering degree to use with fourteen years of experience as an electrical and mechanical engineering contractor for Tyco, where he got to travel all over to work on different projects requiring his high skill level. Originally from New York, he moved to the Roanoke area 16 years ago. He also spent 26 years of active duty in the Marine Corps. Thank you for your service and welcome to RDS!



We have also welcomed a new Driver at Enon, Ronnie Crenshaw as well as a new CAT Loader Operator at Korte Street, Shayne Roark! Thanks for joining the RDS family - happy to have you!

Do you know anyone interested in hands – on work alongside our high-tech equipment and machinery? Anyone with a passion for the environment eager to learn what happens to their recycling after it goes into the bin? Tell them to reach out, we are hiring!

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Happy Birthday!

- 11/04 – David Mayne
- 11/06 – Rosemary Wagner
- 11/17 – Shane Jones
- 11/25 – William Taylor
- 12/14 – Blair Sharon
- 12/30 – Jorge Haitt
- 12/31 – Vu Pham
- 01/02 – Michael Levenite



Congrats on one (or more) years with RDS!

- 11/06 – Walter Bingham – 2 years
- 11/12 – Joy Atkinson-Judy – 1 year
- 12/03 – Lori Breeden - 13 years!!
- 01/09 – Nikisha Strickland – 2 years
- 01/13 – Lauren Cutlip – 1 year

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Website: www.RDS-Virginia.com

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Thanks for all you do! We are so lucky to have you!

