



Company Updates

RDS - VIRGINIA

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

Quarterly Updates
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By: Lauren Cutlip

Light at the End of the Tunnel

Since vaccine distribution began in the United States on December 14, 2020, more than 150 million doses have been administered, fully vaccinating over 51 million people or 16.4% of the total U.S. population and counting. (April 1, NPR.org) We have seen a decrease in hospitalizations and death due to COVID-19, and Virginia has now moved into Phase 1C for the remaining essential worker population. Sign up now at:

**SIGN UP FOR YOUR
FREE COVID-19 VACCINE**

Vaccinate.Virginia.gov



So far, at least six of our employees and counting have received their first dose and they're feeling great! Any potential mild side effects are worth the end goal of protection against this deadly virus and a return to safely gathering with loved ones. Keep an eye out for infographics and other educational resources posted to answer your vaccine questions. Stay safe!



Market Update

OCC (Cardboard) is in high demand as a global commodity. The 44% growth of e-commerce (online sales, shipping, etc.) in 2020 played a significant role in this rise. Though January commenced China's all-out import ban, fiber has remained a valuable export opportunity to other countries in recent months.

Recycled metal markets continue to rise in value, with continued use of recycled content in new can production. Global aluminum manufacturer Constellium reported 40% scrap material use for their feedstock in 2020, 18% of which was post – consumer scrap with the remaining amount from pre-consumer scrap from their downstream manufacturers.

New methods of chemical recycling for plastics is drawing nationwide attention as new technologies are being tested at a large scale. There is also attention on packaging Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) legislation that would shift recycling costs away from taxpayers and onto product packaging producers.

Employee Spotlight!

Gary Sink - Portsmouth Plant Manager



Favorite thing about working at RDS: Joe Benedetto empowering the GMs to run their plants or sites as if it were their own. Allowing the GMs to be creative in their daily processes, making marketing and sales successful.

Most challenging part about working in this industry: The fluctuation of the commodity market, transportation, finding reliable machinery and equipment.

Biggest lesson from 2020: Compassion and Selflessness- what comes around, goes around.

Most excited about in 2021: Getting back to normal in our everyday lives. No more Styrofoam trays, no more masks, no fear of COVID, back to family events and having a drink at a bar.

Chavis Totten – Korte Street Baler Operator

Favorite thing about working at RDS: The people he works with.

Most challenging part about the job: Maintenance, working on the baler when issues come up.

Words of wisdom: Always put forth the extra effort.

Most excited about in 2021: Going green all the way at RDS! (We have big plans for installing LEDs, recycling glass and committing to other environmental improvement efforts)



BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Happy Birthday!

- Amy Owens 4/4
- Andrew Dunford 4/6
- Keith Schiebl 4/11
- James Watlington 4/15
- Nikisha Strickland 4/19
- Bryan Carriker 4/21
- Ricky Clemons 4/30
- Ronald Crenshaw 5/6
- Santez Thomas 6/15



Thanks for your commitment to RDS! We are so lucky to have you!



Congrats on another year with RDS!



- 4/2/2018 Larry Duecker
- 4/13/2020 Joseph Owen
- 4/15/2017 Larry Brooks
- 5/6/2019 David Martin
- 5/10/2017 Shane Jones
- 5/14/2018 Melissa Evans
- 5/27/2019 William Mabry
- 6/5/2006 Keith Schiebl
- 6/16/2015 Vu Pham
- 6/19/2017 Billy Basham

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