Welcome

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South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control

Green is Good for Business

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Zero Waste Zones: Mobilizing an Industry



Holly Elmore, Director Zero Waste Zones CEO, Elemental Impact





Elemental Impact

Elemental IMPACT

A National Non-Profit in partnership with the National Restaurant Association

Mission:

To return the environment's resources to their natural, balanced state through collaborative, action-oriented projects





Initiatives

Zero Waste Zones POWER – Perishable Organic Waste to Energy Recycling **Sustainable Food Court** Initiative

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- Atlanta's response to losing a 2008 convention as client perceived another city as "greener"
- Launched in February, 2009 in an acclaimed press conference led by the Acting Regional EPA Director
- Media Loves ZWZ: CNN Story, Front-Page NY Times story among press
- Four additional zones launched in Atlanta
- Ready for national expansion

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Criteria:

- Spent grease collected for production of biofuel
- Common recycling practices in place
- Excess food meeting the Good Samaritan Donation Act donated
- Other excess food and kitchen scraps collected for composting or other approved organics solutions



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Media LOVES the ZWZ:

- ZWZ is a WIN story to tell
- 2009 media amazing: CNN, NY Times, Earth911.com
- 2011 Media momentum building Fortune.com

FORTUNE CAN The New York Eimes

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ZWZ Job:

- Identify Pioneers
- Create Heroes
- Promote the Stories
- Witness the Economic Benefits

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ZWZ Testimonials:

- **A Trailblazer** fifth group restaurants
- It was Easy Thank You! Hyatt Regency
- A Cost Saving Solution Doubletree Hotel
- Employee Enthusiasm Buckhead Life Group
- **A Revenue Generator** Affairs to Remember



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Zone Creation Stages:

- The Assessment
- The Launch
- The Implementation



Collaboration Key to Success:

- Government: local, state & federal
- Non-Profits
- Trade & Business Associations
- Private Enterprise

POWER

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Mission:

To explore and evaluate the highest good collection, recycling and use of perishable organics and make recommendations for deployment of economically viable projects within a defined geographic region area.

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Sustainable Food Court Initiative

Mission:

To bring zero waste initiatives to food courts and develop industry, sustainable best practices for Back-of-the-House and Front-of-the-House operations

Co-Chairs: Chris Moyer, NRA Conserve Program Director & Doug Kunnemann, NatureWorks

SFCI Team: National industry experts in packaging, organics management, foodservice industry

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SFCI Pilot Project

Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport

- Six month project designed to bring organics collection to front and back-of-the-house concession operations
- Project stages to simplify process
- Collaborative effort with City of Atlanta, Dept of Aviation, Concessionaires and SFCI Team
- GOAL: Develop a viable game plan to implement organics collection throughout the airport

Recycling Integrity



Maintain maximum value of recyclable material (i.e. contaminant-free) with the least energy expended (electric, transportation, labor + other)





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An Integrated Approach to Sustainability







Zero Waste Zone - SC

Let's Explore the Frontier!



For additional information contact:

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