

# The Route

2020 DECEMBER EDITION

**Christmas Meeting  
2020 WRRRA  
Award Recipients**

**Zippy Disposal Service**  
Leo and Polly Miller  
*Company of the Year Award*

**Eddie Westmoreland**  
Waste Connection  
*Man of the Year Award*

**Andrew Kenefick**  
Waste Management  
*Lifetime Achievement Award*

**Don Zimmerman**  
Republic Services  
*Lifetime Achievement Award*

**Casey Bouchard**  
WasteOffice Methuen  
*Manager of the Year Award*

**Rep. Joe Fitzgibbon**  
94th Legislative District  
*Legislator of the Year Award*

**H.W. Hill Natural Gas Facility**  
Khanate FUD - Rocovest Landfill Services, Republic Services  
*Sustainability Award*



**WASHINGTON  
REFUSE &  
RECYCLING  
ASSOCIATION**

*The Washington Refuse & Recycling Association represents Washington's diverse and multifaceted solid waste handling industry, providing its members with representation before the Legislative, Executive and Judicial branches of state government.*

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## DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The challenges of 2020 have displayed the essential public service that the industry provides every day to communities throughout our state and nation. In addition, 2020 also provided a reaffirmation of the role the Washington Refuse & Recycling Association (WRRRA) plays in uniting our state's industry members as the voice of the solid waste industry within Washington and beyond her borders.

Our December 4th, 2020, the WRRRA Christmas Meeting put the spotlight on several WRRRA members, companies, and individuals who have been responsible for shaping our industry over the past decades. It also highlighted others who will continue to lead us into the future.

As the Recognition and Awards portion of the meeting started to honor the service of many, we first recognized [those who have left us this year](#). Each one of them had an impact on solid waste services in Washington. **David Gellatly**, Cando Recycling & Disposal; **Jim Poole**, Camano Island Disposal; and **Don Ebbeson**, DSU Peterbilt and GMC. Each contributed to our industry and the communities they served and lived in.

One of the best things about the WRRRA Awards Program is the history that goes with each company and individual. What a great story Leo and Polly Miller have as longtime residents of Chelan and owners of **Zippy Disposal**, the [2020 WRRRA Company of the Year](#). The Millers have served numerous North Central Washington communities throughout 50 years in business. Congratulations to Zippy Disposal.

**Eddie Westmoreland's** induction into the [WRRRA Haul of Fame](#) was a story of an individual, and a family, whose roots go deep into this state's solid waste industry. His career path crossed many of the great historical figures in our state's industry. The Westmoreland family history is interwoven with many who have served in our industry over the last century. Eddie's contributions to the industry in Washington and nationwide, and the commitment of his time and expertise to the WRRRA, will continue to reap benefits for our industry and association for many years to come. Eddie is a deserving inductee into the "Haul."

Likewise, **Don Zimmerman's** [WRRRA Lifetime Achievement Award](#) lets us document his almost 50 years of service to the solid waste industry. Like Eddie's career, Don started young and worked his way up to the top level of operations management. Don has been and will remain as the general manager of Republic Services' Seattle Materials Recovery Facility (MRF), the largest MRF this side of the Mississippi. WRRRA looks forward to more tours of the MRF led by Don.

The [2020 WRRRA Manager of the Year](#) is **Casey Bouchard** of WasteWise Methow. Casey allowed us to highlight a relative newcomer to the industry compared to Eddie's and Don's span of service. With 11 years under his belt, Casey's drive and enthusiasm will bring solid waste and recycling services to the residents of the Methow Valley region for many years to come. We look forward to many more years with Casey.

Not all of this year's award winners started working in the industry on the back of a truck. **Andrew Kenefick's** [WRRRA Lifetime Achievement Award](#) allowed us to highlight a long-time advocate for our industry and its members, by documenting his years of contribution through his service as a lawyer. Andrew served the industry as a partner of a major law firm prior to his 25 years of service at Waste Management. WRRRA thanks Andrew for his many years of advice and guidance.

The [2020 WRRRA Sustainability Award](#) shows how public-private partnerships in solid waste have existed for decades and how these partnerships can evolve. The **H.W. Hill Natural Gas Facility** operated by **Klickitat PUD** and located on **Republic Services Roosevelt Regional Landfill** has morphed from using landfill gas to producing electricity to now producing pipeline-ready renewable natural gas.

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## DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Continued from page 2

The 2021 Legislative Session begins on January 11, 2021. Following Vicki's Session Preview, our members received a presentation of major issues affecting the solid waste industry in the upcoming session by the Chairman of the House of Representative's Environment and Energy Committee, Joe Fitzgibbon. Following Chairman Fitzgibbon's presentation, he was presented the [2020 WRRRA Legislator of the Year Award](#). **Representative Joe Fitzgibbon** is from the 34<sup>th</sup> Legislative District that encompasses West Seattle and the surrounding area. Since his election in 2010, Joe has been an accessible, thoughtful and well-prepared legislator on solid waste issues.

In December 2020, the WRRRA has heralded two significant accomplishments at the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (WUTC) that will serve the WRRRA members well for years to come. First, on December 3, 2020, the WUTC concluded a 7 ½ year rulemaking in [Docket TG-131255](#) that analyzed solid waste ratemaking methods for solid waste collection companies. The commission ended the rulemaking by issuing an Interpretative Policy Statement that retained the current Lurito-Gallagher (LG) ratemaking methodology and called for the updating of the data that is used by the LG model.

In the second week of this month, the WUTC reclassified the Solid Waste Enforcement Investigator Position allowing for the retention of the current investigator. This is a good thing. It's the best thing that has happened to the Solid Waste Enforcement Program in its 10 years of existence. The program's sustainability and effectiveness have been thwarted by constant turnover since its inception 10 years ago.

2020 has been challenging on many fronts for everyone, both personally and professionally. I hope 2021 is better for everyone.

From all of the WRRRA Staff to each of you, we hope you enjoy all your Holidays!  
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



## WRRRA 2020 VIRTUAL CHRISTMAS MEETING SPONSORSHIPS

### [WRRRA 2020 Virtual Christmas Meeting Sponsorships - Thank you!!](#)

***Capital Industries***  
***Cedar Grove***  
***Republic Services***  
***Sanitary Service Company***  
***Sunshine Disposal & Recycling***  
***SWS Equipment***  
***Waste Connections***  
***Waste Management***  
***Wastequip***  
***Zippy Disposal***

## 2021 WRRRA Legislative Agenda

### Tier 1

1. Number One Priority is to protect the G Permit and RCW 81.77.
2. Preserve and protect the integrity of the definitions of solid waste and recycling in the Solid Waste Handling Standards, RCW 70A.205.
3. Oppose sweeping Extended Producer Responsibility legislation that delegates operational control of Washington's solid waste system to producers (Seattle/King County/DOE EPR proposal).
4. Support/introduce legislation to require post-consumer recycled content in packaging and other policies to promote recycling market development.
5. Protect RCW 46.44 – Special Permit for additional tonnage.
6. Support collaborative efforts to create a statewide Low Carbon Fuel Standard through legislation.
7. Support collaborative efforts to create a Carbon Tax, Cap and Trade, or similar program if does not include landfill gas emissions and provides incentives for investment in carbon reduction.
8. Promote continuation and enhancement of WUTC solid waste enforcement program.

### Tier 2\*

1. Support stewardship programs that do not disrupt the existing curbside collection system for materials that present challenges to public health and safety. Stewardship programs for materials already collected through curbside programs must align with the WRRRA Extended Producer Responsibility Policy Positions.
2. Collaborate with local governments to ensure a stable long-term funding source for local solid waste programs and ensure that funds are dedicated for Household Hazardous Waste, Moderate Risk Waste and enforcement programs.
3. Ensure legislation does not change or limit the authority of the WUTC to regulate collection of solid waste and recyclables or limit the authority of cities to contract pursuant to RCW 81.77.020.
4. Promote stormwater revisions that provide relief from private action lawsuits where the levels do not exceed federal levels, and the responsible party is working with regulators to come into compliance.

*\*Longer term issues primarily addressed as the need arises*

**\*YOUR COMPANY AD HERE\***  
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## December 2020 Solid Waste Legal Issues and State Agency Action:

**COVID-19 Item 30 / UTC Response:** View WRRRA's COVID-19 Resources on the Current News page on [wrra.org](http://wrra.org).

**173-445 WAC– Greenhouse Gas Assessment for Projects rulemaking:** DOE is beginning rulemaking as per the Directive of the Governor #19-18. The purpose of this rulemaking is to create a new rule under Chapter 173-445 WAC, called the Greenhouse Gas Assessment for Projects Rule (GAP Rule). The GAP Rule will address analysis and mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions for environmental assessments of industrial and fossil fuel projects. The Association of Washington Businesses has created a subcommittee for this rule and WRRRA is a member.

**PFAS Chemical Action Plan:** Plan includes an evaluation of landfill PFAS emissions. DOE has completed initial voluntary sampling at landfills in Washington. If warranted, DOE may consider additional monitoring requirements for landfills to test leachate for PFAS using information from the study. Due to delays from COVID, DOE is uncertain the project can be completed within the original time frame and funding. Depending on the outcome of the study, adding PFAS monitoring requirements to Chapter 173-350 WAC could take two and a half years and cost up to \$1.1 million. Less complex rulemaking could take two years and cost up to \$260,000. WRRRA, NWRA, and landfill member companies are meeting and developing comments on the plan. Comments are due Jan 4, 2021.

**ADE Dumpsters Application Docket TG-200250:** The Company filed a G-cert application to haul “junk, garbage, yard waste, and metal” in King, Pierce, and Thurston County. WRRRA member companies have protested the application and a hearing is set for February 10.

**UTC Docket 200651 & 200650:** Formal Complaint of Murrey's Disposal Company against Waste Management of Washington, regarding the collection/transportation of solid waste from specific generators in Clallam and Jefferson County and intermodal motor carrier transportation services. A motion to dismiss was denied by the administrative law judge and the moving party requested reconsideration from the Commissioners. The Commissioners issued an order and found that Washington's regulation of solid waste was not preempted by federal legislation in this instance:

Paragraph 7-8 : “[G]iven the importance and inherently local nature of collecting solid waste from a Washington residential or commercial customer, only a clear and manifest intent by Congress to preempt state regulatory authority over the local collection of solid waste could support Respondents’ Motion.” Order 02 concludes that “[w]hen solid waste is collected locally in [‘trailers on flat car’ or ‘containers on flat car’] containers and transported via truck, its regulation falls outside the jurisdiction of the STB and state regulation is not preempted by the [federal statute] due to the intrinsically local nature of solid waste collection, which may impact the health, safety, and aesthetic well-being of the community.” We agree with the conclusion in Order 02 that the jurisdiction Congress and the STB have asserted over intermodal transport by rail and motor carrier does not preempt state regulation of solid waste collection service.

**International Resource Management, Inc., d/b/a WasteXpress TG-200131 & 200764:** Classification proceeding for WasteXpress & G-cert application. The company advertises as a hazardous waste disposal/management company based out of Portland, with three offices in Washington. The investigation into Waste Xpress began after the company applied for a permit with the health department to transport 600 gallons/month of infectious medical waste from a facility in Pierce County. The company has also filed a G-Cert application for statewide authority to transport hazardous and other special wastes. WRRRA and member company counsel worked with Waste Xpress to narrow the scope of the application and no member companies protested. The enforcement action is ongoing.

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Eric has represented the West Coast Refuse & Recycling Coalition (WCRRC) in Washington DC since 1998. The WCRRC is comprised of representatives from the Resource Recovery Coalition of California, California Waste Haulers Council, the Oregon Refuse & Recycling Association (ORRA) and WRRRA.

[View December Federal Status Report](#)



## CDC FACT SHEET

### CDC Fact Sheet: What Waste Collectors Need to Know about COVID-19

**Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)** is a respiratory illness caused by a virus called SARS-CoV-2. **Symptoms** often include cough, shortness of breath, fever, chills, muscle pain, sore throat, or new loss of taste or smell. Our understanding of how the virus spreads is evolving as we learn more about it, so check the **CDC website** for the latest information. The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person:

- Between people who are **in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet)**
- Through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks

Recent studies indicate that the virus can be spread by people who are not showing symptoms. It may be possible that a person can get COVID-19 by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it and then touching their own mouth, nose, or possibly their eyes. This is not thought to be the main way the virus spreads, but we are still learning more about this virus. Older adults and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions may be at **higher risk for more serious complications** from COVID-19.

### **AS A WASTE COLLECTOR OR RECYCLER, HOW CAN I PROTECT MYSELF AND SLOW THE SPREAD?**

- For waste collectors and recyclers, potential sources of exposure include having close contact with a coworker or member of the public with COVID-19, or by contacting surfaces touched or handled by a person with COVID-19.
- Notify your supervisor and stay home if having **symptoms**.
- Follow **CDC-recommended steps** if you are sick. You should not return to work until the criteria to **discontinue home isolation** are met, in consultation with healthcare providers and state and local health departments.

[READ FULL ARTICE HERE](#)

## COVID-19 Information & Resources

Updated 12.11.20

### I. Washington Information

#### Reopening & Virus Response:

- **Washington COVID-19 Virus Response:** Find resources for business and employers at Washington's COVID-19 website [here](#).
- **Safe Start Washington:** Governor Jay Inslee, in collaboration with the Washington State Department of Health, has established a phased approach to reopen Washington and modify physical distancing. View more information here. On November 15, Governor Inslee announced a four-week statewide set of restrictions in response to the rapid spread of the COVID-19 virus. The new restrictions are outlined [here](#).
- **Travel Advisory:** On November 13, Governor Inslee issued a travel advisory for Washington, recommending a 14-day quarantine for interstate and international travel and asks residents to stay close to home. View the advisory [here](#).
- **NWRA COVID-19 Guidance & Resources** [here](#).
- **SWANA COVID-19 Guidance & Resources** [here](#).
- **COVID-19 Item 30 / UTC Response:** On March 17, the WUTC held a special open meeting by teleconference. At the meeting, new tariff language in Item 30 of many Solid Waste Collection Company tariffs was added to the consent agenda. WRRRA worked with Commission staff to develop language that provides for alterations of service in response to the public health emergencies. At the meeting, the Commissioner's expressed support for company action taken in response to the public health emergency, but encouraged all companies to include this language in their tariffs.
- **Eviction and utility shutoff Moratoriums:** Extended through Dec. 31, see page 4 for details.
- **Working Washington Small Business Grants:** The Department of Commerce is accepting applications for the \$50 million in new small business grants announced by Gov. Inslee. Apply now at <http://startup.choosewashingtonstate.com/working-washington-round-3> and visit here for [more info](#).
- **Business Tax Relief in Response to New COVID-19 Guidance:** information [here](#).

#### Employer Information:

- **Facial Coverings/ Masks for Businesses:** Face cover orders in place:
  - ◇ A [requirement for employers](#) to provide appropriate face coverings or masks to all employees who don't work alone.
  - ◇ L&I Guidance on mask types required for employees [here](#).
  - ◇ A [Department of Health statewide order](#) directing all individuals to wear a face covering in any indoor public setting or when outdoors and unable to maintain 6 feet of physical distance from others.
  - ◇ A governor's order directing businesses to require and enforce the use of face coverings by all customers or visitors.

[VIEW FULL RESOURCES HERE](#)



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## WRRRA 2020 Board Meetings

December 18

## WRRRA 2021 Board Meetings \*

January 15	July 16
February 19	August 20
March 19	September 17
April 16	October 15
May 21	November 19
June 25	December 3

\* *Subject to change*

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