



# Recycling Coalition of WV, Inc.

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Kanawha County resident honored for recycling efforts

The Recycling Coalition of West Virginia, in collaboration with the West Virginia Solid Waste Management Board and the state's 50 solid waste authorities, is honoring **Recycling Champions** who reach beyond their normal responsibilities to contribute time and service to support the recycling industry in the Mountain State. These Recycling Champions provide recycling leadership across the state and make a significant contribution to the recycling community.

The Recycling Coalition is proud to honor Kanawha County resident **Ron Williams**. Following the water crisis in 2014, Williams took it upon himself to ensure that thousands of plastic bottles at the Charleston YMCA, where he is a tennis instructor, were collected and recycled. Very quickly he expanded to include paper, plastic bottles and bags, cardboard, aluminum, metal, and glass. That year, the YMCA collected 12,000 pounds of recyclables and 19,000 pounds in 2015.

Williams personally transports a majority of the materials to the Slack Street recycling center in Charleston. He takes aluminum and other valuable materials to Capitol Recycling. Revenue from the sale of material goes back into the program to make it sustainable. In fiscal year 2015, the YMCA received a grant in the amount of \$23,000 to pay for bins, bags and wages for a recycling coordinator.

Williams also adopted several roadways in Charleston's Hillcrest Drive area as part of the state Adopt-A-Highway program. Approximately 76 percent of the roadside litter he and his volunteers pick up is recycled. Williams has made it his mission to keep the roadsides clean and create a comprehensive recycling program for all businesses and organizations located on Hillcrest Drive in Charleston. A presentation will take place at the YMCA Board Meeting on Wednesday, April 20<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 noon at the Tri-County YMCA, 200 Carls Lane, Scott Depot, WV 25560.

### Other 2016 West Virginia Recycling Champions include:

Wally Reynolds nominated by the Berkeley County Solid Waste Authority  
City of Bridgeport, nominated by the Harrison County Solid Waste Authority  
Frank Young, nominated by the Jackson County Solid Waste Authority  
Brian Wilmoth, nominated by the Marion County Solid Waste Authority  
Claude Marra, nominated by the Pleasants County Solid Waste Authority  
Harold Lowe, nominated by the Roane County Solid Waste Authority  
Craig Morris, nominated by the Taylor County Solid Waste Authority  
Stuart Thayer, nominated by the Tucker County Solid Waste Authority  
Dr. G. Paul Richter, nominated by the Upshur County Solid Waste Authority

The Recycling Coalition of West Virginia is a non-profit environmental organization whose mission is to promote the effective and sustainable reduction, reuse and recycling of materials otherwise destined for disposal. The Recycling Coalition pursues these goals through the promotion of purchasing products made with recycled content material; by coordinating and facilitating activities relative to recycling; and by fostering communication among organizations, government agencies and individuals through the sharing of ideas and resources.

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### State Steering Committee Paul F. Hayes, Chair

**Assoc. of WV Solid Waste  
Authorities**  
Michael Grunau

**Goodwill Industries of Kanawha  
Valley, Inc.**  
Kathy McKinley

**WV Solid Waste  
Management Board**  
Mark Holstine  
Carol Throckmorton  
Nicole Hunter

**WV Dept. of  
Environmental  
Protection**  
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Sandy Rogers  
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**WV Assoc. of Waste  
Haulers & Recyclers**  
Jerry Moore

**The Chemours  
Company**  
Michelle Young

**Kanawha Co. SWA**  
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**Waste Management, Inc.**  
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**WV Cashin' Recyclables, Inc.**  
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