# CALL FOR SESSION PROPOSALS

**43rd Annual WSRA Conference & Trade Show May 21-24, 2023**

**Yakima Convention Center, Yakima, WA**

The organizers of the 2023 Washington State Recycling Association’s Conference & Trade Show invite proposals for presentations.

**Proposals for presentations are due by 5:00pm on November 18, 2022.**

# About the Conference

The WSRA Conference and Trade Show is a showcase for the latest recycling, re-use, and waste reduction programs, technology and brings together around 200 industry leaders to learn, connect, inspire, and be inspired. We are now accepting proposals for breakout session presentations.

WSRA’s conference provides stakeholders in Washington’s recycling and waste prevention community with the knowledge and resources to address current challenges in the recycling industry, implement and improve recycling programs, advocate for policies and initiatives that advance recycling and waste prevention, and support the development of a generation of professionals for whom sustainability is a core tenet of their work and life philosophy.

Please read the full proposal packet for more details and suggested topics.

# Breakout Session Specifics

**Session Length:**

* **Breakout Sessions**: 60 minutes, plus 15 minutes of Q&A/Discussion time. Shorter presentations 20-30 minutes in length are also accepted. The WSRA conference committee will combine proposals that address similar areas and topics to form a full 75 minute session.

# 20/20 ReSlam

* The WSRA 20/20 Recycling Slam is a gathering to exchange ideas, energy and share your commitment to recycling! Seven members of the recycling community show 20 slides and talk about each for 20 seconds. Stories are shared and connections made in this fast-paced slam!

**THE FORMAT:**

* Participants each get to show 20 slides with images only and speak for only 20 seconds per slide (a total of six minutes and 40 seconds). The slides are on a timer, so the format is set. The total time of the event is around 75 minutes. We will move quickly between presenters and topics so the session will be lively!

**THE PRESENTERS:**

* The idea is to share your passion, story, message, or expertise. The beauty of 20/20 Slam is that attendees never know what to expect or what they’re going to learn about, but they know that they will be introduced to interesting people, projects, and ideas!

**Session Location**: Breakout rooms and general session rooms at the Yakima Convention Center.

**Size:** Rooms will hold 40-60 people; depending on the set-up or depending on COVID guidelines at time of conference.

We are seeking enthusiastic and dynamic presenters that can share ideas and innovations in the recycling, waste reduction, and resource and materials management industry. What can you share to inspire other in this industry? What do you see as the next horizon in recycling? What challenges lie ahead for all of us? What new ideas or innovations have you found to be more effective in your work? We are seeking conference breakout sessions that are interactive, inspiring, informative, and memorable.

**Proposals are due by November 18, 2022, at 5:00PM.**

**Suggested Session Topics and Concepts**

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| Markets | Materials and Resource Management |
| Industry Challenges and Barriers | Compost and Recycling Steam Contamination |
| International and Diverse Perspectives | Reuse and Repair |
| Facility and System Operations | Food Waste and Recovery |
| Relationship to Manufacturing | Organizational Partnerships |
| Policy and Government Relations | Industry Funding |
| Diversity, Equity & Inclusion | Reducing Consumption |

**Presentation Should:**

* Describe innovations, ideas, and projects related to influencing people to increase recycling, composting, waste reduction and reuse efforts.
* Focus on key insights. The goal is to share that “ah-ha!” moment.
* Highlight tangible results. Use real-world examples.
* Provide a take-away solution that could be applied by other attendees.
* Think outside the box! Be captivating and engaging for the audience. We want presenters to think about TED/TEDx style talks. They should be entertaining as well as informative.
* Compelling visuals are highly encouraged. Multimedia presentations are great but are subject to the technology limitations of the venue.

**Presentations Should Not:**

* Present detailed case studies.
* Describe ongoing activities.
* Promote a business, organization, product, or service.
* Use a lot of PowerPoint slides that are copy heavy.

If you can craft and hour long session that will actively engage participants, deliver a solid message about a key issue facing the industry, and send attendees away with identifiable lessons learned, then we invite you to submit your proposal.

# Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated based on their ability to provide new and innovative content to attendees. In addition, proposals will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

* Does the proposal include tactical and relevant information for an hour long presentation to an audience of recycling and solid waste industry professionals?
* Are there ample opportunities for discussion and interactivity among participants?
* Are the presenters knowledgeable in the topic area?
* Does the session or presentation represent a diverse experience, point of view, or consider the perspective of underrepresented communities?
* Will the presentation deliver tangible learning takeaways to participants in an engaging format?
* Does the presentation avoid self-promotion, negatively portraying specific members of the industry, and selling of products?

# Presenter Benefits and Responsibilities

* $100 discount on full conference registration OR free admission to the conference (including lunch only) on the day of your session.
* WSRA is not responsible for speaker travel and accommodation costs
* If a confirmed presenter is unable to attend the conference, they are responsible for notifying the WSRA office at the earliest opportunity and for finding a replacement with similar skills and qualifications.

# Timeline

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| **Proposal Deadline**   * *Complete proposals will be given priority* | November 18, 2022  By 5:00PM |
| **Notification of Acceptance/Regret** | Early January 2023 |
| **Speaker Materials Due**   * *Speaker agreement form, headshots and short (1-paragraph) bio* | Early March 2023 |
| **Final Deadline for AV Requests** | April 15, 2023 |
| **Slides and/or multi-media due** | April 25, 2023 |
| **Date of Presentation** | May 22 or 23, 2023 |

**Questions?**

Contact Brooke Galloway and Liz Truong at [recycle@wsra.net](mailto:recycle@wsra.net) or call 206-622-8425