



CALL FOR SESSION PROPOSALS

39th Annual WSRA Conference & Trade Show

April 28 - May 1, 2019 | DoubleTree City Center, Spokane, WA

Submit a Proposal

The organizers of the 2019 Washington State Recycling Association's Conference & Trade Show invite proposals for presentations.

Proposals for presentations are due by 5:00 PM on Friday, October 12

About the Conference

The WSRA Conference and Trade Show is a showcase for the latest recycling, re-use, and waste reduction programs and technology and brings together around 250 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.

Proposal Criteria & Content

Proposals will be evaluated based on their ability to provide new and innovative content to attendees. 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 others 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. 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 workshop represent a diverse experience, point of view, or somehow draw on the perspective of communities not represented in other workshops?
- Does the presenter avoid self-promotion, negatively portraying specific members of the industry, and selling of products?
- Will the presentation deliver tangible learning takeaways to participants in a fun and engaging format?

Suggested Session Topics and Concepts:

The Conference Committee is seeking proposals focused in the following areas:

- Markets & Market Development
- Harmonization and Cohesive Messaging
- Product Stewardship/EPR
- Upstream and Design/Closed Loop
- Sustainable Materials Management and Life Cycle Analysis

Additional Topics Include: Different State Perspectives, Food Waste Prevention, Construction and Demolition, MRF Operations and Technology, Commercial and Business Recycling, Waste Reduction, Reuse & Repair, Metrics of Success, Recycling Industry Workforce Challenges, Organics Contamination, Safety and Operations, Solid Waste Financing and Planning, Non-Traditional Materials (Cartons, Cigarette butts, etc.), Plastic Bags Bans, Legislative Process and How to Engage.

Presentations 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. We are not looking for the standard conference presentations.
- Compelling visuals are highly encouraged. Multi-media 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 with heavy text.

If you can craft a 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!

Session Specifics

Session Lengths:

- **Breakout Sessions:** 60 minutes, 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 RE-Slam Style Sessions (PechaKucha Style):** Presentations are 20 slides, 20 seconds per slide for a total of 6 minutes and 40 seconds with slides advancing automatically. Presentations will be image focused with limited text.

Session Location: Breakout rooms and general session room at the Semiahmoo Resort

Size: Rooms will hold 40-60 people; depending on the set-up

Proposals for presentations are due by 5:00 PM on Friday, October 12

Presenter Benefits and Responsibilities

- WSRA is not responsible for speaker travel and accommodation costs.
- If confirmed as a presenter, you will receive a \$100 discount on the full conference registration OR free admission to the conference (including lunch only) on the day of your session
- 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

Proposal deadline <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Complete proposals will be given priority.</i>	October 12, 2018 by 5:00 PM
Notification of Acceptance/Regret	Mid-November to Early December
Speaker Materials Due: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Speaker agreement form, headshots and short (1-paragraph) bios</i>	December 2018
Final Deadline for AV Requests	March 29, 2019
Slides and/or multi-media due	April 17, 2019
Date of Presentation	April 29 or 30, 2019

Questions?

Contact Anne Piacentino at apiacentino@wsra.net or call (206) 244-0311.