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Iowa Waste Reduction Center Newsletter, December 2021

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End of 2021 Director Address

These past 12 months have been a year of learning and adapting for every single Iowan, and it's been no different for us at the IWRC. As the year ends, I always find comfort in reflecting on what we have accomplished and wanted to share some highlights with you all.

Continuing Our Commitment to Iowa

Navigating the landscape of early 2021 was interesting to say the least. The IWRC has always taken great pride in visiting our clients and helping them where they are. We started the year with various travel and other COVID restrictions, so we offered webinars, virtual visits and virtual meetings to make sure we were still reaching our clients with the information they need. As restrictions lifted, we let our staff determine their comfort level with travel and have been able to visit clients regularly for a while now.

Growing Our Team

We said goodbye to the irreplaceable Tom Giblin, who retired in April. While it's always hard to see someone that has given so much through the years leave, we have added to our team. This year Chris Christensen joined the IWRC as an Environmental Specialist, Jason Clay and Jordan Evans joined the team as Program Assistants and Dr. Alicia Rosburg officially became the IWRC's advisory faculty member. All four of these great individuals have hit the ground running and have immediately become integral parts of our organization.

STAR4D Going Strong

The STAR4D team has been extremely busy this last year. While still providing the industry-leading painter training and certification that we have for years, we also were awarded a new contract to conduct more training sessions at DoD facilities, update training sites and launch new satellite sites to continue to conduct STAR4D training moving forward. The staff has been tirelessly working and traveling coast-to-coast but has never wavered in their commitment to serving those who serve our country. I am so proud of where the program is and where it is heading and cannot thank Chris Lampe enough for his incredible leadership.

Still Fighting Food Waste

Through a USDA grant, we were able to work with some incredible communities throughout Iowa and surrounding states to help create and form regional partnerships that fight food waste. Even though that grant period is over, we are still seeing these partnerships we were able to facilitate working together to address this issue. We've also continued to champion efforts to expand composting in Iowa by providing direct technical assistance to those getting started, communicating with regulating bodies about how to build composting infrastructure in the state, and our very own Jenny Trent has even been named the next Vice President of the United States Composting Council. There is still much work left to do, but we are excited to be leading the charge.

Charging Ahead in Energy

Our efforts to help Iowa businesses increase their energy efficiency are really paying off. Our energy audit clients are already reporting savings greater than the investment into the program from the Iowa Economic Development Authority. That's not to mention the webinars we hosted at the beginning of the year that were so informative and well attended. Under Dan Nickey's leadership in these efforts, the IWRC has become a valuable resource in energy efficiency to the state, exemplified by Dan's appointment to the Governor's Carbon Sequestration Task Force.

Moving Forward

As you can see, we were able to accomplish a lot in 2021 and I can't wait to see what's in store for 2022. All of our programs and services are going strong and primed for continued growth in the years to come. We will be hosting an [Energy Trends Workshop](#) in Des Moines in March and will be announcing some other new and exciting things to come soon...so stay tuned and have a wonderful holiday season.



Joe Bolick, Director
Iowa Waste Reduction Center



Energy Efficiency Workshop | March 24th | [Des Moines](#)

Welcome, Megan!

Recently the IWRC has hired a new intern. Join us in welcoming her!

Megan Rausch has been hired on as the IWRC's new Marketing and Communications intern. She will be assisting with the IWRC's social media accounts and newsletters. Megan is currently a UNI student studying Marketing and Business Administration. "I am really excited to be joining the IWRC team," Megan said. "This is a great opportunity for me to explore and learn more about the marketing field, as well as sustainability practices."



Outside of work Megan enjoys traveling, shopping and hanging out with her friends and family. We are excited to have her join the team!

IWRC NEWS

Saying Goodbye!

With it being December, that means we are also approaching the end of another semester at UNI. This December, several of the IWRC interns will be graduating and heading off to pursue other opportunities in their desired fields. We will miss them all tremendously and we are thankful for the work they were able to assist with during their time here.

David Hindman

David Hindman joined the IWRC team in February 2020 as the Graphic Design Intern. Over the course of the past almost 2 years, he has assisted with creating and updating graphics for various projects, and created promotional materials for the IWRC and their projects. David will be graduating with a B.A. in Communication:



Digital Media, a B.S. in Environmental Science, with a certificate in Sustainability. After graduation, David has accepted a position in Des Moines as a Private Investigator.

Elle Olthoff

Elle Olthoff joined the IWRC team in October 2020 as the Marketing and Communications Intern. Over the course of the past year and a half, she has assisted with social media, newsletters, case studies, blogs, press releases, and cold calls. She will be graduating with a B.A. in Digital Media: Journalism this December with a minor in English Literary Studies. Elle has accepted a Marketing Specialist position with BrownWinick Law Firm in Des Moines.



Brandon Stenger

Brandon Stenger joined the IWRC team in June 2021 as the Environmental Science Intern. Over the course of the past 6 months, he has assisted with



cost-benefit analysis for the regional food waste diversion program, organics and plastics research, PFAS research, and the STAR4D coding program. He will be graduating with two B.S. degrees in Finance and Economics this December. Brandon will be moving to Lincoln after graduating to pursue work with business environmental assistance.

We have enjoyed our time with each and every one of these interns and are excited to see them excel with other opportunities. We celebrated our interns' last days at



Peppers Bar and Grill in Cedar Falls, with drinks, food, and well wishes. Although we will miss them, we wish them all the best on their new adventures!

IGCB Awards New Gold-Level Breweries

Earlier this month, the Iowa Green Brewery Certification (IGCB) program awarded two breweries, Worth Brewing Company and River Ridge Brewing, with gold-level certifications for their sustainability efforts.

Read more about Worth Brewing Company [HERE](#)

Read more about River Ridge Brewing [HERE](#)

2022-2023 Recordkeeping Compliance Calendars for Dry Cleaners

The calendar provides an easy method to track your business's efforts to comply with hazardous waste regulations and the Environmental Protection Agency's National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) for dry cleaners (40 CFR Part 63 Subpart M). Also remember, NESHAP records must be kept at your facility for five years and hazardous waste records for three years. Download the calendar and access other dry cleaning compliance



resources [here](#). To receive a printed copy of the calendar, email jennifer.wittenburg@uni.edu or call 319-273-8905.

2022-2023 Compliance Calendar/Logbook for Bulk Gasoline Plants

These calendars were developed to assist in complying with the requirements for Gasoline Distribution Bulk Terminals, Bulk Gasoline Plants and Pipeline Facilities under 40

CFR Part 63 Subpart BBBBBB (NESHAP 6B). Two calendars have been developed based on the Iowa Department of Natural Resources construction permits: small bulk gasoline plants that have a throughput limit of less than 20,000 gallons/month and large bulk gasoline plants that have a daily throughput of less than 20,000 gallons/day. Learn more and download the calendars [here](#). Small bulk gasoline plants can request a printed copy of the calendar by contacting:



- Iowa Waste Reduction Center: jennifer.wittenburg@uni.edu | 319-273-8905
- FUEL Iowa: john@fueliowa.com | 515-421-4043

INDUSTRY NEWS

| Recycling |

[A Quick Look at EPA's 2021 National Recycling Strategy](#)

(Waste360)

| Water Quality |

[Reynolds Allocates \\$100M in Funds for Water Quality Projects](#)

(BusinessRecord)

| Food Waste |

[The Battle For Leftovers](#)

(GreenBiz)

| Sustainability |

[Fresh Prep's Answer to Meal Kit](#)

[Packaging Pileup](#)

(Waste360)

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