

Speaker Biographies

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| <p>Brian Alferman Manager, Global Reuse Services, Burns & McDonnell</p> <p>btalferman@burnsmcd.com</p> <p>www.burnsmcd.com/Services/Detail/Global-Reuse-Services</p> <p>816-398-9551</p> | <p>With a constant goal of broadening opportunities for reuse to occur, Brian Alferman is currently a consultant with Burns & McDonnell, assisting national clients on incorporating reuse principles on commercial projects. This is a continuation of work done through PlanetReuse, which expertly matched available materials with designers, architects and owners to create demand for what the construction and demolition industries produce from coast to coast.</p> <p>Previously, Brian enjoyed a 12-year career with Habitat for Humanity Kansas City, culminating in the role of Director of ReStores. In his time there, Brian saw ReStore’s business grow over 900% to become one of the five largest such operations in the country. ReStore’s Deconstruction Services was developed under Brian’s guidance, completing nearly 750 jobs and diverting 2,500 tons of building material.</p> <p>Effecting reuse principles on the local level and beyond, Brian previously directed an environmental education program for the state of Missouri and has held leadership positions in a variety of efforts including serving on the national board of directors of the Building Material Reuse Association. Mr. Alferman holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Truman State University.</p> |
| <p>Brenda Ardrey Operations Section Chief, MDNR Solid Waste Management Program</p> <p>Brenda.ardrey@dnr.mo.gov</p> <p>www.dnr.mo.gov/env/swmp/</p> <p>573-751-5401</p> | <p>Brenda is the Operations Section Chief of MDNR's Solid Waste Management Program. She works with Missouri's solid waste management districts and oversees the nearly \$8M annually allocated to the districts for operations, plan implementation, and district grants for reuse, recovery and recycling projects. Brenda also oversees the collection and monitoring of the state's solid waste tonnage fee and the SWMP's annual budget and expenditures from the Solid Waste Management Fund and Scrap Tire Subaccount. She has a business administration degree from Central Missouri State University with a functional major in accounting.</p> |
| <p>Bob Akers Executive Director, The Surplus Exchange</p> <p>bobakers@surplusexchange.org</p> <p>www.surplusexchange.org</p> <p>816-472-0444</p> | <p>Bob Akers is the Executive Director of The Surplus Exchange, which is an environmental nonprofit organization that has been in operation since 1984. The organization is focused on electronics recycling/reuse, business waste reduction, and has programs supporting education as well as small business development. The Surplus Exchange has been a leader in bringing responsible electronics recycling to the Kansas City area. Mr. Akers has been a strong supporter of the Basel Action Network e-Stewards program. The Surplus Exchange was the area’s first certified e-Steward, and Mr. Akers serves as a member of the e-Stewards Leadership Council.</p> |

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| <p>Tim Blakeslee Assistant to the City Administrator, City of Parkville</p> <p>tblakeslee@parkvillemo.gov</p> <p>www.parkvillemo.gov</p> <p>816-741-7676</p> | <p>Tim is the Assistant to the City Administrator for the City of Parkville. In Parkville, he primarily focuses on public information/outreach, organizational finance, and project management. Tim graduated from The Ohio State University with a Masters of Public Administration in 2013.</p> |
| <p>Jim Callier Manager, Sustainable Materials Management, US EPA Region 7</p> <p>callier.james@epa.gov</p> <p>www2.epa.gov/aboutepa/epa-region-7-midwest</p> <p>913-551-7646</p> | <p>Jim Callier is the manager of the Resource Conservation and Pollution Prevention Section at the Environmental Protection Agency's Region 7 office in Kansas City, Kansas. Jim has over thirty years of experience working at EPA, primarily in Region 7. Jim has both working and management experience in many of EPA's programs including hazardous and solid waste, brownfields, and pollution prevention. Jim is a graduate of the University of Missouri at Rolla with a B.S. Degree in Geological Engineering.</p> |
| <p>Craig Colbert Distribution Manager, Harvesters - The Community Food Network</p> <p>ccolbert@harvesters.org</p> <p>www.harvesters.org</p> <p>816-929-3224</p> | <p>Since October 2012 Craig has been the Distribution Manager at Harvesters -The Community Food Network. Prior to that he spent seven plus years at Habitat for Humanity Kansas City rising to Planning Director before leaving.</p> |
| <p>John Davis President L.E.D.R. Recycling</p> <p>johnd@ledrrecycling.com</p> <p>www.ledrrecycling.com/</p> <p>636-925-0304</p> | <p>John Davis is one of three owners of L.E.D.R. (Landfill Environmental Diversion & Reclamation), which opened in April 2015. He has thirty years' experience in heavy construction mostly with Millstone Bangert, Inc. where he was Construction Project Superintendent / General Manager. He also directed and managed large (\$5-10 Million) construction projects at Lambert St. Louis International Airport / MODOT Highway, and for private site grading. John serves on the Board of Directors for the Construction & Demolition Recycling Association (CDRA).</p> |
| <p>Rob Didriksen Missouri State Recycling Program</p> <p>Robert.Didriksen@oa.mo.gov</p> <p>www.oa.mo.gov/purchasing/missouri-state-recycling-program</p> <p>573-751-3384</p> | <p>Rob Didriksen works for the MO State Recycling Program located in the Office of Administration, Division of Purchasing & Material Management where he works with state government agencies to put the entire recycling loop into practice ... from collection to buying recycled.</p> |

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| <p>Diane Doster Director of Sales, Recyclebank</p> <p>ddoster@recyclebank.com</p> <p>www.recyclebank.com</p> <p>602-502-3680</p> | <p>Diane Doster is currently the Director of Sales for Recyclebank. She has 25 years of collective experience designing health education and wellness programs utilizing behavior change strategies. As a person equally passionate about the well-being of the planet, Recyclebank was a natural fit.</p> <p>Prior to joining Recyclebank, Diane developed and managed an optimal aging program for Sodexo’s Senior Living Division and served on their global sustainability advisory council. Prior to that she was the founder of Wellbeyond; a technology and consulting firm.</p> <p>Ms. Doster lives in Phoenix, AZ and Saratoga Springs, NY depending on the weather and has the privilege of being exposed to the trends and challenges of waste minimization everywhere in between. Diane is a member of 5 state recycling coalitions (including Missouri) and serves on the board for The Arizona Recycling Coalition.</p> |
| <p>Jim Frisch Manager of Operations, Purina Animal Nutrition Center</p> <p>JFrisch@landolakes.com</p> <p>www.purinamills.com/visit-purina-farm</p> <p>636-742-6114</p> | <p>Jim Frisch, Manager of Operations at the Purina Animal Nutrition Center, has worked on the farm for over 38 years. Roles include managing daily operations of the 1200 acre facility ranging from maintenance of buildings, equipment, & grounds, to security, administration procedures, and all aspects of environmental, health, & safety compliance.</p> |
| <p>Sadie Gardner Environmental Health Specialist, Johnson County, Department of Health and Environment</p> <p>Sadie.Gardner@jocogov.org</p> <p>www.jocogov.org/dept/health-and-environment/home</p> <p>phone?</p> | <p>As part of the region's goal of 80% diversion by 2023, Sadie Gardner has been working in the commercial sector to increase recycling rates in the KC region. Sadie Gardner works with businesses to start programs from scratch or enhance existing programs. Technical assistance ranges from designing tailored signage and employee education to assistance in contract negotiation and finding outlets for hard-to-recycle materials. Before joining Johnson County, Sadie worked for Bridging The Gap, a non-profit environmental organization located in Kansas City, Missouri.</p> |
| <p>Lydia Gibson Sustainability Planner</p> <p>lydia.e.gibson@gmail.com</p> <p>no website</p> <p>913-269-9428</p> | <p>Lydia Gibson is an independent sustainability planner. She received her Master of Urban Planning Degree from the University of Kansas with a special emphasis in environmental planning. She has been active in the waste reduction and recycling communities of Kansas City, Missouri and Lawrence, Kansas for the past five years. She has worked with the Kansas City Chiefs at Arrowhead Stadium, University of Kansas Athletics, and the Kansas City Sports Commission to develop aggressive recycling and composting programs.</p> |

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| <p>Michelle Goth Regional Business Manager, Ripple Glass</p> <p>michelle@rippleglass.com</p> <p>www.rippleglass.com/</p> <p>816-221-4527</p> | <p>Michelle has been with Ripple Glass since 2012. Michelle primarily focuses on helping communities outside of Kansas City recycle glass. She also enjoys managing Ripple’s social media accounts and connecting with recyclers. Michelle came to Ripple Glass from Cerner Corporation, where she managed technical training programs. She holds a degree in Finance from Truman State University in Kirksville, MO, and a M.B.A. from University of Missouri-Kansas City. Michelle also serves on the Missouri Recycling Association board, and was recently elected Treasurer.</p> |
| <p>Brandon Hamilton Director of Facilities, Kansas City Chiefs Football Club, Inc.</p> <p>bhamilton@chiefs.nfl.com</p> <p>www.goarrowhead.com/chiefs-initiatives/</p> <p>816-920-4759</p> | <p>Brandon Hamilton, Director of Facilities, Kansas City Chiefs As Director of Facilities for the Kansas City Chiefs, Brandon Hamilton oversees all maintenance, carpentry, engineering, and grounds crew departments for the club. After joining the team in 2010, Hamilton has been innovative and successful, developing the Chiefs Green Initiative Committee and serving as the effort’s Chairman. Through the efforts of the Committee and Brandon’s staff, the club has improved their amount of waste diversion to 50% in 2013 by broadening recycling efforts and developing a new composting program. As part of the committee’s undertaking, Hamilton has brought post-event cleaning in-house, which has allowed the team more control in growing their waste diversion program. His most recent focuses include food recovery, glass recycling, water/electricity conservation, and fan engagement. Hamilton’s fan engagement project started with parking lot recycling where tailgaters are given recycling bags, delivered via electric cars.</p> <p>Additionally, Hamilton was instrumental in the development of the Chiefs “Extra Yard for the Environment” sustainability program. The “Extra Yard for the Environment” brand was developed to educate fans on environmental issues and showcase the accomplishments of the Chiefs sustainability efforts. On April 20th 2013, in honor of Earth Day, the Chiefs hosted a recycle drive which included community collection of e-waste, clothing, household items, plastics, aluminum, and non-perishable food items.</p> <p>Prior to joining the Chiefs, Hamilton was at the forefront of the team’s Arrowhead Stadium renovations while employed by The Konrath Group as an Owner’s Representative. His expertise and broad knowledge of the stadium’s systems led him to his current position with the Chiefs.</p> |
| <p>Noelle Harmon Director of Supply Chain and Business Development, Carbon Cycle Energy</p> <p>noelle.harmon@c2-energy.com</p> <p>www.c2-energy.com</p> <p>855-424-6427</p> | <p>Noelle Harmon is Director of Supply Chain and Business Development for Carbon Cycle Energy. Mrs. Harmon has 20 years’ experience in business development, organizational development, grant writing, and financial management for public and private entities as well as non-profit organizations.</p> |

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| <p>Daniel Heryer Co-Owner, BADSEED Farmers Market and URBAVORE Urban Farm</p> <p>dan@badseedkc.com</p> <p>www.badseedkc.com</p> <p>913-522-3458</p> | <p>Farmers and owners of BADSEED Farmers Market, Brooke Salvaggio and Daniel Heryer have created a wholly sustainable, off-grid farmstead within Kansas City, Missouri. URBAVORE Urban Farm was founded in 2011 and relies on no-till (building soil to grow healthy plants) and no-spray (using habitat to prevent pests and disease) farming techniques. Before BADSEED, Dan managed the Kansas City Center for Urban Agriculture’s intensive vegetable production at the Kansas City Community Farm. He also worked for two years on a large commercial fruit orchard in Pennsylvania.</p> |
| <p>Jennifer Jordan Recycling Coordinator, City of Iowa City</p> <p>jennifer-jordan@iowa-city.org</p> <p>www.icgov.org/city-government/departments-and-divisions/solid-waste</p> <p>319-887-6160</p> | <p>Jennifer Jordan is the Recycling Coordinator for the City of Iowa City. Jen grew up in Iowa and lives in Iowa City. She has a BS in Geography and MA in Urban Planning from the University of Iowa. She coordinates the City’s waste reduction and recycling programs, including drop-off site recycling, composting, household hazardous waste, education and outreach and events. Jen has served on the board of directors of the Iowa Recycling Association, the Iowa DNR Solid Waste Alternatives Program Advisory Council and the Iowa Waste Reduction Center’s Food Waste Advisory Committee.</p> |
| <p>Gary Kannenberg The Tellus Group</p> <p>garykannenberg@gmail.com</p> <p>https://www.linkedin.com/in/garykannenberg</p> <p>913-205-5027</p> | <p>Gary Kannenberg is an environmental scientist and LEED AP with over 25 years’ experience solving the environmental problems facing property owners. He is also a Certified Erosion and Sediment Control Inspector, Certified Energy Auditor, and the owner of The Tellus Group, an environmental and sustainable practices consulting firm whose clients range from local school districts to national retail and manufacturing firms. Gary is a member of the adjunct faculty at Johnson County Community College where he teaches and develops courses in the Construction Management Program. He works with Shari Wilson to coordinate the Recycling & Composting in KC Schools program funded by the MARC Solid Waste Management District.</p> |
| <p>David Keeling General Manager, Steel Recycling Institute</p> <p>dkeeling@steel.org</p> <p>www.recycle-steel.org/</p> <p>262-662-4435</p> | <p>David Keeling is the General Manager for Western United States for the Steel Recycling Institute (SRI), an industry association with the mission of promoting and sustaining steel recycling. It is the primary information and technical resource for municipalities, recyclers, businesses, legislators, educators and other entities interested in steel recycling. Mr. Keeling’s recycling related responsibilities include working on the regional, state, county and community levels to implement steel recycling, as well as expanding the steel recycling infrastructure and developing additional end markets for post-consumer steel.</p> <p>Prior to joining the SRI in 1990, Mr. Keeling held positions in Sales and Customer Service at Central Steel and Wire, Inc. in Chicago, IL. Mr. Keeling holds a B.S. in Marketing from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, (IL). He is also a LEED Accredited Professional in the United States Green Building Council.</p> |

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| <p>Tony Krieg Co-Owner, MRC</p> <p>tkrieg@midwrc.net</p> <p>www.midwrc.net/</p> <p>816-479-2949</p> | <p>Tony is co-owner of MRC, which started as an appliance business in 1998. In 2003, the company began recycling electronics. MRC is now R2 Certified and Level 4 State Certified (Missouri) and recycles nearly anything with a cord or a battery, with emphasis on computers and electronics. MRC manages material from over 100 school districts, co-sponsors over 100 community recycling events all over the state, and works with solid waste management districts, municipalities, individuals, small and large industries, banks hospitals and more.</p> |
| <p>Chris Ladd Director and CFO, Closed Loop Fund</p> <p>chris@closedloopfund.com</p> <p>www.closedloopfund.com</p> <p>917-822-6476</p> | <p>Chris Ladd leads investment due diligence as well as administrative, financial, and risk management at the Closed Loop Fund. Prior to joining the Closed Loop Fund, he led a Strategy and Finance team dedicated to providing support to Walmart Sustainability. While at Walmart, Chris worked on Waste, Transportation, and Energy projects, including several that focused on increasing Walmart's recycling rate and closing commodity loops. Before Walmart, Chris worked in TPG Capital's Ops group, where he provided post-acquisition execution and support and KSL Capital on the buy-side. Chris received his MBA from University of Texas at Austin and his undergraduate in Economics from Cornell University.</p> |
| <p>Lisa McDaniel Planner, MARC SWMD</p> <p>lmcdaniel@marc.org</p> <p>www.marc.org/Environment/Solid-Waste</p> <p>816-474-4240</p> | <p>Lisa McDaniel is the Solid Waste Program Manager for the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC), Kansas City's regional planning organization, where she oversees regional solid waste management policy and planning initiatives related to waste reduction, resource recovery and market development. Before joining MARC, Lisa managed a variety of solid waste projects for both municipal and private sector clients that have spanned the country. Locally, she was project manager for the development of solid waste management plans for Kansas City, Missouri and Lee's Summit. Nationally, she has developed solid waste management plans for municipalities, counties, planning commissions, and the federal government.</p> <p>Lisa has a Bachelor's degree in Biology from Illinois State University and a Master's degree in Environmental Science from Miami University of Ohio.</p> |
| <p>Roy Meredith Owner, Meredith Recycling</p> <p>meredith_recycling_64770@yahoo.com</p> <p>www.meredithsrecycling.com</p> <p>660-693-2334</p> | <p>Roy Meredith has been in the recycling business for nearly 20 years and is the owner of Meredith Recycling, which recycles ferrous and non-ferrous metal, cardboard, paper and electronics. Meredith Recycling has received a grant from the MARC Solid Waste Management District to provide electronics collection events in Cass County. Roy serves on the Quad Lakes Solid Waste Management District Executive and Advisory boards. He also is a member of the Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, National Federation of Small Business, and the Cass County Sustainability Committee.</p> |

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| <p>Lisa Ousley Executive Director, After the Harvest</p> <p>lisa@aftertheharvestkc.org</p> <p>www.aftertheharvestkc.org/</p> <p>816-921-1903</p> | <p>Lisa Ousley is Executive Director of After the Harvest, a hunger-relief nonprofit established to provide fresh produce to agencies feeding hungry families in Kansas and Missouri, focusing primarily on the Greater Kansas City metropolitan area and surrounding counties. This nonprofit opened its doors May 19, 2014, and has provided about 1.7 million pounds of fresh produce in the ensuing months.</p> <p>Lisa was also founding director of the Society of St. Andrew’s Western Headquarters, which opened on May 15, 2008 and closed on May 9, 2014. She led the organization throughout those six years, and oversaw the provision of more than 15 million pounds of fresh produce delivered to food banks and feeding agencies in Kansas, Missouri and other western states.</p> <p>Lisa speaks to groups regularly on the topic of hunger and malnutrition in the United States. Before joining the staff at the Society of St. Andrew, she worked both as a volunteer and as a communications director for a national hunger relief network. Lisa’s background in communications, marketing and public affairs serves her well in her efforts to communicate the compelling missions of the hunger-relief organizations she has led.</p> <p>Lisa received a Bachelor of Arts degree in English/Mass Media-Communications from the College of the Ozarks. In addition to nonprofit work, her career includes reporting and editing for news media, employee communications, investor relations, marketing, communications and public affairs.</p> |
| <p>Tony Pierce Environmental Specialist, MDNR</p> <p>Anthony.pierce@dnr.mo.gov</p> <p>www.dnr.mo.gov/env/hwp/</p> <p>573-751-3465</p> | <p>Tony Pierce works in the Compliance and Enforcement Section of the Hazardous Waste Program, at the Department of Natural Resources, specializing in universal waste and e-waste. He is the e-cycle coordinator managing the e-cycle Mo program.</p> |
| <p>Jean Ponzi Green Resources Manager, Missouri Botanical Garden - Earthways Center</p> <p>jean.ponzi@mobot.org</p> <p>www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/</p> <p>314-577-0246</p> | <p>Jean Ponzi has been a strong environmental education resource for the St. Louis region for over 26 years. As Green Resources Manager for the EarthWays Center of Missouri Botanical Garden, she cultivates business-sector sustainable practices through the St. Louis Green Business Challenge, coaching over 150 companies since 2010. She also operates the Garden’s Green Resources Answer Service, an email and phone hotline. In demand as a speaker, “Green Jean” promotes sustainable living options through presentations in business and public settings. Her practical expertise includes energy efficiency; recycling, composting and waste reduction; air quality; native plant landscaping; water conservation; green building, and biodiversity. Jean represents the City of St. Louis on the Region L Solid Waste Management District executive board, and has served as a MORA board member. She hosts and produces two local environmental radio shows, “Growing Green St. Louis” on the Big 550 KTRS-AM (since 2013) and “Earthworms” a feature of 88.1 KDHX (since 1989).</p> |

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| <p>Matt Riggs Outreach Coordinator, MARC SWMD</p> <p>mriggs@marc.org</p> <p>www.marc.org/Environment/Solid-Waste</p> <p>816-474-4240</p> | <p>Matt Riggs works as the Outreach Coordinator for the Mid-America Regional Council Solid Waste Management District. His job responsibilities revolve around coordination of recycling education including the regional recycling website, RecycleSpot.org, the Kansas City Environmental Education Network, a network of environmental educators whose goal is to improve and expand environmental education throughout the Kansas City metro area, and the MARC Green Team. He has an alter ego by the name of "Eco Elvis" which he uses to "edutain" people about recycling and environmental issues.</p> |
| <p>Shane Rizzo Science Educator, Union Station Kansas City</p> <p>shane.rizzo@unionstation.org</p> <p>www.unionstation.org/</p> <p>816-612-6698</p> | <p>Shane is originally from Springfield, Missouri. He went to school at Drury University where he obtained a degree in Business Management and Global Studies. He also led the school environmental group "Think Green!"</p> <p>In Kansas City, he has been an intern for Bridging the Gap and worked for Union Station for 4 years as an Science Educator and Outreach Presenter for Science City as well as taken time to revamp sustainability initiatives at Union Station.</p> |
| <p>Jim Twigg Environmental Programs Coordinator, City of Overland Park</p> <p>jim.twigg@opkansas.org</p> <p>www.opkansas.org/resident-resources/trash-and-recycling/</p> <p>913-895-6273</p> | <p>Jim has been responsible for planning and managing Overland Park's recycling programs for more than 25 years.</p> |
| <p>Jeff Walker Environmental Scientist, Kansas Department of Health and Environment</p> <p>jwalker@kdheks.gov</p> <p>www.kdheks.gov/waste</p> <p>785-291-3764</p> | <p>Jeff Walker has worked in the environmental and health fields for the last 20 years. He has worked specifically in the solid waste field for the last 8 years with the Bureau of Waste Management (BWM) at the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE). In his current position with BWM, Jeff reviews and provides technical assistance to all Kansas counties in solid waste management planning, is the state recycling coordinator, and manages the training program and provides technical information for the Household Hazardous Waste Program. Jeff received his Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences and his Master's of Science in Environmental Sciences from Emporia State University, Emporia, KS. Prior to working in the field of solid waste, Jeff worked for the KDHE Bureau of Consumer Health as a Food and Drug Safety Specialist for 12 years.</p> |

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| <p>Luke Westerman Co-Owner Computer Recycling Center</p> <p>Luke@ComputerRecyclingCenter.org</p> <p>www.computerrecyclingcenter.org</p> <p>417-866-2588</p> | <p>Luke is the co-owner and general manager of Computer Recycling Center located in Springfield, Missouri. Specializing in the responsible management of all types of e-waste, Computer Recycling Center has successfully diverted more than 1 million pounds of solid material otherwise headed for a landfill. Working closely with local and state agencies, Computer Recycling Center is one of a handful in southwest Missouri registered with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources for the safe technology recycling, disposal and the remanufacturing process.</p> <p>Luke serves on the Board of Directors for the Missouri Recycling Association.</p> |
| <p>Shari Wilson Project Central</p> <p>shari@projectcentral.co</p> <p>www.projcentral.co</p> <p>913-269-3022</p> | <p>Shari L. Wilson is an ecologist and educator with more than 15 years' experience working with schools and other organizations on science and environmental education projects and curricula. In 2012 she formed her own business, Project Central, to provide services in the education, environment, healthy communities, and arts fields. Shari manages projects, writes grants, plans events, speaks on environmental policy and green schools, and helps connect people and organizations. Her background is in environmental and STEM education, green schools, and environmental policy. Shari works with Gary Kannenberg to coordinate the Recycling & Composting in KC Schools program funded by the MARC Solid Waste Management District.</p> |