

March 2013

Electronic Newsletter of the AEC

April 20, 2013



[Purchase Tickets Here](#)

The public is invited to attend the 17th Annual Green Tie Affair Auction and Party on Saturday, April 20, from 6:00 to 9:30 p.m. at Woodrow Hall.

More than 300 guests are anticipated to attend. A limited number of tickets will be available for \$50 until April 15 and will then cost \$60. Tickets can be purchased [online](#) or by calling (205) 322-3126.

Check [our website](#) often to view a growing selection of auction items.

The Green Tie Affair will feature live music, heavy hors d'oeuvres provided by local restaurants, a silent auction offering items such as vacation packages, artwork from local artists, and gift certificates. Dress for the evening is creative casual.

The Green Tie Affair will also be an occasion to celebrate the AEC's renovations of its downtown Birmingham Recycling Center, which will include a look more attractive to the neighbors as well as recycling a used shipping container into an office.

The Green Tie Affair is the AEC's annual fundraiser with proceeds going to benefit our state-wide work.

Renovation Moving Ahead



If you've been to the Recycling Center recently, you've seen a banner mounted to the upper floor of the existing building. It is a rendering of what the building will look like when it is replaced with a recycled



In this newsletter...

- Action Alert: Alabama Hazardous Waste Bill
- Recycling Center Now Accepting Textiles
- Solar Rebate Program
- 17th Annual Green Tie Affair, 4/20/2013
- Recycling Center Renovation
- State Energy Planning
- Business Recycling Program
- Upcoming Events

Please consider supporting AEC with a Donation
Follow [this link to contribute](#)

The below action alert is from [Conservation Alabama's Action Center](#)

Do you want more hazardous waste in Alabama?

Of course you don't want more hazardous waste in Alabama. Who would? Well, apparently some members of the Alabama State Legislature, and they are expected to vote Tuesday on a bill that would bring more hazardous waste to our state.

Problem: HB181 would cut in half the fees per ton for the disposal of hazardous waste materials in the state. Lowering the fees makes the state more attractive to hazardous waste haulers across the country and around the world while endangering the people and places you love.

Solution: State leaders placed a two-year moratorium on new solid waste landfills to study, among other things, how tipping fees play into Alabama being the nation's dumping ground. That study should include hazardous waste landfills. Fees should not be lowered as it will attract additional hazardous waste into Alabama.

Action Needed: HB181 is scheduled before the full House on Tuesday. Please contact your state House member today and ask them to VOTE NO on HB181.

Deadline for responding: Please [take action](#) by 1 p.m. March 5, 2013.

Downtown Birmingham Recycling Center Now Accepting Textiles for Recycling

In partnership with [USAgain](#), the Recycling Center now accepts the following for recycling:

- **Clothing** (shirts, pants, undergarments, socks, coats, etc)
- **Footwear** (athletic shoes, leather shoes, sandals, etc)
- **Accessories** (hats, handbags, belts, gloves, etc)
- **Linens, etc** (sheets, blankets, drapes, towels, etc)

shipping container. Our Downtown Birmingham Recycling Center is long overdue for an upgrade. With a creative, modular design by Williams Blackstock Architects, we plan to demolish our outdated building at 25th Street & 2nd Avenue North and replace it with a repurposed cargo container—which we will recycle into a fully-functional office.

Every penny contributed to this campaign goes directly toward the costs of upgrading the Downtown Center.

Total Project Budget: \$135,000
Funds Raised To-Date: \$78,500
Additional Needs: \$56,500

All donations are 100% tax-deductible. Donations of \$1,000 and above will be recognized on a plaque at the Center. Corporate Sponsorships are available.

[Donate online today.](#)



USAgain requests that you place your textiles in a plastic bag prior to placing them in their Drop Box.

Nexus Energy: Expanding the WISE Solar Rebate Program to Several Alabama Counties

Huntsville, AL: Nexus Energy has been successful with the WISE

Solar Program, which offers a 30% or up to \$3000.00 rebate for homeowners who install solar. This Program was originally launched for Madison County residents but with the increase in demand and the generous support of the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA) the WISE solar program is now offered to Cullman, Jefferson, Lawrence, Limestone, Madison, Morgan and Shelby counties.



Nexus Energy also announces Alabama WISE, a new financing program for residents who are making energy efficient upgrades. Now with Alabama WISE you can let your energy savings pay for your project. How awesome is that? [Read More...](#) Contact Nexus to sign up for the WISE Solar Program today! (256) 539-6223

State Energy Planning

To learn more about the 2013 State Energy Plan process and about the informal rate reviews being conducted by the Alabama Public Service Commission, read [AEC Energy News](#) on our website.

Upcoming:

- Tuesday, March 5th, 10:00am--Dates for Alabama Power & Alagasco informal hearings will be announced at the Public Service Commission meeting.
- Thursday, March 13th, 8:30am--Mobile Gas informal hearing.
- Monday, March 18th, 5:30pm--Public hearing at the Mobile Library Bernheim Hall (701 Government Street, Mobile).

POWER-UP and Energy Efficiency

Many thanks to all of you who came to the POWER-UP forum or participated in the preliminary roundtables. If you couldn't attend and would like to see the presentations by the out-of-state guest speakers, as well as Michael Churchman and Cindy Lowry, visit the [POWER-UP page on our website](#). There is also a one-page summary as well as a longer report on this very successful event.

Business Recycling Program

In its first year of operation, the Recycle Alabama [Business Paper Recycling Program](#) has collected and recycled over 120 tons of paper. This program is ideal for small businesses and non-profits. For \$25/pick-up, we will place up to four paper recycling carts and service them on either an as-needed basis or a regular schedule. Be sure to ask about our non-profit discount.



Upcoming Events

- [15th Annual Alabama Water Rally](#), March 15-17, Camp McDowell.
- [Clover Crawl Green Expo](#), March 30th, 10am-4pm, Vulcan Park & Museum.
- [UAB Sustainable Smart Cities Symposium](#), April 3rd, Double Tree Hotel, Birmingham.
- [17th Annual Green Tie Affair](#), April 20th, Woodrow Hall, Birmingham.
- Birmingham Electronics Recycling Day, May 9th, 8am-2pm on short 20th Street North between Birmingham City Hall and Linn Park.



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