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NORTHEAST RESOURCE  
RECOVERY ASSOCIATION



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## Oyster River's McGuinness Awarded School Recycler of the Year at NRRA Conference

EPSOM, NH –Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRA), New Hampshire the Beautiful and NRRA's School Recycling CLUB presented Mike McGuinness of Oyster River Middle School with the School Recycler of the Year Award at the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual School Recycling Conference on May 22, 2018 at the Manchester Downtown Hotel in Manchester, NH.

Mike McGuinness started his career 10 years ago at Oyster River High School, where he made the acquaintance of young Alex Freid.

As Mike tells it, "Alex was an annoying high school student who wanted me to change how I was doing my job." Mike tells this story with enthusiasm as well as fondness for Alex. Alex went on to create the Post Landfill Action Network that helps outgoing college classes recycle their equipment to incoming classes rather than sending everything to the landfill. Mike followed Alex's footsteps within the school district, helping to reduce waste and to implement cafeteria composting and recycling at the Middle School. As a result, he has reduced the size and number of trash cans destined for the landfill. Now he is piloting a classroom composting program.

Mike was instrumental in bringing NRRA's Trash On the Lawn Day to the school last September, helping to coordinate the event throughout the day. Alex Freid even made a surprise appearance at the event.

As stated by Jacqueline Bruhn, Oyster River School District's Sustainability Coordinator, "Mike is an integral part of reducing all waste at the Middle School. We are very lucky to have Mike as part of the district, given his strong commitment to creating a sustainable school and working towards a zero-waste environment."

"Change can be hard, especially when it comes to recycling," said Michael Durfor, NRRA Executive Director. "We are proud to award Mike with this award for rethinking how he does his job, recognizing the importance of reducing waste, and promoting recycling within his school district."

A total of eleven awards were given out. For nomination details on each recipient, visit The School Recycling CLUB website [www.schoolrecycling.net](http://www.schoolrecycling.net) and click on the [2018 Conference](#) tab, or visit our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/school.recycling>

### About NRRA School Recycling CLUB

The School Recycling CLUB is a non-profit group that assists schools in implementing, maintaining and improving recycling programs. The CLUB is managed by NRRA. The CLUB offers school groups a chance to join a program that will help them promote or advance their efforts, network with other school groups, and stimulate school recycling, waste reduction and energy savings. To learn more, visit [www.schoolrecycling.net](http://www.schoolrecycling.net)

### About New Hampshire the Beautiful

New Hampshire the Beautiful (NHtB) is a non-profit 501 (c)(3) Charitable Trust supported by members of the NH Soft Drink Association, the Beverage Distributors of New Hampshire Association and the New Hampshire Grocers Association. This collaborative effort by food and beverage companies has developed comprehensive programs to address, litter issues, recycling challenges, environmental awareness and education. To learn more, visit [www.nhthebeautiful.org](http://www.nhthebeautiful.org)

### **About Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRRA)**

Founded in 1981, NRRRA provides a clearinghouse for current, up-to-date information and a source of technical and marketing assistance in the general areas of waste reduction and recycling. NRRRA is a member driven organization made up of over 400 municipalities, individuals, and businesses in New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Southern Maine. NRRRA is a non-profit 501(c) organization. NRRRA's School Recycling CLUB assists schools in implementing, maintaining and improving recycling programs. To learn more visit [www.NRRRA.net](http://www.NRRRA.net).

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*Mike McGuinness (Center) of Oyster River Middle School, receives NRRRA's School Recycler of the Year Award from NH the Beautiful Board Members (from left) Ray Dube, Joseph Bellavance III, Larry Melanson and John Dumais on May 22, 2018 in Manchester, NH.*