

News Release

For Immediate Release

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Local Recycling Specialist Honored

Dunn County Recycling Specialist Amanda Haffele has been recognized for Outstanding Achievement in Recycling Education by Associated Recyclers of Wisconsin (AROW). Haffele received her award at the Wisconsin Integrated Resource Management Conference (WIRMC) last month in Oconomowoc. The award, given annually to one recipient, was presented to Haffele by Meleesa D. Johnson, President of AROW.

Haffele has been the Recycling Specialist for the Dunn County Solid Waste Division since 2012. She also serves as the Recycling Coordinator for Eau Claire County. Haffele's award is given in recognition of work she has done for both counties and beyond.

Nominated by Casey Lamensky, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' Waste Management Specialist, this award recognizes an individual or group that "has excelled in environmental education, specifically related to solid waste and recycling." Haffele's most recent outreach includes developing a pilot plastic bag and film recycling program that will be replicated nationally and establishing a recycling advertising campaign to educate the public through movie ads, radio spots, billboards, banners and newspapers.

Working with the Eau Claire County Planning and Development Department, Haffele is responsible for making recycling mandatory on all conditional use permits and implementing recycling at Country Jam as well as smaller events. Her implementation of recycling at a local race track diverted over 12,000 lbs of recyclables in the first year.

In her position at the Dunn County Solid Waste Division, Haffele presents recycling programs at schools, libraries, assorted clubs and more. She established a "Get Caught Recycling" reward program and appears as the county's recycling mascot, ReCyclone. Besides partnering with different counties/communities for event recycling, fair displays, recycling labels and bi-yearly meetings, Haffele collaborates in producing events such as: University of Wisconsin-Stout's Move-Out furniture donation; Menomonie Middle School Earth Day activities; Recycle Your Holiday Lights recycling program; Dunn County's Hazardous Waste Collections; a year round Medication Round-Up collection and Lions Club eyeglass recycling at seven Area Collection Stations and Transfer Station. Haffele also administers the division's Facebook, Pinterest and Instagram

accounts and writes a monthly recycling news column featured in the Dunn County News as well as a recycling e-newsletter for the county.

“Amanda’s recycling vision is that she wants to make people not just aware of recycling, but truly excited about it. Once Amanda has worked with someone...they become recyclers for life. Her enthusiasm and boundless energy are catching and her big ideas are innovative, fun and most importantly, successful,” says Lamensky.

To book Amanda Haffele to speak about recycling or subscribe to Amanda’s e-newsletter write to ahaffele@co.dunn.wi.us. For more information call the Dunn County Solid Waste Division at 715-232-4017.

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Caption: Recycling Specialist Amanda Haffele (l) with President of Associated Recyclers of Wisconsin Meleesa D. Johnson (r). To book Amanda Haffele to speak about recycling or subscribe to Amanda’s e-newsletter, write to ahaffele@co.dunn.wi.us. Bookings can also be made by calling the Dunn County Solid Waste Division at 715-232-4017.