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**NORTHEAST RESOURCE
RECOVERY ASSOCIATION**



PRESS RELEASE

Richard Lee (New London, NH) Receives NRRA's Sami Izzo "Recycler of the Year" Award

EPSOM, NH – The Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRA) presented Richard Lee, Director of Public Works in New London, with the Sami Izzo "Recycler of the Year Award." This award is given in honor of Sami Izzo, who was known for her contributions in the world of waste reduction and recycling.

The "Recycler of the Year" Award is given to an individual who best combines the qualities of commitment, leadership and enthusiasm in developing and sustaining an environmentally and financially sound solid waste management program.

Richard Lee began his career with the Town of New London as a laborer in 1973 but he worked hard and quickly moved his way up the ranks to Road Agent. In 1993, he became the town's first Public Works Director and by 2007 he was overseeing the combined Highway, Wastewater, Transfer Station and Cemetery departments. Over the years, Mr. Lee was instrumental in several major projects in New London including the establishment of a round-about, the redesign of Newport Road and the Safe Routes to School Project on Pleasant Street to construct sidewalks so children could safely walk to school. Richard is creative in thinking about how to get things done: he established the NRRA PGA (Processed Glass Aggregate) program which involves collecting glass for recycling in New London then grinding it down for use in road and sidewalk projects as a cost-effective alternate to gravel. This same program has now been duplicated in several other towns and cities in New Hampshire.

In 2015, Richard was awarded the Public Works Employee of the year. We, at NRRA, are extremely pleased to add another award to his credit by naming him NRRA's 2018 Recycler of the Year.

Mr. Lee gave a brief acceptance speech and thanked NRRA for this recognition. In closing he asserted that all Towns and Cities across NH and beyond should use PGA in their road/sidewalk base, "Glass begins its life as sand and it should end its life as sand."

This award was presented at NRRA's 37th Annual Northeast Recycling Conference and Expo, held at The Manchester Downtown Hotel (formerly the Manchester Radisson) in Manchester, NH. Attendees are town managers, transfer station managers and operators, industry leaders, teachers, school administration and students.



Figure 1 Richard Lee of New London DPW (retired) shows off his Sami Izzo Recycler of the Year Award with Bonnie Bethune of NRRRA

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 Club assists schools in implementing, maintaining and improving recycling programs. To learn more visit www.nrrra.net.

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