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**NORTHEAST RESOURCE  
RECOVERY ASSOCIATION**



# PRESS RELEASE

## **Gordon Martin (Wellesley, MA) Receives Special Recognition Award for Recycling Efforts**

EPSOM, NH The Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRRA) honored Gordon Martin with a Special Recognition Award on Monday, May 16, 2016 at NRRRA's Annual Conference and Expo, held at The Radisson Hotel in Nashua, NH. The Special Recognition Award recognizes those individuals who have gone above and beyond to improve recycling.

For the past 38 years, Gordon Martin has worked for the town of Wellesley's Recycling and Disposal Facility. In 1978 he started as a seasonal employee. In February 2016 he retired as the Superintendent of Wellesley, MA Recycling and Disposal Facility. He has been a NRRRA Trustee for 15 years.

"I took the job only for the winter and I ended up staying 38 winters," Gordon Martin said. "I saw recycling in its infancy and I remember seeing it and thinking that we could do a better job of the way we did things."

When Martin took over the facility, the town had no business relationships selling recyclables to China, Canada and throughout the United States. The facility didn't have the baling building in which it invested in 1996 so Wellesley could maximize revenue and cut costs associated with solid waste disposal. Gordon Martin established those business relationships.

"If we're going to handle trash and we're going to handle recyclable material let's do it in a way where we can get maximum dollars for it and save as much as we can in order for taxpayers to feel proud of this facility," said Martin.

Among Martin's numerous contributions to the town of Wellesley, DPW Director Mike Pakstis says the most impactful was the purchase of the baler in 1996, which condenses materials to make them easier to sell.

"He sets the bar for everybody else," said Pakstis. "He's very passionate at what he does but with a keen business sense, so everything he touches he tries to maximize the revenue for the town."

### **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.nrra.net](http://www.nrra.net).

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Mike Durfor (L) Executive Director at NRRA presents Gordon Martin Superintendent (Ret.) of Wellesley Disposal & Recycling Facility with a Special Recognition Award.