

# Idea Agenda for Waste & Recycling Workers Week

June 17-23, 2023



## Monday, June 19, 2023

1. Share National SWANA Safety Monday information distributed in partnership with NWRA.
2. Send press release to local media.
3. Post *I am a Solid Waste Professional or We ARE Professionals* yard signs or banner at the entrance to all solid waste facilities in the community or if funds allow, in all the yards of sanitation/solid waste employees.
4. Post information on social media using **#SWProfessionals2023**.
5. Invite elected officials and/or county leaders to ride-along or shadow sanitation/solid waste staff during this week. See invitation from 2022 below from Athens-Clarke County.
6. Provide a box lunch to sanitation/solid waste staff. *IDEA: secure a sponsor ahead of time (local restaurant, consultant, business owner, interested resident, local church, truck/equipment manufacturer vendor, waste equipment salesperson).*



Athens-Clarke County Yard Signs used in 2021

## Tuesday, June 20, 2023

1. Provide a cookie to sanitation/solid waste staff with the *Thank You* card from SWANA-Georgia Chapter (in toolkit). Don't have a local baker? Provide a bag of snacks (chips, granola bar, candy, nuts, fruit) and a drink to the workers. Card provided in toolbox.
2. Put ad in the local newspaper or other print media with the picture of all or one of the **Professional** sanitation/solid waste employees in your community.
3. Update social media feed using **#SWProfessionals2023**.

## Wednesday, June 21, 2023

1. Provide a promotional item to sanitation/solid waste staff (water bottles, gloves, hats, socks, backpacks, etc. ).
2. Have a local radio station interview a **Professional** sanitation/solid waste employee so they can explain their job.
3. Have sanitation/solid waste worker do a virtual storytime for children. Prerecord a worker reading one of the following books and release on this day.
  - a. Recommended books:
    - i. *Marvelous Cornelius: Hurricane Katrina and the Spirit of New Orleans* By Phil Bildner
    - ii. *Smash! Mash! Crash! There Goes the Trash!* By Barbara Odanaka
    - iii. *I Stink!* By Kate and Jim McMullan
4. Update social media feed using **#SWProfessionals2023**.

**Thursday, June 22, 2023**

1. Collect information about sanitation/solid waste staff and create Solid Waste **Professional** Cards (like baseball cards or business cards but better). See sample Staff Information Sheet in toolkit. Distribute as necessary and fun!
2. Encourage the residents in your municipality/community to create signs of appreciation and display them during this week for sanitation/solid waste workers.
3. Update social media feed using **#SWProfessionals2023**.

**Friday, June 23, 2023**

1. Provide a high visibility shirt to each sanitation/solid waste worker to wear as a remembrance of the week.
2. Announce **Professional** Sanitation/Solid Waste Worker of the Week, Quarter, or Year. See sample application in toolkit.
3. Recognize sanitation/solid waste worker that does/have the following (Solid Waste **Professional** Superlatives):
  - a. Largest Route
  - b. Most Tonnage on route
  - c. Most Compliments
  - d. Best Safety Record
  - e. Cleanest Truck
  - f. Best Attendance
  - g. Cleanest Shirt/Dirtiest Shirt at end of route
  - h. Other ideas?
4. Organize a Touch-A-Truck event that showcases sanitation/solid waste workers. Host at the landfill to make it even more inclusive to all waste and recycling workers.
5. Update social media feed using **#SWProfessionals2023**.

*Athens-Clarke County Staff Cards*



*Trash Truck Cookies*



*Elected Official Invitation*