

Delaney Demro is a Project Manager with the Center for Sustainable Materials Management (CSMM), where she advances innovative strategies to reduce waste and transform materials management systems. She leads CSMM's public engagement programs, guiding businesses and organizations in implementing local reuse initiatives and achieving TRUE Certification for Zero Waste. Delaney also collaborates with New York State agencies to strengthen GreenNY procurement specifications, ensuring statewide policies reflect best practices in sustainability. Her background combines sustainability planning with interdisciplinary public perception research, providing a strong foundation for shaping effective, equitable environmental solutions. In addition to her professional work, Delaney serves as Secretary of CircularSTL, where she supports regional efforts to develop a thriving circular economy in the St. Louis area. She brings a passion for collaboration, stakeholder engagement, and evidence-based decision-making to every initiative she leads.

Why are you nominating yourself or a colleague for the NRC board of directors?

I am nominating myself for the NRC Board because I believe the urgency of transitioning to a truly circular and equitable materials economy requires bold, forward-thinking leadership—and I am ready to contribute. With a strong foundation in both consulting and hands-on implementation, I bring a unique blend of systems-level thinking, practical experience, and a collaborative spirit. I see board service not only as an opportunity to contribute to NRC's national impact, but also as a way to elevate and connect the work happening across communities and sectors. While I once imagined pursuing board service later in my career, I've come to realize that my current passion, experience, and perspective are exactly what I can and should offer now to help advance NRC's mission.

Please indicate any experience or skills you plan to bring to the NRC in order to benefit the organization.

As a young professional committed to advancing a circular economy, I strongly identify with the National Recycling Coalition's vision and guiding principles. My professional values align closely with NRC's mission to help its members drive high-performing waste prevention and sustainable materials management policies and infrastructure—reflecting my own dedication to real and equitable environmental change.

In my current role with the Center for Sustainable Materials Management (CSMM), I lead implementation and advisory projects that support reuse and zero-waste solutions for a diverse range of stakeholders, including high-profile businesses, nonprofit organizations, and municipalities. My work on modernizing the GreenNY procurement specifications and advising food service operations on reuse adoption demonstrates my ability to deliver innovative, high-impact solutions in complex environments.

Throughout my career—from advancing campus-wide sustainability planning at SUNY ESF to supporting policy-aligned waste reduction initiatives across New York State—I have built expertise in both the strategic and operational aspects of circular systems. Having worked fully remotely for the past five years, I also understand how to effectively reach and engage audiences in a digital world. Excellence in execution is only one part of the puzzle; sharing knowledge with those empowered to implement change is equally essential.

I believe active listening and incorporating diverse perspectives are critical to building resilience and driving innovation. Although I once envisioned nominating myself to a national board later in my career, I am confident that my passion, innovative thinking, and collaborative spirit would make me a valuable addition to the NRC Board. Thank you for your consideration.