



Casella Waste Systems, Inc. Highlights Investments in its People, Recycling Infrastructure, and Communities in 2024 Sustainability Report (Updated)

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RUTLAND, Vt., Sept. 24, 2024 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Casella Waste Systems, Inc. (Nasdaq: CWST) ("Casella," the "Company") published its 2024 Sustainability Report today, outlining its progress toward five key sustainability metrics, while highlighting significant achievements in several areas since its last report was issued in 2022.

"With this year's report, we are pleased to highlight several areas of achievement, and exceedingly proud that our commitment to our team continues to shine through in several areas of reporting," said Casella Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, John W. Casella. "The investments we have made in our people, infrastructure, and logistics have had a positive impact on the sustainability and strength of our business, while also benefiting our customers and the communities we serve."

The Casella team has grown by more than 32% since 2022 and is approaching 5,000 total employees. Even with its growth, the Company reported continued improvement in its safety performance, with its total recordable incident rate (TRIR) dropping nearly 20% since 2019. A key contributor to improving safety performance has been the Company's success in filling vacancies and maintaining near-full staffing levels, buoyed by the more than 300 drivers and technicians who have successfully trained at the Company's Kenneth A. Hier Sr. CDL Training Center with a focus on safety, service, and commitment to excellence.

In order that the Company's commitment to safety is felt from the front line to the back office, Casella enhanced its annual incentive compensation plans so that all such plans include goals to improve safety and reduce turnover year over year. "Safety is critically important to our success, and it is imperative that everyone shares in the commitment to achieving this goal," Casella said.

Another milestone highlighted in the report is the successful achievement of Casella's community giving goal, well ahead of the 2030 timeline, as the Company contributed more than \$2.2 million in charitable donations, local sponsorships, and in-kind services. In addition, the Casella Foundation was established in 2024 to support qualified non-profit charitable organizations demonstrating community impact in environmental and natural resource conservation, and the Company announced employee volunteering hours as its next community engagement goal.

"We believe that investing in the communities where we operate, beyond the services we provide, is paramount to building and nurturing sustainable communities for the long term," Casella said. "Through continued contributions and volunteer services, we are able to play a vital role in creating and sharing value throughout our operations."

The Company also continues to make significant progress in climate leadership and earned a spot on the [USA Today's "America's Climate Leaders 2024" list](#) for the second consecutive year.

"We estimate that for every ton of greenhouse gas we emit through our operations, we help prevent more than five tons of greenhouse gas emissions elsewhere in the economy through our recycling, renewable energy, and carbon sequestration services," Casella said. "This reflects our focus on simultaneously reducing our emissions and growing our emission-reducing services. We expect progress will continue as we work to advance renewable natural gas infrastructure and make further upgrades to our recycling infrastructure."

Continued investments in infrastructure, innovation, and education have the Company currently positioned to achieve its materials management goal of recycling more than 2 million tons in 2030.

"Since 2019, we have increased the amount of material we recycle by more than 36%, representing nearly 400,000 tons recyclables being put to a higher and better use," Casella said. "In 2023, we completed a full retrofit of our largest recycling facility, while adding new facilities in New York and Pennsylvania through acquisition. Further investments in the critical infrastructure required to help achieve our materials management goals are scheduled to occur in Connecticut and Pennsylvania, positioning us to see tonnage growth in our resource solutions line of business in 2024 and beyond."

The cumulative benefits of Casella's investments in these core areas have led to the Company's recognition on *Time Magazine's* [America's Best Midsized Companies 2024](#) list, which recognizes U.S. companies that generated between \$100 million and \$10 billion in revenue and have excelled in the areas of employee satisfaction, revenue growth, and sustainability transparency based on 15 different criteria measurements.

[Casella's 2024 Sustainability Report can be read or downloaded here.](#)

About Casella Waste Systems, Inc.

Casella Waste Systems, Inc., headquartered in Rutland, Vermont, provides resource management expertise and services to residential, commercial, municipal, institutional, and industrial customers, primarily in the areas of solid waste collection and disposal, transfer, recycling, and organics services in the eastern United States. For further information, investors may contact Charlie Wohlhuter, Director of Investor Relations at (802) 772-2230; media may contact Jeff Weld, Vice President of Communications at (802) 772-2234; or visit the Company's website at <http://www.casella.com>.

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Safe Harbor Statement

Certain matters discussed in this press release, including, but not limited to, the statements regarding the Company's intentions, beliefs or current expectations concerning its sustainability goals and commitments and anticipated actions to meet such goals and commitments, and the Company's progress towards, and achievement of, its sustainability strategy and vision, are "forward looking statements" intended to qualify for the safe harbors from liability established by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These forward-looking statements can generally be identified as such by the context of the statements, including but not limited to words such as "believe," "expect," "anticipate," "plan," "may," "would," "intend," "estimate," "will," "guidance" and other similar expressions, whether in the negative or affirmative. These forward-looking statements are based on current expectations, estimates, forecasts and projections about the industry and markets in which the Company operates and management's beliefs and assumptions. The Company cannot provide assurance that it actually will achieve the plans, intentions, expectations or guidance disclosed in the forward-looking statements made. Such forward-looking statements, and all phases of the Company's operations, involve a number of risks and uncertainties, any one or more of which could cause actual results to differ materially from those described in its forward-looking statements. Such risks and uncertainties include or relate to, among other things, the following: the ability to improve the Company's safety performance; the ability to increase the amount of recyclables processed or other resources managed; the impact of changes to, or new, statutory, regulatory and legal requirements; the ability to improve the Company's fuel efficiency; the ability to further reduce the Company's carbon footprint; and the amount of the Company's giving in its communities. There are a number of other important risks and uncertainties that could cause the Company's actual results to differ materially from those indicated by such forward-looking statements. These additional risks and uncertainties include, without limitation, those detailed in Item 1A, "Risk Factors" in the Company's Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023 and in the Company's Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended June 30, 2024, and in other filings that the Company may make with the Securities and Exchange Commission in the future. The Company undertakes no obligation to update publicly any forward-looking statements whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by law.

A photo accompanying this announcement is available at <https://www.globenewswire.com/NewsRoom/AttachmentNg/1bb076a5-a4b2-4a13-8719-b69006f31224>

A video accompanying this announcement is available at <https://www.globenewswire.com/NewsRoom/AttachmentNg/9a8c7390-179b-49e3-a72d-486e51ad613a>



Casella 2024 Sustainability Report Cover



Casella's 2024 Sustainability Report highlights investments in its people, infrastructure, and communities leading to progress towards 2030 goals.

Source: Casella Waste Systems, Inc.