



**Submitted by:** Zac Conaway, zachary.j.conaway@hitchcock.org

**Company/Organization:** Dartmouth-Hitchcock

**Type of organization:** Nonprofit

**Number of Employees:** < 10,000

**Category:** environment

### **Challenge or Opportunity:**

The US (and New England) are facing drastic and rapid changes to the recycling industry as a result of China's decision last summer to no longer accept 60 percent of US recyclable exports as well as a drastic worldwide drop in demand for recycled materials, which directly effects local recycling efforts, including our Medical Center.

### **Approach or Solution:**

We organized and hosted the Northern New England Recycling Summit, in which we gathered business leaders, sustainability advocates and government representatives in order to educate on the global recycling industry, discuss the effects locally and regionally, share innovative recycling programs and spark further collaboration for the future.

### **Impact:**

Through increasing public, community and business knowledge facing our health system throughout the state, we have begun to educate both our staff and our public on the ways to increase future landfill diversion with innovative recycling. By partnering with local businesses, we are creating local and transparent closed loop recycling & upcycling.

