Overview
The EREF is a public charity incorporated in Washington, DC in 1992 and presently we are the only foundation in the USA whose focal point is developing and evaluating new approaches to manage municipal solid waste.

In 2007, total revenue for the year was $1,856,966 against expenses of $980,859. At December 31, 2007, the foundation’s net assets were $8,193,485, an increase of $876,107 over net assets at December 31, 2006.

Since the foundation began operations $76 million has been disbursed in research grants and scholarships.

Benchmarks achieved by the foundation during 2007 include:
- The EREF board approved the disbursement of $711,065 for new projects in such diverse areas as: modeling hydrogen sulfide generation from C&D wastes, developing microbial fuel cells that utilize landfill leachate, and supporting the 5th Intercontinental Landfill Research Symposium (the premier international meeting for the exchange of ideas among landfill researchers worldwide) to be held in conjunction with the 1st Global Waste Management Symposium on September 7-10, 2008 at Copper Mountain, Colorado. EREF is a Strategic Partner of the Symposium.
- EREF supported the studies of seven doctoral environmental students and two master’s level students. Scholars are studying at Yale University, Virginia Tech, Arizona State University, Johns Hopkins University, University of Texas Austin, University of British Columbia, Carnegie Mellon University, University of Central Florida, and North Carolina State University. Since the foundation began its scholarship program in 1999, we have supported 20 students with grants up to $12,000 a year for up to three years.
- EREF expanded the Research Council. Created in the fall of 2005 to guide and prioritize the foundation’s research, members now include: Waste Management, Allied Waste, Republic Services Inc., SCS Engineers, Veolia Environmental Services, Waste Connections, Suez Environment, University of Central Florida, North Carolina State University, GeoSyntec Consultants, Transload America, Inc., Kenviron Inc., and Cornerstone Environmental Group, LLC.
- Three research bulletins were published:
  1) Tritium in Landfill Leachate: The findings of a recent Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection study found above average concentrations of tritium (H3) in landfill leachate. EREF funded a study to investigate the sources of the tritium and recommend future monitoring requirements.
  2) EPA/EREF Project Quantifies Landfill Gas Emissions: This EPA/EREF cooperative study found that the concentration of raw landfill gas was 10 to 1,000 times lower than previously reported by EPA. Landfill owners can use the data from this research for Clean Air Act regulatory compliance, which may result in their exclusion from regulatory compliance.
  3) A Performance Based Approach to Ending Post-Closure Care at MSW Landfills: This bulletin described a methodology on how monitoring data can be used to evaluate when a landfill has successfully completed post-closure care and can transition into non-regulatory custodial care.
- In May 2007 the foundation held its 13th equipment auction at WasteExpo in Atlanta – the event grossed $1.3 million with a net return of $753,000, the highest ever. Since 1995, with equipment donations from the Waste Equipment Technology Association, the auction has raised $9,160,389 for the EREF!
- The Shaping the Future Capital Campaign raised $4,662,832 toward its objective of building the foundation’s endowment to $10 million; at this level the EREF will be positioned to make grants totaling $1 million each year. The campaign is scheduled to conclude in December, 2010.
- On Friday, October 12th golfers gathered at the Heron Bay Golf Club in Coral Springs, Florida for the EREF Fall Classic. The winners of the tournament were the team of Bob Brown, Danny Dye, Brian Houston, and Kim Hennig. Since the tournament began in 2003, $752,000 has been raised in support of the EREF!
- The Environmental Research and Education Foundation (EREF) announced the launch of the EREF Foundation Scholarship Program, which will provide $250,000 to graduate students pursuing research related to waste management.

We are proud of and feel privileged to be a part of the community of people who are the EREF family—our donors, colleagues, scholars, scientists, members of the Research Council, and the EREF Board of Directors. We are pleased with the results of 2007 and look forward to continued accomplishments in 2008 and beyond.
Environmental Research and Education Foundation Cumulative Pledges

We are pleased to recognize the companies and individuals who have made substantial commitments to EREF:

Chairmen Circle Club (donations of $250,000.00 or more)
- Waste Management, Inc.
- SITA
- Ritchie Brothers Auctioneers
- Republic Services, Inc.
- Penton Business Media
- OSHA
- Donald F. Moorehead, Jr.
- Marathon Equipment Company
- Heil Environmental Inc.
- E-Z Pack
- Environmental Industry Associations
- Dean L. and Rosemarie Buntrock
- Allied Waste Industries
- (donations of $250,000.00 or more)

Gold Club (donations of $100,000.00 to $249,999.00)
- Waste Connections, Inc.
- Dwight Schaubach
- PTR Baler and Compactor, Inc.
- Robert C. Duncan
- William W. Westmorelan
- Galbreath, Inc.
- Gary E. Sargent
- New World Baler Company
- Robert C. M. Gordon
- Tom Bowen
- Plastipak
- (donations of $50,000.00 to $99,999.00)

Silver Club (donations of $25,000.00 to $49,999.00)
- Waste Connections, Inc.
- Dwight Schaubach
- Galbreath, Inc.
- William W. Westmorelan
- New World Baler Company
- Robert C. M. Gordon
- Tom Bowen
- Plastipak
- (donations of $5,000.00 to $24,999.00)

SCHOLARSHIPS approved or in progress in 2007
- $36,000 to Mohan Dangi at Johns Hopkins University to assess the problems associated with municipal solid waste management in Nepal.
- $10,000 to Roberta Niemietz at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University to study the degradation of lignocellulose compounds in bioreactor landfills.
- $10,000 to Anne-Marie Armstrong at Yale University to develop a “zero-waste” building model.
- $36,000 to Susan De Long at the University Texas – Austin for studies on using gene sequencing for enhancing landfill biodigester.
- $24,000 EREF to Monica N. Danon-Schaffer at the University of British Columbia for a mass balance evaluation of polybrominated biphenyl ethers used as flame retardants.
- $24,000 to Shahrareh Zahid Attari at Carnegie Mellon University to study excess packaging in the United States with implications of waste minimization, environmental justice, and social equity.
- $48,000 to Bryan Staley at North Carolina State University for research on mechanisms for controlling the production of non-methane organic compounds and microbial community structure during refuse decomposition.
- $36,000 to Nicole Berge at University of Central Florida studying the optimal environmental conditions and kinetics for in-situ nitration and denitrification, and the development of an implementation strategy at field-scale.

SUMMARY OF INCOME AND EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR 2007

Income:
- Pledges $153,067
- Auction (net) 766,384
- Golf (net) $368,696
- Contributions 349,870
- Investment income 473,789
- Other 3,160

TOTAL $1,856,966

Expenses:
- Projects $822,337
- Administration $139,653
- Fundraising 22,684

TOTAL $980,959

Change in net assets $747,107

$135,000 to Safety and Ecology Corporation and Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection to collect and test leachate for the presence of tritium, determine the possible sources of tritium when found, and perform a dose/risk assessment of tritium found.

$45,000 to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to update the existing landfill gas emission factors used by the Agency for regulatory purposes.

$40,000 to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to examine the performance of bioreactor landfills and develop a state–of–art report for bioreactor landfills.

$92,500 to Joyce Engineering, Inc. to determine the composition, size fraction, and concentration of airborne particulates generated from construction and demolition waste processing facilities.

$65,000 to Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech) for the examination of liquid additions on cellulosic and lignin degradation in bioreactor landfills.

$25,400 to the University of Central Florida for a study on controlling hydrogen sulfide emissions at landfills using autotrophic denitrification landfill biocovers.

$40,000 to the University of Wisconsin – Madison for a study on the performance of alternative final covers through the simulation of test sections at various landfills in the United States.