



Association of NJ RECYCLERS

Summer 2009

Beyond the Curb...



A Message From ANJR President Dominick D'Altilio

Dear Members:

Happy summer! Finally after June's rain we seem to be in a sunny pattern; let's hope

it lasts!

June also brought a flurry of activity in Trenton, most notably Assembly Bill A4101 that reallocates \$7 million from the state recycling fund to help balance the state budget. Although passed by both houses and signed into law by the governor, Senator Bob Smith stepped up to save the funds – see the article in this newsletter. Also passed by both houses and sent to the governor for signature, was A3541 (S2609), a bill supported by ANJR, which extends the deadline an additional two years, from January 13, 2010, to January 13, 2012, for the completion of a course of instruction for municipal certified recycling coordinators.

Also of note is that the State Supreme Court reversed the Appellate Court's decision in the case of Berk-Cohen Associates at Rustic Village, LLC versus the Town of Clayton concerning the obligation of a municipality to pick up (or pay for) the collection of trash in an apartment complex. If you have internet access, visit <http://lawlibrary.rutgers.edu/decisions/supreme/a-55-08.opn.html> at the Rutgers Camden Law School to read the decision, or a copy can be found on the ANJR web site <http://www.anjr.com/>.

In closing, I would like to remind you to mark your calendar for our annual symposium being held this year at the Sheraton in Eatontown on October 14, and by the way we'll be celebrating our 25th anniversary at this event – see you all then!



Did you know? This year marks the 25th year that the Association of New Jersey Recyclers has been the advocate for recycling in NJ. Happy Anniversary ANJR!

Thank You Senator Smith!

As reported in *EnviroPolitics Blog* on July 9, 2009: "Recycling in New Jersey—once a national model—had been on a down slide for years until the state Legislature, despite significant opposition, passed legislation last year that re-imposed a recycling tax on garbage.

When Governor Corzine signed the legislation into law, the state's recycling community was elated and re-energized. Recycling coordinators knew that revenue from the tax would go into a dedicated state fund and would be used to support local recycling efforts—based on how successful each county and town was in removing cans, bottles, paper and other 'recyclables' from the waste stream.

Recycling coordinators began planning ways to pump up their programs. Some ordered new equipment. Some entered into agreements with commercial recyclers for single-stream pickups which eliminate the need for residents and businesses to separate paper from metal and metal from glass. Others laid out plans for new educational and collection plans in schools and for tougher enforcement efforts to insure compliance.

Then along came the state budget crunch. In a last-minute strategy to balance the current fiscal year's budget—as the Legislature was working out final details on next year's FY 2010 spending plan—the Corzine Administration pushed through a supplemental appropriations bill that transferred money from a number of existing program accounts into the General Fund.

Part of that re-appropriation included grabbing \$7 million from the state's newly revitalized Recycling Fund. The reaction of municipal and county recycling coordinators, who were counting on the money to pay for programs and equipment they had already committed to, ranged from consternation to near panic. Then Bob Smith stepped in.

continued on page 2

Senator Smith, continued from page 1

Smith, a veteran state legislator from Middlesex County, is the Democratic chairman of the Senate Environment Committee and a long-time supporter of recycling.

He was the sponsor in the Senate of the legislation that refunded the recycling program and author of a 'poison pill' provision within the bill that basically said the money could only be used for recycling.

Recognizing that previous Administrations, in times of budget stress, have ignored such legal limitations, Smith made a personal plea to Governor Jon Corzine. He explained the benefits of recycling and the reasons for the 'poison pill' language. He then told the governor: "If you allow this to happen, you will kill recycling in New Jersey."

What followed sounds like a Hollywood ending. The governor listened and was persuaded. He promised Smith that his staff would look elsewhere for the \$7 million.

An amazing story, but true. Thanks to Senator Smith, recycling in New Jersey has been saved—again."

This article has been reprinted with the permission of *EnviroPolitics*. For more information regarding *EnviroPolitics* or to subscribe to this publication please visit: www.enviropolitics.com.

New Recycling Regulations Adopted

On February 2, 2009, new recycling rules were adopted by the State of New Jersey (N.J.A.C. 7:26A-1 et seq.). A link to a courtesy copy of these rules can be found on the ANJR web site <http://www.anjr.com/>.

**Hold The Date**

**ANJR's Annual Symposium is on
Wednesday, October 14, 2009 at the
Sheraton Hotel in Eatontown, NJ.**

**Inner Circle Spotlight**

ANJR is happy to provide this new section of our newsletter that introduces an ANJR Inner Circle Member to its membership.

The first Inner Circle member to be in "The Spotlight" is Sims Metal Management (SMM). SMM is the world's largest publicly traded metal and electronics recycler, with more than 230 facilities on four continents. In North America alone, SMM and its joint ventures have more than 130 operations in 20 states, British Columbia, Canada, and Mexico, and has over 3,200 employees. This includes five locations in NJ and 25 in the eastern US.

SMM principal processes are shredding, non-ferrous recovery, shearing, baling, and torch cutting.

The shredder can pulverize close to 400 metric tons/hour (approximately equal to a car every 10 seconds). The shredder recovers steel, while aluminum, zinc, copper, brass, and other metals are recovered by employing a complex set of sorting mechanisms.

Shears are used to cut heavier grades of steel - sizing it for steel mills throughout the world.

Balers compress lighter gauges of steel and non-ferrous materials into more manageable bundles for handling and transport.

Sims Municipal Recycling, a division of SMM, processes all of the metal, glass, and plastic from New York City's curbside recycling program – approximately 240,000 tons a year.

The Demolition Division utilizes some of the most advanced equipment – dismantling anything from a container crane to obsolete oil field tanks and gas holders.

Sims Recycling Solutions is the world's largest electronics recycler.

SMM's operations have extensive non-ferrous and stainless steel operations; buying materials from both public and commercial accounts.

Sims Metal Management is publicly listed on the New York and Australian Stock Exchanges (NYSE: SMS, ASX: SGM). Visit SMM's website at www.SimsMM.com.

For further information about Sims Metal Management please contact Joe Payesko at 201-577-3258 or e-mail him at joe.payesko@simsmm.com.

Cumberland County Improvement Authority Takes Recycling Presentation on the Road

Cumberland County Recycling Coordinator Dennis DeMatte, Jr. took his recycling message on the road recently making a stop at WhiteWave Foods in Bridgeton. DeMatte made a presentation to the WhiteWave Foods Responsible Livelihood Team regarding recycling and source reduction ideas which can benefit the environment and reduce solid waste disposal costs for the company. The team, which is made up of employees, works together to identify and support activities that benefit the environment, as well as the community.

"Recycling presentations and on-site waste audits are an important tool in building partnerships with the business and professional community," DeMatte said. "They provide the opportunity to identify waste streams, suggest waste reduction strategies, assist in establishing and maintaining recycling programs, improve recycling collection, and educate management and employees on the benefits of recycling and source reduction."

"I was very excited at what I found at Whitewave," DeMatte continued. "The company has made preserving the environment a priority and has integrated a number of recycling techniques into their work routine. They are also very energy conscious and continue to look for ways to conserve. For example, they installed motion sensor activated lights and upgraded equipment to improve efficiency. They are truly a forward-looking company."

"Reducing waste means that you use less, and therefore spend less," DeMatte said. "By creating a dialogue with the business community, we can help them utilize environmentally sound practices in the areas of water and energy conservation, pollution prevention, and solid waste management. The bottom line is, saving resources and eliminating waste makes good business sense."



Dennis DeMatte, Jr., 3rd from left and members of the WhiteWave Foods Responsible Livelihood Team.

New Household Battery Regulations to be Enacted

The Federal Department of Transportation (DOT) has enacted new regulations that are effective January 1, 2010, which require special preparations before batteries are to be transported for recycling or disposal.


The new requirements mandate that batteries be transported in a manner that prevents short-circuiting. Any municipality or county who collects and transports batteries as part of its recycling or household hazardous waste programs will need to ensure the exposed terminals are protected with non-conductive caps, tape, or other means before the batteries are sent for recycling or disposal. This means that prior to transportation each battery must either be individually placed into a bag or each battery must have a piece of tape on each of the terminal ends.

What types of batteries should be recycled?

Alkaline batteries now fall below federal and state hazardous waste standards and can be disposed of in the regular trash.

continued on page 4

NJDEP Recycling Enhancement Act Letter sent to NJ Mayors



State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
Environmental Regulation
PO Box 423
Trenton, NJ 08625-0423
609-292-2795 (phone) 609-777-1330 (fax)
www.state.nj.us/recycleni

ION S. CORZINE
Governor

MARK N. MAURIELLO
Acting Commissioner

July 31, 2009


Dear New Jersey Mayors:

As many of you know, in January 2008, the "Recycling Enhancement Act" (REA) specifically P.L. 2007, chapter 311, became effective. A major component of the new law is a \$3.00 per ton tax on most solid waste accepted for disposal or transfer at solid waste facilities within the State. Sixty percent of the revenue generated by this tax is to be returned to municipalities to support recycling efforts. The purpose of this letter is to remind you that with passage of the REA comes the requirement that "all grant moneys received by the municipality shall be expended only for its recycling program". This is very important as this was not a legal requirement for monies previously disbursed by the Department as part of its annual Municipal Recycling Tonnage Grant Program.

Examples of how REA monies may be spent include, but are not limited to:

- the purchase and distribution of recycling containers for residential, commercial, and/or institutional generators within your municipality;
- additional promotional or educational campaigns regarding recycling;
- the expansion of recycling depots or other collection alternatives to accept designated recyclable materials from the commercial or institutional sectors, where no such opportunity now exists; and/or
- costs associated with augmented recycling compliance and enforcement efforts.

Lastly, please note that all expenditures made with REA monies should be carefully documented and maintained as all municipalities are subject to the requirements of the "Local Budget Law", N.J.S.A. 40A:4-1 et seq., and the "Local Fiscal Affairs Law", N.J.S.A. 40A:5-1 et seq. If you have any additional questions concerning REA monies, please do not hesitate to contact Joseph Davis of my staff at 609-984-3438 or by e-mail at joseph.davis@dep.state.nj.us.

Sincerely,

Nancy Wittenberg
Assistant Commissioner

New Battery Regulations, continued from page 3

ANJR Membership is at an all time high!

Recycle all Rechargeable Batteries!

Rechargeable batteries can be found in cordless power tools, cellular and cordless phones, laptop computers, digital cameras, two-way radios, camcorders, and remote control toys. Rechargeable batteries sometimes look like alkaline batteries. The label on the battery will indicate if it is rechargeable. Most stores that sell rechargeable batteries also take them back for recycling. To find the retail collection site nearest you, please use the collection site locator at www.rbrc.org or call the consumer helpline, 1-800-8-BATTERY or 1-877-2-RECYCLE.

Some counties have drop-off sites for rechargeable batteries or accept them at household hazardous waste events.

What about button cell batteries?

Most button cell batteries still contain mercury. These batteries can be brought to many of the county's household hazardous waste events.

Where can I find further information?

Please visit the Association of New Jersey Household Hazardous Waste Coordinator's (ANJHHWC) web site at www.njhazwaste.com for more information regarding county programs for rechargeable and mercury containing batteries. ANJHHWC is also preparing a brochure to address this topic that will be made available Fall 2009.



It is with great pleasure that we can inform you that ANJR membership is at an all time high! Welcome to all of our new members and thank you to our current members for your continued support.



ANJR President Dominick D'Altilio (center), with ANJR Secretary Mark Vangieri of the Bergen County Utilities Authority and Sondra Flite of the NJDEP at a recent municipal recycling workshop that was held in Bergen County.



Association of
NJ RECYCLERS

120 Finderne Avenue, Bridgewater, NJ 08807
Phone 908/722-7575 • Fax 908/722-0280
Web www.anjr.com • E-mail anjr@verizon.net

President

Dominick D'Altilio

Executive Director

Marie Kruzan

