



Beyond the Curb...

The China Crisis...

Whose Crisis is It? -- It is ours. Recycled materials and trash should look very different from each other, but for years they have been converging in the U.S. China has not been the creator of today's crisis in the industry - U.S. mills have been complaining for years - but China's recent embargo of U.S. recycling imports is shining a mirror on our recycling industry and providing a clear signal that we can no longer pretend diversion of waste into a recycling bin is recycling.

MRFs (Material Recovery Facilities) can produce quality materials out of both single stream and dual stream inputs, but not when 20+% of the input "recyclable" stream, in some cases, are not recyclables. The plants are not built to handle those specs, and slower, cleaner processing has not historically been rewarded with higher market prices. Now fast, dirty recycling is being punished with no markets. Rightly so. Clean material is a resource; dirty is not. Clean recyclables have been the minority for years.

The good news and bad news is that customer enthusiasm for recycling is strong. The public wants to recycle, but they express that enthusiasm by recycling materials that are not eligible. A combination of "wishful recycling" and insufficient enforcement of quality is proving very damaging to the industry - abysmal and volatile markets, a dirty product that is not a reliable "commodity", closed plants, and programs that are hurting economically.

The National Recycling Coalition, along with other major industry associations, is working aggressively in a new nationwide collaborative, to develop strategies to resolve some of these fundamental industry and market issues.

In the meantime, the National Recycling Coalition notes that it is important to **remind your residential customers now that they should ONLY recycle the items on their LOCAL recyclables list. This is important for U.S. users of recycled materials, and the current China embargo makes this an opportune time for this reminder.**

When in Doubt - throw it in the trash!

We cannot continue to act and behave as if business as usual will offer a solution to today's issues. We must fundamentally shift how we speak to the public, how we collect and process our recyclables, and what our end markets accept and utilize to truly recycle. The NRC is working through collaboratives, its series of Market Development Workshops, and Quarterly Market Calls to take steps to turn recycling into an industry with a quality product, but we all need to work together to meet the challenge. It seems about time - or so the world is telling us.

A press release by the Nation Recycling Coalition (NRC), May 15, 2018.

For information about the NRC please click [HERE](#)



2017 REX Award recipient and ANJR Board Member Donna Caputo, Municipal Recycling Coordinator, for the City of New Brunswick, is joined by ANJR President Guy Watson at the 37th Symposium & Awards Luncheon.

The 37th Annual Recycling Symposium & Awards Luncheon



What does a construction recycling program with a 95 percent waste diversion rate; a school that consistently ranks as state champion in a recycling competition; and a nonprofit organization that supports economic development in low-income countries by collecting and shipping used or unwanted bicycles overseas, have in common? Each of them is among those honored by the NJDEP as New Jersey's recycling leaders at the October 18, 2017, ANJR 37th Annual Recycling Symposium and Awards Luncheon at the Jumping Brook Country Club, Neptune, NJ. The topic of the symposium was "Recycling...for the Health of it" and presentations included the following: 1) *Adjusting to the China Import Specification Changes* 2) *Would your Curbside Receptacle Pass a Complete Physical Exam with Flying Colors?* 3) *Local Curbside Education and Enforcement* 4) *Medical Equipment Reuse* 5) *Solar Panel Recycling* 6) *Addressing Plastic Bag Recycling*.

ANJR board member Donna Y. Caputo, Municipal Recycling Coordinator, City of New Brunswick, received the 2017 ANJR REX Award in recognition of the outstanding contributions she has made to recycling in New Jersey.

Also during the event, former ANJR President Dominick D'Altilio received a special NJDEP Commissioner's Award for his instrumental role of more than two decades of promoting and advancing recycling through ANJR. D'Altilio, who has served for 35 years as Assistant Director of Public Works and Recycling Coordinator for the City of East Orange, joined the ANJR Board in 1993 and served as president from 2003-2017. During his time on the ANJR Board, D'Altilio was a member of the committee that developed the Rutgers University Certified Recycling Professional Program and was a graduate of the first Certified Recycling Professional class. He has served as a program instructor since.



Former ANJR President and 2017 NJDEP Commissioner's Award recipient Dominick D'Altilio, is joined by current ANJR President Guy Watson (l.) and NJDEP Director of the Division of Energy Security and Sustainability Paul Orlando (r.), at the 37th Recycling Symposium.

At the 37th Annual Recycling Symposium, the following awards for outstanding achievement in recycling were presented:

- Business**
- Humanscale
- Janssen Pharmaceuticals
- Educational Program**
- Essex County Vocational Technical School
- West Caldwell Tech Campus
- Educator**
- David Alexander
- Institution**
- Egg Harbor City Community School
- Leadership**
- William R. Bausmith
- Source Reduction/Resource Management/Sustainability**
- Pedals for Progress
- NJ Habitat for Humanity ReStores
- Rising Star**
- Camden City School District
- Government**
- City of Perth Amboy Office of Recycling

NJ Recycling Certification Program Celebrates its 25th Anniversary!

At the ANJR 37th Annual Recycling Symposium, we all applauded another group of Certified Recycling Professional (CRPs), as they graduated from the extensive one-year training program through Rutgers. Anyone who has taken part in the certification process understands the level of commitment it takes to attend the various classes, travel, and complete the necessary course requirements. The fact that I graduated as a CRP over 12 years ago got me thinking about the first group of CRPs for New Jersey. How long ago was the first CRP program? Who took part in the certification process, and are they still involved today? Heck - Are they still a CRP?!



Such has been my quest to discover the answers to these questions. What I have discovered has been a real gem – five of them to be exact! Back in 1993, fifty-four courageous individuals made a commitment to become certified as “Recycling Professionals” in a time when it was difficult to even recognize the necessity and importance of recycling, especially for local communities. Only five are currently certified. Through the past 25 years these five CRP’s may have traveled different paths, yet all have remained involved in municipal recycling.

And the remaining five are...

Dominick D’Altilio: Retired, ANJR Board Member Emeritus, CRP Series Instructor and Consultant for Environmental Consulting Firm - Dom feels that the success of the CRP program is that it evolves to be current, the recertification component, and that it has become a model program for other states.



Al Martone: retired from Borough of Cliffside Park as of January 2018 (Congrats Al!) – Al thought it would be a great opportunity to be part of the new certification program on the “ground floor.”



Dennis DeMatte, Jr.: Retired Cumberland County District Recycling Coordinator is smiling because his Eagles won the Super Bowl! – Dennis feels the certification program helped him to excel in his new role as the Cumberland County Recycling Coordinator, become an ANJR Board member and networking with other CRP’s, especially during those bus trips to the different recycling locations in NJ.

Mary-Ellen Gilpin: Environmental Program Director for the Hudson County Improvement Authority – Mary-Ellen feels that the program changed her position at the HCIA from a job to a career, has made lifelong friends from working with so many colleagues, and is astonished to witness the ups and downs in recycling in New Jersey, and the country over the years.



Kathleen Hourihan: Morris County District Recycling Coordinator – Kathleen (pictured with Dominick at the 1993 graduation, wearing matching grey suits and red accents) knows that though the recycling certification program has come a long way, there is still so much to be done

We should all be humbled by these five exceptional individuals that have maintained their Recycling Professional Certifications for 25 years, along with the citizens, municipalities and counties they have served. The environmental fabric of New Jersey has truly been woven by their accomplishments. And while they are all celebrating their “Silver Jubilee,” I’d like to suggest maybe we consider changing the color to green, just this once!

Special thanks to Carol Broccoli for CRP record maintenance and research assistance.

Article submitted by: Reenee Casapulla, CRP

Sussex County MUA

ANJR Hosts its Inaugural 5K Walk/Run 4 Recycling

This past November 4th was a beautiful bright and crisp Saturday morning, and ANJR hosted more than 60 participants at its first ever 5K Walk/Run 4 Recycling. Held at Duke Island Park in Bridgewater, NJ, the event was a great success and raised funds to support ANJR's ongoing member and NJ resident recycling education programs. Prizes were awarded to the following three fastest men and women runners:

Men

1. Mike Terruso
2. Parth Havnurkar
3. Chikara Watnabe

Women

1. Amy Williams
2. Michelle Navarro
3. Jennifer Carla Cefalo

The official race times are available at: www.racingnj.com.

A special thank you and congratulations to ANJR's 5K Committee members: Andriana Kontovrakis, Marie Kruzan, Donna Caputo, Jennifer Solewski, Maite Quinn, Ann Moore and Melissa Harvey for a job well done! They were valuably assisted on race day by ANJR volunteers: Guy Watson, Ernie Kuhlwein, Chris Gulics, Melinda Williams, Linda Scott, Amanda Nesheiwat, Asia Harvey and Mark Vangieri.

The date for ANJR's 2018 5K Run/Walk 4 Recycling is Saturday November 3, 2018. If you would like to register to participate please visit <https://raceroster.com/16693>.

Please support ANJR and join us at this fun event this fall!



Thank you to our event sponsors!

- ♻️ **Atlantic Coast Fibers**
- ♻️ **Bayshore Recycling**
- ♻️ **Bridgewater Veterinary Hospital**
- ♻️ **Covanta**
- ♻️ **Electronics Recyclers International**
- ♻️ **KW Plastics**
- ♻️ **Mott MacDonald**
- ♻️ **RR Design & Construction**
- ♻️ **Saint Peter's Healthcare System**
- ♻️ **Sims Municipal Recycling**
- ♻️ **Sims Recycling Solutions**
- ♻️ **Wick Companies, LLC.**



Some of the many volunteers including, ANJR Board Members (l. to r.) Ernie Kuhlwein, Ocean County; Andriana Kontovrakis, Reverse Logistics Group Americas, Inc.; Maite Quinn, Sims Municipal Recycling; and Jennifer Solewski, Bayshore Recycling Corp. are joined by Chris Gulics of PS&S



Don't Forget to Attend the ANJR 6th Annual Golf Outing

Back by popular demand – the 6th Annual Golf Outing will be held on Tuesday, June 19, 2018, at the Mountain View Golf Course, 850 Bear Tavern Rd, Ewing Township, NJ 08628. Please mark your calendar. Even if you don't play, fun is available along with sponsorship and prize donation opportunities!

For additional information please visit the ANJR web site at www.anjr.com.



awards from the likes of Middlesex County and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, entities recognizing its innovative and fun approach to recycling education.

For Slomian, every event presents another opportunity to gather public feedback and potentially, incorporate those recommendations into next year's internal design.

Several exhibits and even games, like Enviro-Jeopardy and a scavenger hunt, were born from suggestions he gleaned from educators, parents and residents.

To learn more about the Enviro-mobile, contact the Monroe Township Recycling Department at 732-656-4575.

Monroe's Enviro-mobile Rolls Out on 10th Anniversary Tour

More than a decade ago, the back of a brochure became a makeshift sketch board for the eventual design of Monroe Township's Enviro-mobile.

Township Recycling Coordinator Joe Slomian, the brainchild behind this mobile environmental classroom, is now rolling out the familiar and highly popular trailer on its 10-year anniversary tour.

"It's difficult to gauge the sheer number of children and adults who've toured our Enviro-mobile over the past 10 years," said Monroe Mayor Gerald W. Tamburro, who has been among tour-takers on several occasions. "It's been an interactive educational tool for tens of thousands of people since then. It's also had a major impact on keeping our residents engaged and in the know when it comes to the latest green trends and recycling practices."

Slomian, also one of the trailer's lead craftsmen, took special care to piece together the Enviro-mobile's interior components from recycled materials – from refurbished wood to defunct ambulance parts and even reusable scrap metal.

"Each year, the trailer treks to assemblies, expos, fairs and school yards – primarily in Monroe, but on occasion, to Middlesex County events as well.

Along the way, the Enviro-mobile has picked up



Earth week 2017, the Enviro-mobile visits Woodland Elementary School in Monroe Township.



At the June 27, 2008 dedication ceremony, Enviro-mobile designer Joseph Slomian is joined by ANJR Executive Director Marie Kruzan (l.) and ANJR past President Dominick D'Altilio (r.)

ANJR Swap & Share Sessions are a Huge Success

Over 100 NJ recycling professionals attended the ANJR Annual Regional Swap & Share sessions. The Southern session was held at the Gloucester County Government Services Building in Clayton on February 27th, and the Northern Session was held at the Bergen County Utilities Authority in Little Ferry on March 1st. The goal of the Swap & Share is to provide NJ recycling professionals with a venue to share ideas and learn from each other.

According to Mark Vangieri, ANJR Secretary, "Many pertinent topics were discussed including electronics recycling, NJDEP Recycling Tonnage Report Program, Recycle Coach Program, recycling enforcement, recycling contamination issues, and upcoming ANJR events."



Pictured is the capacity crowd of recycling professionals that attended the Southern Swap & Share in Clayton.

ANJR Recycling Workshops Announced



The title for these workshops is - "What's my job? The critical role of the recycling coordinator when markets are down." The subject matter will be the same at both workshops. **Please choose the date and location that is best for you.**

North

Friday, June 1, 2018

STEM Donald R. Conklin Conference Center
Kean University
Union, NJ 07083

South

Tuesday, June 12, 2018

Gloucester County Government Services Building
Clayton, NJ 08312

CRPs will receive 3 classroom CEUs

3 CPWM CEUs are pending approval

You may only take this course once for credit.

For further information, please contact ANJR directly at:

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