



Preserving Resources,  
Preventing Waste

# The New Jersey WasteWise Bulletin

Newsletter of the New Jersey WasteWise Business Network – Spring, 2013  
*WasteWise...improving your bottom line and the environment*  
through waste reduction, recycling and recycled product procurement.

## E-Waste Recycling to Benefit from Statutory Changes

While New Jersey's electronic waste (e-waste) recycling law is off to a good start – 46 million pounds of televisions, computers, monitors, tablets and eReaders recycled in 2012 and 86 million pounds of this material recycled since the start-up of the program in 2011 - several aspects of the legislation have been found to be less than optimum and were recently addressed through amendments to the legislation (A1459) that went into effect on December 21, 2012.

First, to ensure fairness in the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's (NJDEP) administration of the Act, a television manufacturer's recycling responsibility will now be measured in terms of the weight of televisions manufactured, not units, thereby ensuring that the Act's requirements are appropriately distributed among industry participants. In addition, the law was revised so that manufacturers who sell less than 100 televisions in New Jersey are no longer subject to the provisions of the Act. Prior to the enactment of this revised provision, even those manufacturers who sold only one television in New Jersey were subject to the registration and reporting requirements of the law.

Another important revision pertains to the recycling credits that electronics manufacturers can use towards their next year's recycling obligation. Previously, there was no cap on the number of recycling credits that could be used in the ensuing program year. This provision has been revised so that registered manufacturers that collect, transport, and recycle used computers and televisions in excess of their

collection obligation may now only meet up to 25% of their obligation for any program year with credits generated in a prior program year. In addition, the law now states that no manufacturer or group of manufacturers, as the case may be, may cease implementing its recycling plan during any program year by using credits.

The amendments to the Act also address key compliance issues. First, the newly approved provision increases the maximum civil administrative penalty that may be assessed to a violator of the Act from \$1,000 to \$50,000. It also allows the NJDEP to enforce the Act through an administrative enforcement order as opposed to having to go Superior Court, which is a very costly process for all parties. In addition, the Act may now also be enforced by every certified local health agency, as well as by the Department.

### **Important Reminders!!**

**April 22, 2013** – Earth Day – Visit [http://www.nj.gov/dep/seeds/earthday/eda\\_y.htm](http://www.nj.gov/dep/seeds/earthday/eda_y.htm) for further information about this national celebration.

**April 30, 2013** – Applications for the USEPA's national 2013 WasteWise Awards program are due – for details visit <http://www.epa.gov/epawaste/conserv/sm/wastewise/events/2012awards.htm>.

**April 30, 2013** – Recycling tonnage grant reports and Recycling Enhancement Act Tax ID Statements are due to NJDEP – email tonnage reports to Joe Davis at [Joseph.Davis@dep.state.nj.us](mailto:Joseph.Davis@dep.state.nj.us) and email tax statements to [REATAX@dep.state.nj.us](mailto:REATAX@dep.state.nj.us).

**May 9, 2013** – New Jersey WasteWise Business Network meeting, Hamilton, NJ – RSVP to [Steven.Rinaldi@dep.state.nj.us](mailto:Steven.Rinaldi@dep.state.nj.us).

## Did You Know...

- The Middle School of Pleasantville (Pleasantville, NJ) was recently named the New Jersey Statewide Champion of the second annual Recycle-Bowl, which is a national recycling competition for elementary, middle and high schools. The Middle School of Pleasantville took the top prize by recycling an impressive 46.6 pounds of waste per capita. Visit <http://recycle-bowl.org/> for details.
- Couches and love seats made from damaged and slightly used coffins are available at [www.coffincouches.com](http://www.coffincouches.com). The coffins used in this production process are those that were damaged in shipment or those that were almost used, i.e., the family decides to opt for cremation after the body has been placed in the coffin at the funeral parlor. These unique couches and love seats cost from \$3,000 to \$6,500.
- Debris swept into the ocean by the Japanese tsunami of 2011 continues to wash ashore in Hawaii, Alaska, the state of Washington and British Columbia. Items washing ashore vary in size ranging from soccer balls to 35-foot steel tanks and docks. Experts believe that tsunami debris will continue to wash ashore for the next few years.
- OCC (old corrugated containers) was valued at \$95-\$105 per ton and SOP (Sorted Office Paper) was valued at \$160-\$165 per ton as recently as February, 2013. (Note – prices per short ton for open market purchases by mills, FOB seller's dock).
- GreenStone is a recycled composite building material made of crushed container glass and fly ash that can be used in place of concrete. The material was recently used to build a 30,000 square foot manufacturing facility in Nevada. Approximately 500,000 beer bottles from Las Vegas casinos were used to produce the GreenStone for the project. For more information, visit <http://realmofdesign.com/green/>.
- The U.S. Department of Energy's Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory has been named the 2012 Federal WasteWise Partner of the Year in recognition of the agency's successful waste reduction and recycling programs!

## Sandy Cleanup Targets Waterways

A team of contractors is removing submerged and floating waterway debris, including cars, vessels, buildings, docks and boardwalks, furniture, accumulated sand, and many other materials, from coastal and tidal waterways from Bergen County to Cape May and up the Delaware Bay to the Delaware Memorial Bridge in Salem County. Impacted areas of the State were divided into 11 debris management zones to facilitate management of the debris cleanup. Three contracts have been awarded to firms with experience in providing disaster recovery, debris removal, and vessel salvage. Each firm has been assigned to zones for debris removal.

## Making the Switch to Reusable Transport Packaging

Reusable transport packaging, which replaces one-time (and limited-use) pallets and boxes with reusable totes, bins, and pallets, can cut company costs while conserving energy and natural resources. The benefits of such packaging include:

- Reduced waste management costs
- Lower labor costs
- Better product protection
- Less product damage
- Lower materials costs over time
- Better ergonomics for employees
- Improved worker safety
- Greater landfill availability without increased landfill costs
- Longer useful life of packaging
- Reduced greenhouse gas emissions
- More efficient use of storage and warehouse space
- Improve cube-utilization to maximize all available trailer space

### **New Jersey WasteWise Business Network**

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<http://www.state.nj.us/dep/dshw/recycle/brbn03.htm>

[www.epa.gov/wastewise](http://www.epa.gov/wastewise)