

# The New Jersey WasteWise Business Network

May 15, 2017

To: Members and Prospective Members of the  
New Jersey WasteWise Business Network

From: Steven Rinaldi, Chair  
New Jersey WasteWise Business Network  
NJDEP, Bureau of Energy and Sustainability

Subject: Minutes from the Network meeting of May 10, 2017

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Minutes:

**Special Note:** Thank you again to all who donated breakfast foods/coffee for the meeting! Your generosity was appreciated by all! SR

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the New Jersey WasteWise Business Network will take place on **Thursday, November 2, 2017** in Hamilton, NJ.

**Welcome** –Network Chair Steve Rinaldi ([Steven.Rinaldi@dep.nj.gov](mailto:Steven.Rinaldi@dep.nj.gov)) welcomed everyone and explained that the New Jersey WasteWise Business Network is the New Jersey chapter of the USEPA’s national WasteWise program, which is a program designed to help businesses and other organizations learn how waste reduction, recycling and recycled product procurement not only help the environment, but also their bottom line. Steve’s opening comments addressed the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of New Jersey’s mandatory recycling law and the fact that we should all be proud of the progress that we have made over the years in making recycling a way of life in New Jersey.

**Municipal Recycling Enforcement and Education Strategies** – Ron Lottermann, Recycling Coordinator, Fair Lawn Borough, [RLottermann@fairlawn.org](mailto:RLottermann@fairlawn.org) – Mr. Lottermann began his presentation discussing the importance of educating residents about the need to recycle and the “how to” aspects of recycling. He pointed out that educated residents make better decisions and are less frustrated with the recycling program. Among other things, Mr. Lottermann highlights the economic benefits of recycling in his educational materials explaining that if every resident reduced their garbage by one pound per week, Fair Lawn Borough would save \$55,000 per year in tax dollars. While there are obstacles that arise when developing educational programs, such as costs and language barriers, Mr. Lottermann indicated that there are plenty of solutions, including no-cost options. Use of social media, calendars, flyers, posters, and brochures are just a few of the ways that Fair Lawn gets its recycling message out to the public. Mr. Lottermann stated that education works hand in hand with enforcement. Fair Lawn’s recycling enforcement program is based on a strong recycling ordinance that includes adequate penalties for non-

compliance. Mr. Lottermann indicated that he is authorized by his borough to conduct inspections and issue violations where necessary. Use of County Environmental Health Agency officials to enforce recycling is another strategy to consider. Fair Lawn uses hang tags, barrel stickers and written warnings in their enforcement program. Mr. Lottermann stated that it is important to keep documentation of warnings issued for possible use in court. Visit the Fair Lawn recycling website at <http://www.fairlawn.org/content/205/285/449.aspx>. (PowerPoint to be available at [www.anjr.com](http://www.anjr.com))

**Medical Equipment Reuse and Refurbishment** – Lynn Tighe, Vice President, Goodwill Home Medical Equipment, [ltighe@goodwillnj.org](mailto:ltighe@goodwillnj.org) – Ms. Tighe stated that the Goodwill program was founded in 1902 and now has over 165 autonomous members in the United States, Canada and abroad. She also indicated that Goodwill has diverted more than 2 billion pounds of donated goods through their retail stores that would have otherwise been disposed in landfills. Goodwill Home Medical collects, sanitizes, refurbishes and sells gently used durable medical equipment, exercise equipment and unopened medical supplies at affordable prices. Goodwill Home Medical is located in Ewing, NJ. Ms. Tighe stated that Goodwill Home Medical accepts the following items: hospital beds, bed rails, Hoyer lifts, trapeze bars, tray tables, wheelchairs, scooters, lift chairs, fabric, stair lifts, Geri chairs, hip chairs, step stools, pediatric equipment to include chairs, walkers, standers, tricycles, exercise equipment, treadmills, cycling machines, steppers, weights, canes, crutches, commodes, shower seats, bath chairs, cushions, wedges, rolls, positioning pillows, wheelchair cushions and backs, walkers, rollators, walker baskets and accessories, portable ramps and vehicle lifts, and all unopened medical supplies, adult diapers and other soft goods at all 32 of their donation sites. Furthermore, Ms. Tighe said that Goodwill Home Medical meets the highest national standards in the community-based health care industry and is a Community Health Accreditation Partner. Ms. Tighe indicated that Goodwill Home Medical Equipment would be happy to work with companies and organizations interested in collecting medical equipment for donation to Goodwill. Visit the Goodwill Home Medical website at <https://www.goodwillhomemedical.org/>. (PowerPoint to be available at [www.anjr.com](http://www.anjr.com))

**What's New in Glass Recycling?!** – Bryan Vickers, Recycling Consultant, Glass Packaging Institute, [bvickers@pacellp.com](mailto:bvickers@pacellp.com) - Mr. Vickers stated that the glass container industry is a \$5.5 billion industry with 45 glass manufacturing plants in 22 states. He also indicated that an industry sponsored survey found that Americans overwhelmingly want glass containers to be collected as part of their town's recycling program. While plastic has displaced many glass containers, glass containers still represent up to 25% by weight of the recycling stream. Mr. Vickers discussed the numerous ways the glass packaging industry is working to improve glass recycling in the United States. For example, the industry worked with the Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries (ISRI) to develop a voluntary recycled glass standard that should improve glass quality by setting clear expectations for haulers, recyclers and communities. The industry has also entered into various partnerships to improve recycled glass quality. One such partnership program saw the Glass Packaging Institute provide funding to a processing facility so that its glass sorting equipment could be moved to the front of the processing line. This leads to improved recovery of recycled glass. A Glass Recycling Coalition was also recently formed to promote glass recycling. Among other things, best practices for glass recycling have been developed, as have tools that will help municipal recycling programs. Mr. Vickers also

mentioned that the fiberglass industry continues to play an important role in glass recycling and that his organization is working closely with this industry on glass recycling issues.  
[www.glassrecycles.org](http://www.glassrecycles.org) (PowerPoint to be available at [www.anjr.com](http://www.anjr.com))

**Polystyrene (aka “Styrofoam”) Recycling** – Elizabeth Coleman, Foam Cycle, LLC  
[Beth@FoamCycle.com](mailto:Beth@FoamCycle.com), Reenee Casapulla, Sussex County Municipal Utilities Authority  
[rcasapulla@scmua.org](mailto:rcasapulla@scmua.org) and Gary Frederick, Princeton Moulding, [garymfrederick@aol.com](mailto:garymfrederick@aol.com) -  
Polystyrene recycling is not widespread in New Jersey due to limited end markets and the cost of transporting such a light weight material. Ms. Coleman showed a video about her company’s Foam Cycle polystyrene recycling system which shreds, heats, densifies and extrudes this material in equipment that can be placed at collection centers. Ms. Casapulla discussed the Sussex County polystyrene recycling program, which uses the Foam Cycle system at its county recycling facility. Food service polystyrene and polystyrene “peanuts” are not collected through the program, but all other polystyrene is accepted and processed at the county site. Ms. Casapulla indicated that the program is off to a very good start. Regarding an end market for the extruded polystyrene, Mr. Gary Frederick of Princeton Moulding indicated that his company is always looking for sources of clean recycled polystyrene for its production process. Princeton Moulding, which is located in Kenilworth, NJ, makes frames and other items from recycled polystyrene. (PowerPoint to be available at [www.anjr.com](http://www.anjr.com))

**From Plastic Bags to Plastic Lumber** – Samara Norman, Trex Company, Inc.  
[SNorman@trex.com](mailto:SNorman@trex.com) – Ms. Norman explained that her company utilizes recycled polyethylene (PE) film and recycled sawdust to produce plastic lumber that is used in decks, picnic tables, railings, etc. Among other benefits, plastic lumber will not rot, splinter, crack or split. Plus, it is a low maintenance material. PE film is widely used in plastic shopping bags, but it also comes in other forms, such as stretch film and pallet wrap, furniture foam wrap, bubble wrap, grocery bags, case overwrap, bread bags, dry cleaning bags, newspaper sleeves, produce bags, cereal bags, paper towel / toilet paper overwrap, ziploc / food storage bags, ice bags (DRY – without metal clips), mattress bags and wood pellet bags. Ms. Norman discussed the working relationship that her company has with supermarkets - who collect plastic bags for Trex - across the country, as well as several of the company’s educational collection programs, such as the School Film Recycling Challenge. In addition, she mentioned that the flexible film industry hopes to double film and bag recycling to 2 billion pounds by 2020. For more information, visit [www.plasticfilmrecycling.org](http://www.plasticfilmrecycling.org) and <http://www.trex.com> .(PowerPoint to be available at [www.anjr.com](http://www.anjr.com))

**The following is the registration list for the 5/10/17 meeting:**

Speakers:

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SR: Minutes May 10, 2017