



Preserving Resources,  
Preventing Waste

# The New Jersey WasteWise Bulletin

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

## Recycling Stars...the Toast of the Town!

The recycling community's biggest event, the annual Recycling Symposium and Awards Luncheon, was the scene of much celebration this past week as the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection honored the state's recycling stars for their achievements over the past year. The 2013 NJDEP Recycling Award winners are as follows:

### **INSTITUTION - KEAN UNIVERSITY**

By installing a state-of-the-art aerobic in-vessel rotary-drum digestive system on campus, Kean University has been able to recycle over 291,000 pounds of food scraps over the past few years. On-campus fast food franchise locations have even been participating in the program. The food scraps are composted into a nutrient-rich soil amendment which is used in on-campus landscaping projects. The use of this compost has resulted in dramatic improvements in soil productivity and plant growth.

### **GOVERNMENT - PRINCETON PLASMA PHYSICS LABORATORY**

Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory is one of the US Department of Energy's national labs located in Plainsboro, NJ. From October 2011 to September 2012, the lab implemented numerous changes in its waste reduction program that resulted in a 69% reduction in solid waste generation at the facility. The PPPL recycling program was also expanded at this time to include food waste. Almost 11 tons of organic waste has been recycled as a result. In addition, by switching over to single stream recycling, the lab was able to recycle an even larger percentage of its solid waste. The success

of these initiatives can largely be attributed to the work of PPPL's Green Team and their education and outreach efforts, including the use of new and updated signs and the inclusion of information on proper waste diversion in employee training.

### **GOVERNMENT - TOWNSHIP OF NUTLEY**

The Township of Nutley holds eight community recycling events each year and has done a great job in expanding its community outreach to promote these events. The events include a Residential Shredding Day, a Compost Day providing free compost and a demonstration, a Hanger Recycling Day, Ink Cartridge Recycling Day, Trophy Recycling Day, Techno Trash Day, Rigid Plastics Recycling Day, and a Sneaker Collection Day. These events provide an opportunity for residents to recycle items that would otherwise be discarded in the trash. The town is now paying less in tipping fees each year while increasing its recycling tonnage.

### **RISING STAR - MIDDLE SCHOOL OF PLEASANTVILLE**

The Middle School of Pleasantville has in place a student-driven recycling program that began when students in the Gifted and Talented Program raised money and purchased 100 recycling bins that were then placed in all of the offices and classrooms in the school. These same students collect the recyclable materials from each office and classroom twice per week. The program was expanded to the cafeteria and entrance areas after the school received a grant for the purchase of more bins from Keep America Beautiful. The students also created educational materials to be used throughout the school.

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## **EDUCATOR/EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM - MORRIS COUNTY MUA**

The Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority may very well be the only county agency in the country to have hosted 25 recycling awards dinners to date. The purpose of the dinners is to recognize individuals, businesses, institutions, municipalities, and civic and religious organizations for their exceptional devotion to projects involving waste prevention, re-use, recycling and litter abatement. About 250 people attend the event annually.

## **RECYCLING INDUSTRY - ReCOMMUNITY**

ReCommunity processed more than 200,000 tons of recyclables in 2012 in New Jersey, and by diverting this valuable material from being landfilled, it created 403 direct jobs. The company has established numerous recycling partnerships and operates Materials Recovery Facilities in Camden, Morris, Cape May and Atlantic Counties. With an investment of \$18 million, ReCommunity has added over 225,000 tons of single-stream processing capacity in NJ across the four operating facilities since the initial retrofit of Camden in 2006. Upgrades have also been made to equipment systems in all four counties to enable the processing of aseptic packaging. ReCommunity attributes much of its success to its commitment to education and outreach.

## **VOLUNTEER CITIZEN - DINA HAMWI**

Ms. Hamwi has been instrumental in implementing and expanding recycling efforts in the Holmdel school district. She spearheaded several "Go Green!" parental groups and educated staff and children at the schools on how to recycle properly. Ms. Hamwi also implemented a successful TerraCycle recycling program in two of Holmdel's schools providing for the recycling of less traditional items such as fruit juice pouches, pens/markers, snack wrappers, etc. Ms. Hamwi has also initiated and implemented other programs including Aveda's Caps Recycling Program, a Shoe Recycling Program, and a School Locker Clean Out Program.

## **COMMISSIONER'S AWARD - ALBERT FRALINGER, III**

Al Fralinger has played a significant role in New Jersey's recycling community for over two decades. Thanks to the many waste reduction and recycling programs initiated by Al, PSE&G was inducted into the national WasteWise Hall of Fame—the highest honor awarded to WasteWise Partners. Al was the Co-Chair of the NJ WasteWise Business Network from 2004-2013, and was particularly instrumental in promoting WasteWise within the business community. Al was also the President of the Association of NJ Recyclers from 1999 to 2002 and helped the association grow and expand its services during his four years in this role.

## **Did You Know...**

- Finnish designer Willem Heeffer has created a new line of lamps that are made out of salvaged washing machine drums. The drum lamps come in six colors, are suspended by 1 mm thick cables and are comprised of 90% recycled materials. For details, visit <http://www.willemheeffer.nl/products/>.
- Los Angeles, California became the largest city in the U.S. to ban the use of single-use plastic bags at grocery stores, convenience stores and other retail establishments. The law becomes effective on January 1, 2014 and also includes a 10 cent tax on paper bags.
- The Simmons Bedding Company recently announced a mattress recycling program that is available through its hospitality sales division. Hotels and other hospitality clientele purchasing new mattresses through Simmons can now have their old mattresses recycled through this program.
- William Knight of Burlington City, NJ creates artistic sculptures out of tire shreds that he collects along state highways. His recycled rubber sculptures will be on display at the Grounds for Sculpture in Hamilton, NJ through April 13, 2014.

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

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<http://www.nj.gov/dep/dshw/recycling/wastewise/brbn03.htm>

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