

The New Jersey WasteWise Business Network

May 10, 2016

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 5, 2016

Minutes:

Welcome –Network Chair Steve Rinaldi (Steven.Rinaldi@dep.nj.gov) welcomed everyone and mentioned that there were 130 people registered for the meeting. Steve 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 troubling increase in non-recyclable trash that is mixed in with recyclable materials collected at the curb and in office settings. Such contamination creates serious quality control issues, negatively affects the economics of recycling and jeopardizes the success of our state’s recycling efforts. Steve indicated that while simplistic in nature, continuous multi-faceted educational programs (including use of social media) designed to decrease contaminants in recycling loads are needed so that people better understand what should and should not be placed into their recycling container or cart whether at home or at the office. The NJDEP, Bureau of Energy and Sustainability has produced a series of educational messages to promote recycling, including several that address the contamination problem, for use on municipal, county and business recycling program websites and social media sites. These will be made available soon.

Product Stewardship Update – Electronic Waste and Paint Recycling – Guy Watson, Chief, NJDEP, Bureau of Recycling and Hazardous Waste Management, Guy.Watson@dep.nj.gov – Guy explained that “product stewardship” is the term used to describe a system where manufacturers take responsibility for the environmental and economic impacts of a product through its life cycle. There are a wide variety of products that are managed through product stewardship systems in the United States. In addition, there are different approaches that can be taken in regard to product stewardship. For example, paint manufacturers came together to create a Paintcare program that has been adopted in several states. In this system, a surcharge is placed on the purchase of new paint and the monies collected are used to finance the recycling program for old paint. This program is not managed by the states, but rather by a third party. The Paintcare program provides a unified industry approach to the management of old paint.

Conversely, the electronic waste programs that have been enacted in 25 states and the District of Columbia are distinct programs each with their own particular state requirements (although there are similarities, as well). While the program established in New Jersey has resulted in a significant increase in the recycling of electronic waste since its inception in 2011, it has run into some obstacles over the past year. The most significant obstacle has been the disappearance of the recycling market for the CRT glass collected through these programs. While the CRT glass from old computers and TVs continues to be collected, new computers and TVs do not use this type of glass and so there is no demand for the CRT glass. As such, the cost to run these collection programs have increased dramatically. This has resulted in the disruption of collection programs and the stockpiling of electronic waste. The New Jersey Legislature is considering a bill to revise the New Jersey electronic waste recycling law. Among other things, the proposed revision would no longer allow manufacturers to stop collecting material once their obligation has been met, would be based on market share and not return share, would call for multi-year recycling plans from manufacturers and would reassess the number of collection sites needed statewide in order to provide an appropriate level of convenience.

“repurposing”: the Art and Business of Giving New Life to Industrial Junk – Damon Carson, Founder and President, repurposedMATERIALS, damon@repurposedmaterialsinc.com - Mr. Carson’s company is in the business of receiving industrial junk from a wide variety of sources and finding totally new end uses for these items. He explained that repurposing is a form of reuse, which is at the top of the solid waste management hierarchy. Mr. Carson discussed how one must think differently in his line of work, something he described as “substitutionary thinking.” Among the many examples that Mr. Carson discussed were the use of old billboard vinyl as slip n’ slides, old military parachutes as gazebo awnings, old street sweeper brushes as livestock scratching pads and old mining tires (cut in half) used for livestock water tanks. He explained that for materials to be good candidates for repurposing, they must be standardized, available, versatile and have the right engineering characteristics. repurposedMATERIALS has recently opened a new facility in Wilmington, Delaware. (PowerPoint to be available at www.anjr.com)

Transforming Edible and Inedible Residual Bionutrients into Valued Resources – Dr. Ross Hamilton, Vice President of Quality Control and Billy Frish, Regional Vice President, Darling Ingredients, Inc., rhamilton@darlingii.com and wfrish@darlingii.com. Darling Ingredients, Inc. (founded in 1882) is a renderer, which is company that accepts meat processing waste, food production waste and other wastes from the livestock and food service industries (including used cooking oil) and through its processing operation transforms these materials into food, feed and fuel products. The company is based in Texas, but has a facility in Newark, NJ. Darling Ingredients serves the pharmaceutical, food, pet food, feed, fuel, bioenergy, fertilizer, and restaurant industries. Mr. Ross explained that his company operates the largest facility in North America to produce renewable diesel from recycled animal fats and used cooking oils (also uses distiller oils). Mr. Frish spoke about a problem that the rendering industry faces, which is the theft of used cooking oil from restaurants, cafeterias and other generators, the entities that provide feedstock to the rendering industry. This not only hurts the economics of the rendering industry, but also jeopardizes the environment when this material is not properly handled. Legislation addressing this issue was proposed, but was not signed into law. The environmental benefits of rendering include the following: reduces organics going to landfill, carbon capture

and GHG avoidance, and spares placing more acres under cultivation. (PowerPoint to be available at www.anjr.com)

Strategies for Successful Waste Reduction and Recycling Programs in the Business Sector and Implementing Sustainable Janitorial Services – Rachel Weisslitz, National Sustainability Manager and Michael Halady, National Sustainability Manager, SBM Site Services, rweisslitz@sbmcorp.com and mhalady@sbmcorp.com – SBM is a global janitorial service company that manages 29 sites in New Jersey. The company implements waste reduction, recycling and “green” janitorial programs at these companies and also provides education and training to its clients. Mr. Halady indicated that it is important to establish program objectives, such as: looking to raise staff awareness and encourage their participation in sustainability programs; reducing recycling in the trash, and waste contamination in the recycling; meeting corporate and local goals; striving to establish processes that comply with regulations and can support LEED and ISO assessments; and realizing cost savings. In addition, Mr. Halady outlined the steps that need to be taken when initiating a waste reduction and recycling program, which are as follows: develop a baseline, conduct a waste analysis, identify gaps and opportunities, implement program improvements and education, track data, and review progress and status. Mr. Halady also discussed the pros and cons of three collection approaches that can be taken when establishing business recycling programs – deskside collection, back of the house sorting and the use of centralized locations. Regardless of the approach taken, it was noted that a key to the success of such programs is to identify and involve all key stakeholders from the outset. Ms. Weisslitz discussed “green” cleaning, which she described as an approach to janitorial services that offers better environmental performance and improved worker health and safety, while retaining the same sanitation quality as traditional, more chemical-intensive methods. In addition to reducing waste in janitorial operations, these efforts can save money for businesses. In fact, Ms. Weisslitz stated that one of SBM’s clients saved \$350,000 in disposal costs thanks to the green cleaning strategies implemented. (PowerPoint to be available at www.anjr.com)

The following is the registration list for the 5/5/16 meeting:

Speakers:

Steve Rinaldi, NJDEP, Bureau of Energy and Sustainability, Steven.Rinaldi@dep.nj.gov
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Rachel Weisslitz, SBM Site Services, Inc., rweisslitz@sbmcorp.com
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Attendees:

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SR: Minutes May 5, 2016