



Association of NJ RECYCLERS Beyond the Curb...

WINTER 2023

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A Message from ANJR President Angela Andersen

Happy 2023! Hard to believe that, but here we are. ANJR Board of Directors and membership have much to be proud of this past year. As we emerged from behind our Zoom screens and started meeting in person we had to reboot and redefine who ANJR is and will become in the coming year.

Our dedicated board of directors provide a commitment to the legislative work and plan exceptional programs and events for our members. In addition to our core efforts, members developed several committees and refreshed the committee structure. Highlights of these accomplishments were presented at our in-person Symposium this fall. Even though ANJR board members have traditionally been deeply committed to the mission and vision of ANJR, during 2022 each board member formalized this commitment by signing an agreement to serve ANJR and preserve the high standards of the organization. The committee structure and benefits were articulated as part of this agreement. The bonus on the committee structure is that

you do not have to be a board member to serve /assist on a committee. If you have an idea or a passion—please let us know. Committee structures are on our website. A wonderful holiday gift was announced by Ocean County, to provide one year ANJR membership for each town within their county. This is a fantastic idea and other counties have done the same.

Membership to ANJR is meaningful in different ways to government and to industry. We love seeing the numbers of municipal membership growing! To focus on both government and industry, a new conference is in the works for March 2023 in Atlantic City. ANJR and Clean Communities Council are co-hosting this exciting event- Sustainability in Motion. Registration is now open! One stop shopping for certification credits and wonderful networking opportunities are being planned for industry. As you may know, our long time serving Executive Director Marie Kruzan has announced her retirement. A RFP/ job opportunity has been released for a new Executive Director. We will never be able to

replace Marie, she is unequalled in her dedication to the organization, and knowledge of the complex nature of the recycling industry locally, regionally, federally and globally. ***I wish you all a healthy and successful New Year!***

2023 NJ Sustainability In Motion Conference

ANJR and the New Jersey Clean Communities Council are pleased to announce NJ's first statewide conference focusing on sustainability, recycling, litter abatement, materials management and much, much more!



Don't Miss the 2023 NJ Sustainability In Motion Conference

March 8 - 10, 2023

Please see back page for more information or click [HERE](#) for more information and to register.

The 40th Annual Recycling Symposium & Awards Luncheon

What does an airport that recycles numerous items including polycarbonate runway signs; a municipality with a comprehensive curbside, drop-off and food waste recycling system; and a senior citizen who volunteered to collect and deliver loads of recyclables generated by his neighbors during the COVID-19 pandemic, have in common? Each of them was among those honored by the NJDEP as New Jersey's recycling leaders at the October 12, 2022, ANJR 40th Annual Recycling Symposium and Awards Luncheon at the Jumping Brook Country Club, Neptune, NJ. The topics presented included: Organics Initiatives; Newark Adopt-A-Lot – Community Gardens; Food Waste Recycling Moving Forward; World Without Waste; Transitioning to Public Collection; New opportunities to Capture Plastic Packaging and Checking Carts for Contamination, Without Leaving the Cab.

ANJR Treasurer Neil Blitz, Superintendent of Public Works, Township of Plainsboro, received the 2022 ANJR Jean Clark REX Award in recognition of the outstanding contributions he has made to recycling in New Jersey.



2022 ANJR Jean Clark REX Award recipient and ANJR Treasurer Neil Blitz addresses the crowd at the 40th Annual Recycling Symposium and Awards Luncheon

2022 Achievement in Recycling Award Recipients

Business

Nestle Health Science, Bridgewater

Government

Village of Ridgewood

Rising Star

Millville Executive Airport, Millville

Outstanding Educator/Educational

Recycle My Battery

Source Reduction, Resource

Atlantic Health Systems

Volunteer Citizen

Donald Cammus, Florence Township

ANJR Announces New Supplier Directory

New Directory contains recycling and disposal options for problem materials

Good news Recycling Coordinators and business professionals! ANJR has just launched a new service – the ANJR Supplier Directory. With over 300 suppliers, it contains recycling and disposal options for problem materials. Next time a resident or business calls about petroleum-contaminated soil or sustainable waste solutions – no problem! The Directory contains seventy-five

different categories of suppliers that can help you out. Find the directory by clicking [HERE](#).

Have a suggestion for a new category or supplier? Let us know at membership@anjr.com.



Don't Listen to Them!

At a time when we are hearing “when in doubt through it out” and the news is full of phrases like “wishful recycling” and “contamination,” we can sympathize with residents when they tell us that recycling is confusing. Through a new initiative, large companies like Dole, Colgate, and Coca-Cola are including recycling instructions right on their packaging. This creates a problem for New Jersey residents since each county and many municipalities of New Jersey have different recycling rules. For example, in Salem County, the only acceptable plastics are labeled #1 and #2, known as *bottle-grade plastic*. The new Colgate toothpaste tube that is labeled “recyclable” is made of a similar plastic #2; however, it is *not* bottle-grade plastic, so it is not recycled in Salem County at this time.

Kevin Carducci, President and CEP of Omni Recycling in Pitman, New Jersey—Salem County’s municipal recycling facility—advises that the toothpaste tube will fall through the machinery. In addition, the lid on the tube is #5 plastic, which is not recyclable in Salem County. You may have also noticed plastic bottles that say “Recycle With Cap On.” Gary McElyea of Coca-Cola discussed this subject at the ANJR Symposium. He was very excited to share this new idea. However, Omni Recycling advises that leaving the lids on bottles is a hazard because they may become projectiles. Also, although the plastic is recyclable, bottle caps cannot be baled and they end up falling through the machinery onto the floor. Therefore, many counties are advising residents

to continue to remove and discard these lids before recycling the bottle.

The new labels on Dole fruit cups give clear instructions for recycling the cup, but it is made from #5 plastic and cannot be recycled in many New Jersey counties. You can see how this labeling causes confusion! Kevin Carducci said, “The best course of action in the current climate is to stick to the basics and know that we are all doing the best we can to protect our environment.”

As ANJR members we must continue to remind our residents/employees of the importance of knowing local recycling guidelines, because they may differ from what is printed on nationally distributed products.



ANJR Legislative Committee Update

The ANJR Legislative Committee has been working tirelessly during 2022 on many issues. The three main focus areas of concern are as follows:

- ANJR has provided testimony and comments on the Extended Producer Responsibility bill S426/A1444 - this bill requires every producer of packaging products sold in the State, either individually or as a part of a group of producers, to develop and implement a packaging product stewardship plan, in consultation with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP). Please click [HERE](#) for further information.
- ANJR provided comments to the NJDEP regarding the Environmental Justice (EJ) proposed rules. Please click [HERE](#) for further information.
- ANJR continues to monitor and prepare comments for the Truth in Labeling bill A1554/S2145 - this bill would make the sale, import, or distribution of any product or packaging that

makes a deceptive or misleading claim about the recyclability of the product or packaging a violation of the “Consumer Fraud Act.” Please click [HERE](#) for further information.

For further information regarding ANJR’s Legislative Committee activities or to volunteer to serve on the legislative committee please contact ANJR at Legislation@anjr.com.



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Visit ANJR at
<https://anjr.com/>

ANJR Mission

The mission of the Association of New Jersey Recyclers (ANJR) is to support, promote and enhance source reduction, reuse practices, organics management, and recycling activities in the State of New Jersey. ANJR provides educational and training programs, and also advances policies that support sustainable materials management, which in turn benefits the environment, the communities and the economy of New Jersey.

2023 NJ Sustainability In Motion Conference

2023 New Jersey
SUSTAINABILITY
In Motion
Conference

Register at:
njsustainabilityconference.com

The "2023 NJ Sustainability in Motion Conference" will offer the premier opportunity to network, earn needed CEU's and meet with vendors.

Hosted by The NJ Clean Communities Council and Association of NJ Recyclers

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!

CAESARS ATLANTIC CITY
March 8-10, 2023

SESSIONS OFFERED WILL ADDRESS THE MOST PERTINENT ISSUES AFFECTING RECYCLING, LITTER ABATEMENT AND SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS MANAGEMENT IN NJ TODAY, INCLUDING:

- ▶ Legislative Update
- ▶ Single Use Plastics
- ▶ Extended Producer Responsibility
- ▶ Recycled Content
- ▶ Sustainable Business Practices
- ▶ Effective Education and Outreach Strategies
- ▶ Maximizing Recycling and Clean Communities Grant Dollars
- ▶ Stormwater Management Regulatory & Compliance Update
- ▶ Market Development
- ▶ Sustainable Government Procurement Practices
- ▶ Innovative Waste Reduction Strategies
- ▶ Sustainable Food Management
- ▶ Clean Energy/Energy-efficiency

AND MUCH, MUCH MORE!

Each session will offer certification credits for CRP and NJCCC

REGISTRATION FEE: \$245

NJCCC and Recycling Grant Funds Allowed

Contact Us: info@njsustainabilityconference.com

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Scan here to visit our website

ANJR Hosts Table at New Jersey League of Municipalities

The New Jersey State League of Municipalities hosted its 107th Annual League Conference in Atlantic City from November 15-17, 2022; and for the first time ANJR has hosted a table! ANJR President Angela Andersen stated "that this provided a "great opportunity for ANJR to promote itself and its agenda". ANJR Treasurer Neil Blitz added "thank you to all of the ANJR volunteers for setting up and breaking down the display. He also thanked each of the volunteers for staffing the booth. Neil stated that without the assistance of the volunteers ANJR would not be the voice of recycling in NJ."



ANJR President & Recycling/Sustainability Director for Long Beach Township Angela Andersen (l.), and ANJR Board Member & Atlantic County Clean Communities Coordinator Rebecca Turygan are staffing the ANJR table at the 107th Annual League of Municipalities Conference

