



Preserving Resources,
Preventing Waste

The New Jersey WasteWise Bulletin

Newsletter of the New Jersey WasteWise Business Network – Winter, 2018
*WasteWise...improving your bottom line and the environment
through waste reduction, recycling and recycled product procurement.*

Statewide Recycle Coach System Coming Soon!

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) recently announced that it has entered into a contract with Recycle Coach for a statewide recycling program information system that will make recycling information much more accessible to the public. The Recycle Coach system will provide residents with specific information about their recycling program via a weblink that will be accessible from their municipality's, county's or the DEP's recycling webpage, as well as through a cell phone App that can be downloaded so that people can have this information at their fingertips.

Research conducted by the Ad Council found that only 52 percent of Americans say that they are "very" or "extremely" knowledgeable about how to properly recycle. As a result, there has been a troubling increase in non-recyclable trash that is mixed in with recyclable materials collected at the curb over the last few years. Such "contamination" of the curbside recycling mix creates serious quality control issues and negatively affects the economics of recycling and is undoubtedly one of the biggest challenges facing recycling today. The Recycle Coach system, in conjunction with the recycling educational resources that are already available at the state, county and municipal level, is expected to increase recycling awareness and eliminate some of the uncertainty and confusion about what can and cannot be recycled.

While the Recycle Coach system is already in place in some municipalities and counties in New Jersey, the statewide initiative being undertaken by the NJDEP will enable this information system to reach all state residents in 2018.

New Recycled Mixed Glass Market Emerges

A new recycling end market that transforms mixed color recycled glass into foamed glass aggregate, which can be used in various road construction applications has opened its doors in Philadelphia. The new AeroAggregates LLC facility hopes to be part of the solution to the vexing question about what to do with mixed color recycled glass resulting from the processing of commingled recyclable materials.

Recycled glass must be color separated before it can be made into new glass bottles. This, however, is not easy to accomplish due to the glass breakage that occurs from curbside collection through the processing stage, wherein commingled materials are separated into their different constituent components. Many recycling processing centers do not even attempt to color separate the incoming glass. As a result, large quantities of mixed color recycled glass, which historically has had limited end uses, are produced by these facilities.

The AeroAggregates operation produces a lightweight, but strong aggregate that has gotten the attention of the various departments of transportation in the region. To produce this aggregate, the company crushes the mixed color recycled glass into a powder and then mixes it with silicon carbide, which acts as a foaming agent. The mixture is then fed into a kiln for 40 minutes from which it emerges as a continuous gray, rock-like sheet. As the material cools, it cracks into small aggregate sized pieces. This new aggregate was recently used in the reconstruction of a road in the Philadelphia Navy Yard. Learn more - <http://www.aeroaggregates.com/index.html>.

Did You Know...

- Yellowstone National Park has installed walkways made with recycled scrap tires in the park's geyser basin.
- Long Beach Township, NJ recently adopted an ordinance that prohibits businesses in the municipality from distributing single-use plastic carryout bags. The bag ban will take effect in the first half of 2018. Patrons will have to bring their own reusable bags to stores in the township, or pay a fee for recycled paper bags.
- Quiet-Tech is an acoustic and thermal insulation made of 85-90% post-consumer recycled materials. Visit <http://www.carpetcycle.com/quiet-tech/> for additional information.
- The NJDEP has established a free electronic waste recycling Listserv that will provide subscribers with e-waste updates, news and more. Register at <http://www.nj.gov/dep/dshw/ewaste/listerv.html>.
- IKEA U.S. has launched a national mattress recycling program. The company will recycle used mattresses that are picked up when new IKEA mattresses are delivered. There is a fee for this service. For more, visit online at <http://www.nj.gov/dep/dshw/ewaste/listserv.html>.
- Grants for residential recycling carts and recycling educational efforts are available through The Recycling Partnership. For details, visit <https://recyclingpartnership.org/>.

Two Key Office Recycling Program Mistakes to Avoid

Mistake #1: Not placing recycling and trash bins together in common areas -

Recycling and trash bins placed side by side encourage people to make good, informed decisions. With just one bin, the temptation is to just throw both trash and recyclables in that bin.

Mistake #2: Improper Labeling - Labels must be visible and clear. For example, bins that are just labeled "recycling" are confusing. Are they for paper, or bottles/cans/plastic? Confusion leads to mistakes.

2017 NJDEP Recycling Award Winners Saluted

Business: *Humanscale*

Business: *Janssen Pharmaceuticals*

Education: *Essex County Vocational Technical School – West Caldwell Campus*

Education: *David Alexander, Senior Naturalist at the Essex County Environmental Center*

Institution: *Egg Harbor Community School*

Leadership: *William R. Bausmith, Associate Director of Construction and Management in the Department of Design and Construction at Princeton University*

Source Reduction, Resource Management, and Sustainability: *Pedals for Progress*

Source Reduction, Resource Management, and Sustainability: *New Jersey Habitat for Humanity ReStores*

Rising Star: *Camden City School District*

Government: *Perth Amboy Office of Recycling*

Commissioner's Award: *Dominick D'Altilio*

Office Waste Reduction Tip

Take Paperless Notes - Most word processing software includes an easy highlighter tool to mark key sections of your notes. But if you are going to take e-notes, you should opt for a program that can multi-task. Try an online note-taking program (like Evernote or UberNote) that allows you to bookmark sites of interest, jot down ideas and collaborate with multiple users.

Quote to Kick Off the Year

"I used to think that my job didn't have anything to do with the environment. Then I realized that my job, as well as everyone else's job, impacts the environment in some way. And now advocating for sustainability has become my No. 1 responsibility." - Ray Anderson, Founder and former Chair of Interface, Inc.

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

www.epa.gov/wastewise

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