

THE WRAGTIMES

The Water, Recycling and Garbage Times

Published by the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority

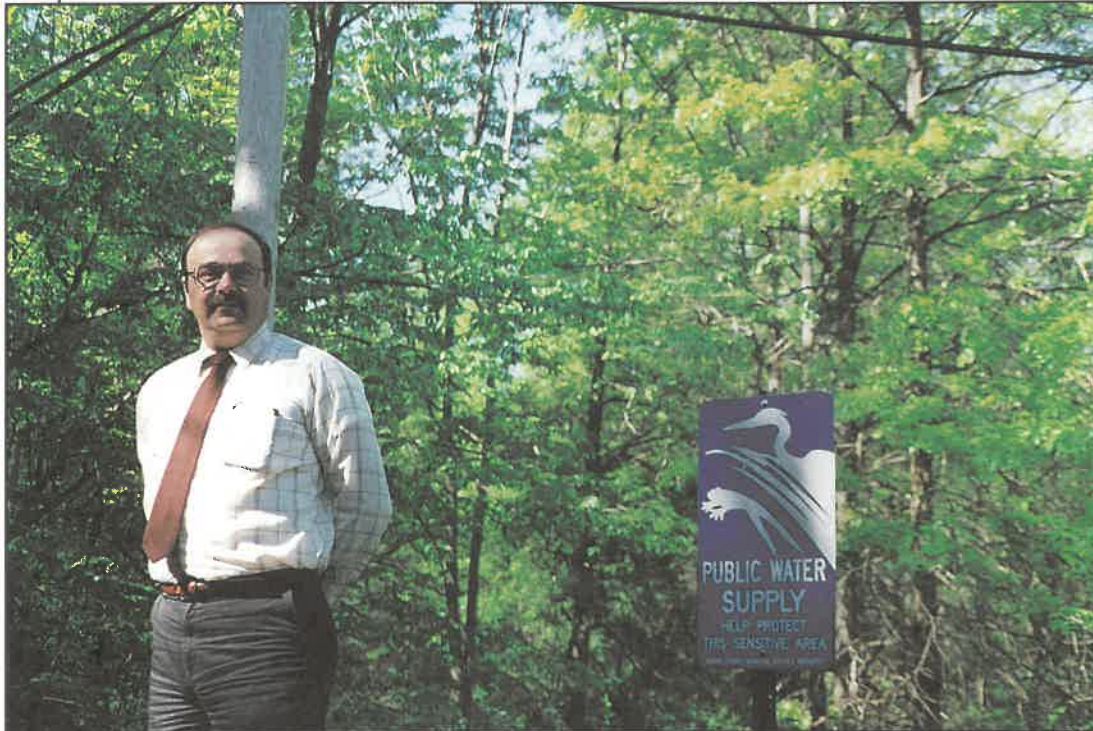
Summer 1997

Volume 16, Issue 1

Going,
going,
gone ...
but not
goodbye

On May 1, 1997, the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit rendered a decision regarding New Jersey's system of waste flow control (WFC). While the ruling stated the WFC system is unconstitutional insofar as it discriminates against out-of-state operators of disposal facilities, it stayed the implementation of its ruling until all defendant appeal opportunities are exhausted. The NJDEP chose to appeal this decision thereby keeping the existing system of WFC in effect until at least October 6, 1997, when the U.S. Supreme Court reconvenes.

**Story cont'd.
on page 2.**



John Scarmozza, MCMUA Chief Engineer, stands next to a new wellfield sign on Pleasant Hill Road in Randolph Township.



MCMUA to construct new well

The MCMUA is beginning construction of the long awaited Alamatong Well No. 6. This new addition to the Authority's wellfield will bolster the system's firm capacity with an additional 1,000 gallons per minute of high quality water.

In this issue:

- ✓ Waste Flow Control
- ✓ Recycling Tax Bill Update
- ✓ Household Haz. Waste
- ✓ Clean Communities
- ✓ Curbside Program
- ✓ Fluorescent Bulbs
- ✓ Recycling Awards Dinner
- ✓ Water Issues

... and much, much more!!!

MCMUA nears pipeline completion in Mt. Arlington

The MCMUA is nearing the completion of the Mt. Arlington/Jefferson Interconnection. All of the pipe along Howard Boulevard from Route 46 in Roxbury to the Jefferson Township/Mt. Arlington boundary (about 26,000 ft. of pipe) has been installed. The two missing pieces of the project, the Mt. Arlington Storage Tank and the Mt. Arlington Booster Station, are scheduled to be bid later this summer.

The Mt. Arlington Storage Tank will be the MCMUA's first elevated water storage tank. Its dimensions are 115 feet high with a 100-foot diameter tank in an 80-foot diameter support column; it will have the capacity of two million gallons.



High school students clean up the Whippany Watershed.

MCMUA receives Whippany Watershed Steward Award

An award was recently presented to the MCMUA for its work with various Wellhead Protection activities in the Whippany Watershed as well as its cooperation and assistance with the tree farm for the Passaic River Coalition's Streamside Improvement Project. The Whippany Watershed states that the MCMUA "has been instrumental with the design and construction of road signs for the Watershed's Environmentally Sensitive Areas."

Continued from Page 1

Gone ... but not goodbye



This WFC system was implemented to foster the development of the necessary facilities to manage New Jersey's solid waste and make the state self-sufficient with respect to solid waste disposal. In addition, the WFC system was designed to insure these facilities would be financially viable by requiring municipalities to send all the waste generated within their towns to their respective county facilities.

In Morris County, this WFC system mandates the county's eastern municipalities to send their waste to the transfer station located in Parsippany-Troy Hills and the western municipalities to send their waste to the transfer station located in Mt. Olive. From these transfer stations, the MCMUA provides for the transportation of the waste to a landfill located in Pennsylvania.

Since Morris County already utilizes out-of-state disposal facilities, it is unclear if its current WFC system is in violation of this recent court ruling. Regardless, the MCMUA is determined to keep making its facilities competitive from a cost and service perspective. Since purchasing these two transfer stations in 1994, the MCMUA has been able to cut the tipping fee by one-third. In 1993 the tipping fee for Type 10 MSW was \$131.75, and as of May 1997, the MCMUA has been able to cut the tipping fee to \$88.40 and anticipates even further cost reductions in the near future.



Clean Communities Grant Program Continues

The MCMUA has received \$57,213 for the 1997 Clean Communities grant program. The program continues this year as a "block grant entitlement" from the Department of Environmental Protection with no oversight requirements, application or final reporting.

Bill A-2573 presently in the Assembly Appropriations Committee would authorize the non-profit Clean Communities Council to form a public/private partnership with the state and oversee the program similarly to the way it had been administered by the NJDEP. The Council hopes to enhance the state-wide education and public relations portion of the grant program while simplifying the application and reporting mechanism.

Meanwhile, through the Clean Communities program, 33 civic and environmental groups have picked up 26,000 pounds of litter along Morris County roads so far this spring.

Municipal Recycling Coordinators' Corner

Since our last municipal recycling coordinators' update (a year and a half ago!), we have had a few changes:

- Bob Gallione, the new administrator and recycling coordinator, replaced Ed Pullan in Jefferson Township.
- One of the dynamic duo from Long Hill Township, Gene Fucci, retired recently. Jerry Testa, who previously shared the title with Gene, remains in the position.
- In Mine Hill, James O'Brien, also Superintendent of the Department of Public Works, replaced Ken O'Brien.
- Tom Czerniecki, who was recycling coordinator in Montville for a short time, recently left. Montville has not yet named a new coordinator.
- Recently, Nancy Salvatore was hired to replace Del St. Louis, who replaced John Seidenburg, in Washington Township.



New 'Greener Thumb' video promotes eco-friendly landscapes

If you would like to improve the health of your lawn and landscape and minimize your use of fertilizers, pesticides and water — you need a "greener thumb."

A newly released Rutgers Cooperative Extension video entitled "A Greener Thumb: How to enhance your home lawn, landscape, *and environment!*" provides how-to tips and techniques to customize your own environmentally friendly lawn and landscape plan.

In addition, video purchasers receive a bonus "Greener Thumb Guide" of Extension fact sheets that explain the greener thumb concepts in detail, a \$2.00 off coupon for a Cooperative Extension plant diagnosis, and a pocket-sized directory of Extension agents and services to assist them with lawn and landscape-related questions.

To order the complete video package, make your check payable to "Rutgers, The State University" for \$19.95, plus \$3.00 shipping and handling, and mail to: A Greener Thumb, The Video, DEENR, ENRS Bldg., P.O. Box 231, Cook College, New Brunswick, NJ 08903, ATT: Michael Olohan. You may also order the video by phone by calling (908) 932-0640. Sorry; no orders will be sent without payment prior to shipping.



We've moved!!!

This past holiday season, while many people were home baking cookies, trimming trees, and lighting candles, the MCMUA staff was busy emptying file cabinets, disconnecting computers, and crash-proofing house plants in preparation for the Big Move. In January of this year, the MCMUA's new address officially became:

300 Mendham Road
P.O. Box 370
Mendham, NJ 07945-0370

Although our telephone numbers did not change, we have listed them below for anyone seeking information concerning water, recycling and garbage:

Recycling (973) 285-8394
Haz. Waste (973) 829-8006
Solid Waste (973) 285-8390
Water (973) 285-8386
Recycling Consolidation Center
(973) 361-3665
Par-Troy Transfer Station
(973) 808-9651
Mt. Olive Transfer Station
(973) 347-8106



Workers from Tri-S, Inc. are busy cleaning up after the June 7, 1997 HHW Disposal Day.

MCMUA to sponsor two household hazardous waste disposal events this fall

Every year the MCMUA sponsors four HHW disposal events -- two in the spring and two in the fall. More than 1,000 people participated in the May 17 and June 7 disposal events.

The fall HHW disposal days will be held on Saturday, September 13, and Sunday, October 19, both at the Morris County Fire Fighters and Police Training Academy, 500 West Hanover Avenue, in Morris Plains (just up the road from Greystone), from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

During these events, Morris County's residents and small quantity commercial household hazardous waste generators can bring their unwanted hazardous materials, such as oil-based paints, herbicides and pesticides, automotive fluids, batteries, small quantities of asbestos (up to 100 lbs., double-bagged and sealed), roofing tar, driveway sealant, and photographic and pool chemicals.

If you have any questions about this program, want directions to the Police Academy, or want to be included in next year's mailing list, please call the MCMUA at (201) 829-8006.

Jersey City water connection moves forward

The MCMUA's Jersey City Interconnection Project is one step closer. Authority staff will be interviewing five consulting engineers as the last step in choosing a firm to design and permit the project. Phase One of the Project will bring as much as 5 million gallons of much-needed water per day to Denville, Mountain Lakes and Boonton Township.

Former Governor Tom Kean snips the green ribbon at the May 6 ceremony to launch the exhibit “Recycling ... As Time Goes By” at the Morris County Library



Participating in the ribbon-cutting ceremony are (l. to r.) Paul Contillo, the former state senator who co-sponsored the mandatory source separation and recycling law; Tom Kean, the former N.J. governor who signed that law on April 20, 1987; and Art Albohn, the former assemblyman who co-sponsored the law.



Rebecca Blades (l.), a graphic artist employed by the Morris County Library, who designed the exhibit, poses just prior to the ceremony with Penny Jones, who assembled the items which are displayed.



“Let them eat cake,” remarks Hy Nadel (l.), MCMUA chairman and creator of the official cake for the ceremony, who shows the confection to Knute Seebohm, director of library services.

Photos by Larry Gindoff



Highlights from the Oscars: the MCMUA's 9th Annual Recycling Awards Dinner ...

And The Oscar Goes To ...

Along with the traditional awards plaques, honorees at the ninth annual Morris County Awards Dinner took home bright green Oscar the Grouch statuettes containing bubble bath, a special touch at the event which was held on November 6, 1996, at the Hanover Manor in East Hanover.

The MCMUA presented the following awards for exceptional achievement in recycling:

Volunteer Awards

- Adept Master Composter - Veronica Morgante, Rockaway Borough
- Outstanding Volunteer - Ron Saharyan, Boonton Township
- Devoted Volunteer Organization - Knights of Columbus, Long Hill Township
- Enthusiasm for Recycling - Robin Birnhak, Niki Conway, Susan Deeks and Maureen Soter, Harding Township
- Multi-Family Dwelling - Steve Plant, Eden Lane Recycling Committee, Hanover Township

Education Awards

- Outstanding Educator - Nancy Giambone, Morris County Educational Services Commission
- Comprehensive School Recycling Program - The Roxbury Public School District
- Outstanding University Recycling Program - Drew University

Business Awards

- Reuse Award - Deloitte & Touche LLP, Parsippany-Troy Hills Township
- Nouveau Recycling Program - The Morristown Partnership, Morristown
- Public-Private Partnership - FCR Morris, Inc., Mine Hill Township

Special Awards

- Recycling Promotion - Recycling Float Participants, Randolph Township
- The "Dynamic Duo" - Sue Conklin and Mark Aluzzo, Kinnelon Borough
- "Re-Cycle" Award - Chester Township
- Continuing Assistance and Enlightenment - The Morris County Library
- Outstanding Service - Frank Schimmenti, Morris County Solid Waste Advisory Council





An army of little Oscars waiting to be presented!



Outside the restaurant, Rocco Mitchell, FCR Plant Manager, admires Bob Christman's Oscar the Grouch artwork on the garbage truck owned by Frank Bace, a good friend of Bob's. The MUA presented Frank with a certificate for "collecting and transporting yucky trash in the most gorgeous garbage truck on planet Earth."



Two among many awards winners are the "dynamic duo," Sue Conklin and Mark Aluzzo of the Kinnelon recycling program. Flanking them are Larry Gindoff (l.) and Vince Novak.



During the mini-fashion show, Freeholder Joan Bramhall carries a handbag made from a used New Jersey license plate.

(Photos by Pam Hasegawa and Kate Coronari)



Recipients of certificates of achievement for publishing notable municipal recycling notifications in 1996: Front row -- Debra Ward, Roxbury; Sue Ruiz, Rockaway Twp.; Sylvia Banbor, Rockaway Borough; Robin Birnhak, Harding Twp.; Rich Lovallo, Lincoln Park. Center Row -- Clem Ferdinando, Randolph; Steve Koval, Boonton Town; Evelyn Brown, Jefferson; John Mitro, Florham Park; Karen Becker, Butler; Joe Linfante, Parsippany. Back row -- Doug Smith, Madison; Ed Bolcar, Boonton Town; Bob Sautter, Kinnelon; Chuck Dziedzic, Chatham Borough. Not pictured are representatives of the following municipalities to whom certificates were also given: Chester Borough, Montville, Pequannock and Riverdale.



Morris County SWAC member Frank Schimmenti, recipient of the Outstanding Service Award, reflects on his many years of SWAC membership.



Wearing a skirt fashioned from old neckties, Randolph Twp. employee Dolores Madison is the height and length of fashion.



The party's over and a guest helps herself to some decals which she'll use at home or work. The MUA will happily supply decals and other promotional materials to anyone who requests them; interested parties should call (973) 285-8394.

**Recycling ... As
Time Goes By**

**But I don't have
enough time ...**

THE ORIGINAL.

MONDAINE®
HOMAGE TO
THE UNKNOWN
DESIGNER



 In honour of the
unknown designer
of the paper-clip.  Brass case made of
100% post consumer
recycled metal.

Swiss  Watch

*Announcing ...
The 10th Annual Morris County
Recycling Awards Dinner*

Friday, November 7, 1997

Hanover Manor, East Hanover

Cocktails - 6:30 p.m.

Dinner - 7:31 p.m.

*It's no time to waste!
Mark your calendar today!*

Shade Tree Composting Sites Open to Landscapers

On June 2, 1997, the Shade Tree composting sites in Parsippany and Mount Olive opened their gates to accept vegetative waste from landscapers. In the past, the sites were only open to municipalities with signed agreements. Landscapers need to register with the Shade Tree Commission and will be required to pay in advance. For more information, please call Mike Sanchelli of the Shade Tree Commission at (973) 285-2930.



Recycling Tax Reauthorization Lingers

On December 31, 1996, the recycling tax expired. The tax was \$1.50 per ton on solid waste facilities in New Jersey, excluding incinerators. Efforts were made at the end of 1996 to reauthorize the tax, but the bill was reapproved by the Senate only and never made it through the Assembly. Bill S-1729 is currently in the Assembly Appropriations Committee. According to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, the municipal recycling tonnage grants will end with the payment of the 1995 grant in June 1997.

The New Jersey Forum and the Association of New Jersey Recyclers (ANJR) have recently begun an effort to have several amendments written into the reauthorization bill to make the tax more appealing. The amendments are as follows:

- Inclusion of incinerators in the tax;
- A requirement that grant payments are made by a certain date and are based on the previous year's tonnage to expedite the payment process;
- Redistribution of the fund to increase the portion to municipalities from 40% to 60%;
- A requirement that the grant money be spent for recycling purposes only; and
- A decrease in the amount taxed from \$1.50 per ton to \$1.00 per ton.

The MCMUA recently polled the municipalities to see if there was support for a County recycling tax in the absence of a State tax. Two-thirds of the municipalities responded and, of those two-thirds, 73% were in favor of a County recycling tax. Since support for the recycling tax is still being deliberated, the MCMUA decided to cease collecting the money for the tax. Effective May 10, 1997, the tipping fee at the transfer stations was lowered \$1.50 from \$89.90 to \$88.40 per ton of municipal solid waste. The money collected from the \$1.50 tax from January 1, 1997, through May 11, 1997, an amount totalling between \$150,000 and \$200,000, will be used to lower tipping fees even more in the future. While a recycling tax would provide some ongoing revenue to municipal recycling programs, the Morris County programs are well-established and should survive successfully without the grant support.

Composting Cuts Costs

Effective September 1, 1997, the cost to dump a cubic yard of vegetative waste at the two Shade Tree Composting sites will plunge to \$1.00 per cubic yard from \$3.90 per cubic yard. The price reduction is a result of increased production of better quality mulch that is sold to companies such as Scott's. Municipalities should realize significant savings from this cost cut. The \$1.00 per cubic yard does not apply to brush mixed with grass and leaves. Only the Parsippany Shade Tree site will accept brush mixed with grass and leaves for \$7.00 per cubic yard.

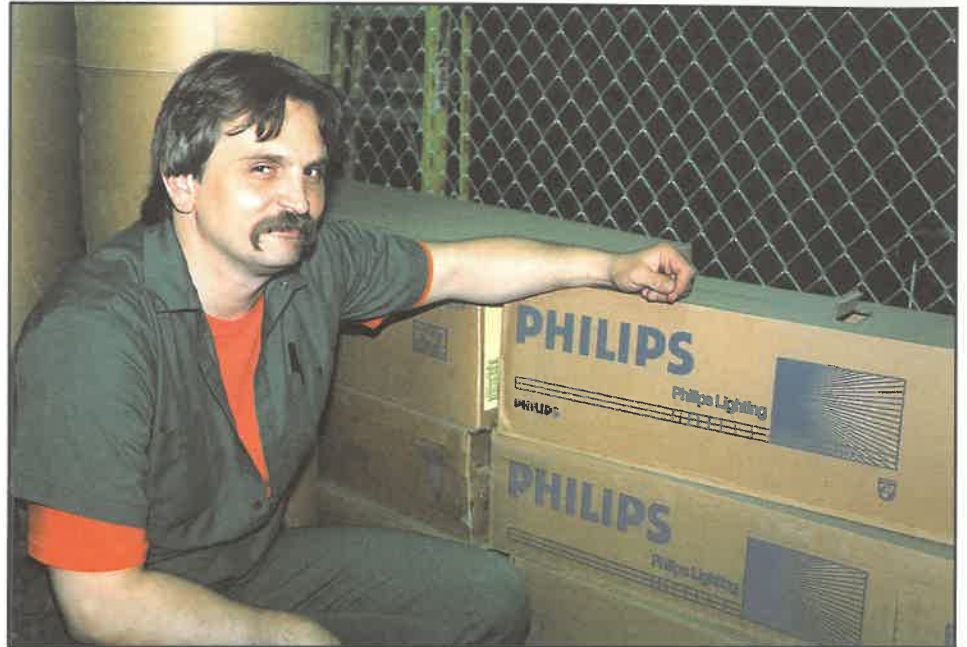




Two municipalities save \$50,000+ each by recycling with the MCMUA

In April and May, respectively, Mendham Township and the Town of Dover began participating in the Morris County Curbside Recycling Program (MCCRP). Mendham Township, brand new to the curbside recycling program, benefits tremendously by saving \$50,000 annually. As an added benefit, the recyclables from the entire Township are collected in one day. The Town of Dover is returning to the MCCRP after completing a 14-month contract with a private hauler. Dover will benefit from a savings of \$55,000 each year. The Town had previously been a part of the MCCRP for over three years.

In addition to these two municipalities, the MCCRP also collects recyclables from the Town of Boonton, Boonton Township, Chatham Township, Chester Borough, Denville, Florham Park, Morris Plains, Netcong, Randolph and Rockaway Borough. Any municipality interested in curbside recycling collection can call the MCMUA at (973) 285-8392 for more information.



Dave Mohr, Assistant Supervisor at the MCMUA Recycling Consolidation Center, crouches in front of some soon-to-be-recycled fluorescent light bulbs at the Center in Dover.

Fluorescent bulb recycling is an “illuminating” experience

Fluorescent lamps are recycled — not only because America needs more glass, aluminum or calcium phosphate — but also because the mercury the bulbs contain is an extremely toxic substance that can be easily removed from the solid waste stream and recovered for reuse. While the recovery of the other three lamp components is a beneficial feature of lamp recycling, mercury reclamation is the primary concern and objective.

In March 1997, the MCMUA began operating a universal waste pilot recycling program designed to manage fluorescent light bulbs and ballasts. The MCMUA is currently one of only three New Jersey counties granted permission by the NJDEP to operate a pilot program under New Jersey’s Universal Waste Rule (N.J.A.C. 7:26A). By operating this pilot program, the MCMUA can offer large quantity hazardous waste generators an exemption from complying with the manifesting requirements for fluorescent bulbs and ballasts as set forth in New Jersey’s hazardous waste regulations.

One unique aspect of the MCMUA’s pilot program is that all types of generators — individuals, small “Mom and Pop” stores, institutions, and large commercial establishments — have indicated an interest in recycling their fluorescent bulbs. People view this program as a potential cost savings, either in terms of lower management costs or in avoided solid waste disposal fees.

In only three short months of operation, the MCMUA has managed over 23,000 fluorescent light bulbs and 1,000 ballasts. This translates into approximately 1.27 pounds of mercury being rescued from New Jersey’s waste stream.

For more information about this program, or other hazardous waste management programs offered by the MCMUA, please call (973) 829-8006.

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