## THE WRAGTIMES

The Water, Recycling and Garbage Times Published by the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority

Summer 1998

Volume 17, Issue 1



A view of the new Morris County permanent household hazardous waste facility in May 1998.



## Household hazardous waste facility blooms this spring







Household hazardous waste (HHW) disposal suddenly became easier for Morris County residents and small businesses when the MCMUA recently began operating a permanent HHW facility.

This facility, one of only three in New Jersey, is open to the public yearround on selected Friday and Saturday

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### Inside this issue:

- Waste Flow Control
- Composting
- Household Haz. Waste
- Spotlight on Riverdale
- - Recycling Awards Dinner
- America Recycles Day The MCMUA Turns 40

... and much, much more!!!

## **MCMUA** retains waste flow control

There has been a great deal of confusion about the permissibility of waste flow control following recent decisions by the Third Circuit Court of Appeals and the United States Supreme Court. The question is, how did Morris County retain waste flow control?

The answer to this question is complicated, but in short, the Courts decided waste flow control can be permissible if the solid waste management system (the "system") to which waste is being directed was procured in a nondiscriminatory manner. Morris County procured its system, consisting of landfill capacity in Pennsylvania and in-county transfer stations, in a nondiscriminatory

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Geoff Knapp, the newest MCMUA staff member, is a freshwater wetlands expert who loves to play ice hockey in his spare time.

## Employee spotlight

Geoff Knapp was hired in August 1997 by the MCMUA as an environmental specialist with the Water Division, under Chief Engineer John Scarmozza. He is a graduate of Southern Connecticut State University with a B.S. degree in outdoor education and a minor in environmental science.

At the MCMUA, Geoff's responsibilities include well siting and implementing a geographic information system for mapping of land use and wetlands as well as aquifer recharge area delineation. He is also involved in the Morris County Open Space and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund and the Wellhead Protection Program.

## Household hazardous waste facility opens in April

mornings, by appointment only. Both residents and conditionally-exempt small quantity commercial HHW generators can dispose of and/or recycle hazardous wastes such as oil-based paints, herbicides and pesticides, automotive fluids, batteries, small quantities of asbestos (up to 100 lbs., double-bagged, wetted and sealed), roofing tar, driveway sealant, propane cylinders, and photographic and pool chemicals.

By operating this facility, the MCMUA is providing Morris County residents and small businesses with an outlet for the proper management of their hazardous materials and the resultant reduction in the amount of hazardous waste in the municipal solid waste stream. This, in turn, helps to ensure that New Jersey's water supply remains clean and free from toxic materials.

The MCMUA continues to operate its regular HHW cleanup programs four times a year. This year two have been held at the Morris County Firefighter's & Police Training Academy, 500 West Hanover Avenue, Parsippany (just up the road from Greystone), from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 19 and Saturday, May 23. Two more will occur on Sunday, September 20 and Saturday, October 24, 1998.

For more information on the MCMUA HHW program, or to make an appointment to drop off HHW at the permanent facility, please call (973) 829-8006, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

## America Recycles Day

On November 15, 1997, more than 100 governmental and private organizations across the country launched the first annual America Recycles Day to raise public awareness about the importance of buying products made from recycled materials.



People signed cards pledging to buy recycled products, recycle more or support a recycling event. These cards then went into a national drawing for the "American Green Dream House," which is to be built using recycled materials on a lot chosen by the winner.

Morris County celebrated America Recycles Day with several events and collected a total of 646 pledge cards (out of 6,100 collected throughout New Jersey). A grand total of 750,000 pledge cards were turned in from all over the country. The winner of the American Green Dream House was a man from Fort Hood, Texas. New Jersey held its own drawing for several prizes prior to turning the pledge cards in to the national giveaway. Coincidentally, one of the winners was from Morris Township.

Local sponsors of the event included Home Depot, the Steel Recycling Institute, Safety-Kleen, Browning-Ferris Industries, Inc., Union Camp Corporation, the U.S. Postal Service and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

### Waste flow ...

manner. In January 1998, the NJDEP concurred and subsequently reaffirmed the existing waste flow control requirements in Morris County. With this NJDEP approval, all solid waste generated in Morris County continues to be directed to one of the two transfer stations prior to transport to a Pennsylvania landfill.

The MCMUA believes that these decisions, and the resulting ability of Morris County to retain its waste flow control, are good for Morris County municipalities, residents and businesses. Waste flow control continues to be maintained by the existing Morris County Solid Waste Management Plan (the "Plan") and system. This system serves Morris County well by providing economic, convenient, reliable environmentally sound access to solid waste disposal and other support services such as recycling, composting, household hazardous waste disposal and more. In addition, the County Plan provides long-term access to these services while currently assuming less than one-half of one percent of the state's overall solid waste debt.

Benefits of Morris County's solid waste system include the following:

 Limiting contingent environmental liability exposure caused by improper disposal and/or disposal at facilities that may encounter pollution problems.

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A mannequin wears a wedding gown made from used coffee filters and tea bags as she stands next to the display unit at the tenth annual Morris County Recycling Awards Dinner. Betsy Perez, who designed the gown, received the Coffee and Tea, Time After Time Award. (See story, p. 5.)

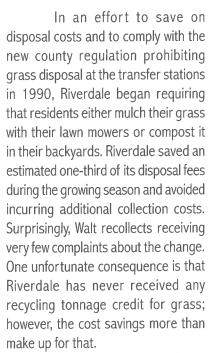
## Municipal Recycling Coordinators' Corner

Since the last municipal recycling coordinators' update (nine months ago), a few changes have occurred:

- Richard Farrel took over the position of recycling coordinator in Montville Township.
- Pat Scherr, recycling coordinator for Chester Borough, retired in November 1997. James Doherty, the borough administrator, now holds the title.

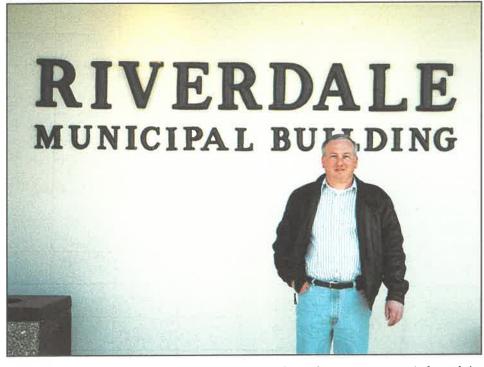


At the Association of New Jersey Recyclers Annual Meeting on March 25, 1998, Sylvia Banbor, part-time recycling coordinator for Rockaway Borough, Edward Haberzettl of Hewlett Packard in Rockaway Township and Ellen Ross of Lincoln Park graduated from The New Jersey Recycling Certification Series. Congratulations! Other Certified Recycling Professionals (CRPs) in Morris County include: Marc Macaluso of East Hanover; Tom Dittmar of Lucent Technologies in Whippany; John Ciaramella, Hy Nadel, Vince Novak and Kathleen Pelak of the MCMUA; Herb Berman of Mount Olive; Joe Linfante of Parsippany-Troy Hills; and Dick Canon and Debra Ward of Roxbury. Any CRP whose name is not listed, should call Kathy at (973) 285-8392.



About five years ago the borough made another cost-saving decision and reduced garbage collection from twice a week to once a week. Since the borough pays the tipping fee directly to the transfer station, this cut the cost of garbage collection in half. Recycling collection replaced the second garbage collection. Residents are allowed to dispose of a maximum of four 32gallon containers of trash each collection day. One bulk item and scrap metal are acceptable for collection on one designated garbage day each month. The biggest complaint received from residents is that the borough does not allow any construction debris to be put out for garbage collection. Residents are expected to arrange for disposal of that material on their own.





Walter Mahon, who has served as Riverdale recycling coordinator for ten years, poses in front of the municipal building.

# Recycling Spotlight – Riverdale Borough

In terms of population, the Borough of Riverdale is the third smallest municipality in Morris County. Located in the northeastern corner of Morris County, Riverdale borders Passaic County, Butler, Kinnelon and Pequannock. Within its two square miles, Riverdale is home to approximately 2,500 people who reside in 900 households. Routes 287 and 23 intersect in the center of the borough. Most of the residents live east of Route 287, because the western portion of the borough is very rocky and houses the Riverdale Quarry.

For the past ten years, Walter Mahon has been the Riverdale recycling coordinator. Walt is also the superintendent of the department of public works that includes only three other full-time employees. Recycling and garbage collection are done by private haulers. The department of public works collects brush, leaves and Christmas trees at curbside. Walt is also the Clean Communities Coordinator in the borough.

Riverdale's recycling program involves curbside collection every other week of aluminum and steel cans, glass and plastic bottles, newspaper, mixed paper, corrugated cardboard, brown paper bags and telephone books. Vehicle and household batteries are accepted from residents at three private gas stations and automobile repair businesses in town. Walt collects the household batteries from those three businesses on a regular basis and takes them to the MCMUA Recycling Consolidation Center. As advertised in the municipality's recycling newsletter, the gas stations also accept motor oil for \$1.00/gallon. Tires can be brought to the DPW garage at a cost of \$2.00 each.



# It's no time to waste at the 10th annual recycling awards dinner!



The official theme was "It's no time to waste," and awards reflecting that sentiment were given at the tenth annual Morris County Recycling Awards Dinner on November 7, 1997, at the Hanover Manor in East Hanover.

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

### Volunteer Awards

Devoted Volunteers - Robert Leaming, M.D., and Rosanna White, Boonton Township
Devoted Volunteers - Don Budis and Barbara McCloskey, Rockaway Borough
Clean Communities - The Three Rs Award - Friends of the Rockaway River
Life Saving Through Recycling - The Florham Park Volunteer Fire Department
Recycling: More Than Bottles, Cans and Newspapers - Richard Lovallo, Lincoln Park

### **Education Awards**

Composting Promotion - Helen Mageau, Morris County Park Commission
Ecology Day Program - Alexander Hamilton School, the Morris School District
Making a Difference -The students of William Pecoraro, Randolph Middle School
Training the Teachers - Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences Institute, Piscataway

### **Business Awards**

The Double R Award - Almetek Industries, Inc., Mount Olive Comprehensive Program - Lucent Technologies, Inc., Mount Olive Humanitarian Action - PaineWebber, Morristown Excellence in Institutional Recycling - Northwest Covenant Medical Center

### Special Awards

Recycling ... As Time Goes By - Rebecca Blades, Morris County Library Outstanding Recycling Coordinator - Vicki Berkowicz, Picatinny Arsenal Coffee and Tea, Time After Time - Betsy Perez, Cynthia Steffe Women's Sportswear, New York

### Recipients of Achievement for Reaching the 50% and/or 60% Recycling Goals by 1995

## **50% Goal**Netcong Borough

#### 60% Goal

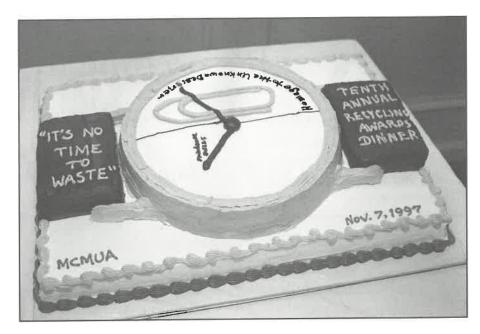
Boonton Township Chester Township Harding Township Long Hill Township Mendham Borough Mendham Township Rockaway Borough Roxbury Township Wharton Borough

#### Both 50% and 60% Goals

Butler Borough
Chatham Borough
Chatham Township
East Hanover Township
Hanover Township
Lincoln Park Borough
Madison Borough
Morris Plains Borough
Morris Township
Mountain Lakes Borough
Parsippany-Troy Hills Township
Pequannock Township
Randolph Township
Rockaway Township



Signing an American Recycles Day pledge card is Carol Rufener, executive director of Morris 2000 and member of the MCMUA board.



Flour and sugar are transformed into a timepiece --once again, MUA Board member Hy Nadel creates a theme-related cake. This particular cake is modeled after the Mondaine watch called "Homage to the unknown designer" (of the paper clip, that is). Mondaine watch cases are made from 100 percent post-consumer recycled materials.

(Awards Dinner photos by Pam Hasegawa)



MCMUA employees Aileen Ozden (I.) and Liz Sweedy greet guests at the registration table. (Note that a polyvinyl chloride (PVC) animal cracker jar in the shape of a teddy bear is being used to house door prize tickets.)







Kathleen Pelak carries a Tyvek recycling pouch as she models a rain jacket made from the same material. The pouch is to be used for collecting used Tyvek envelopes which will be recycled. For information about this recycling program, call (800) 448-9835.



A door prize which exemplifies inter-authority generosity -- Larry Gindoff displays the tee shirt donated by the Solid Waste Authority of West Palm Beach County, Florida.





Rockaway Borough residents Pat Budis (I.) and Don Budis, her Abraham Lincoln look-alike husband, share a light-hearted moment at the dinner.



Randolph is well represented by middle school teacher Bill Pecoraro and some of his students who received an award for the project which they executed during the 1996-97 school year, along with Betsy Perez who graduated from Randolph High School prior to attending Parsons School of Design. Front row, (I. to r.): Betsy Perez, Payal Kadakia, Elizabeth Claps. Back row: Bill Pecoraro, Michael Griffin, the mannequin, John Puritz, Jason McFarlane, Robert Freiman, Tim Wong. Not pictured: students Dana DeLisi and Carolyn Salisbury.



Louise Abato holds a crushed polyvinyl chloride bottle stuffed with fiber made from recycled PVC. She wears an Eco Rhovyl sweater which is made from 70 percent recycled PVC and 30 percent wool.

# Popcorn! Peanuts! (the inedible polystyrene kind, that is)

Call 1-800-828-2214 to acquire the name of the nearest retailer who will accept clean, dry polystyrene packing material (commonly referred to as either popcorn or peanuts). Some of the

Story cont'd. under photo



Vince Novak holds two bags of polystyrene "peanuts" which he plans to deliver to a local retailer who will reuse this packing material.

## Recycling & You Perfect Togethe Please plan to attend the eleventh annual Morris County Recycling Awards Dinner\* on Friday, November 6, 1998, at the Hanover Manor in East Hanover. The cash bar opens at 6:30 p.m.; dinner will be served at 7:31 p.m. R.S.V.P. to Penny Jones by Monday, October 5, 1998, by calling (973) 285-8395. \*Anyone who is passionate about schmoozing and recycling should plan to be present!

### Story cont'd.

retailers will accept chunks of polystyrene packing material, also, but one should call prior to making a delivery to inquire about the types of acceptable polystyrene. By the way, the retailers reuse the polystyrene which they accept.

If there is no expanded polystyrene (EPS) peanut/popcorn recycling available in a given community, one may send it via U.S. Postal Service or UPS to one of the following recycling locations:

### **FP International**

4800A Wheaton Drive Atlanta, GA 30336

111 Alan Drive Harmony Business Park Newark, DE 19711

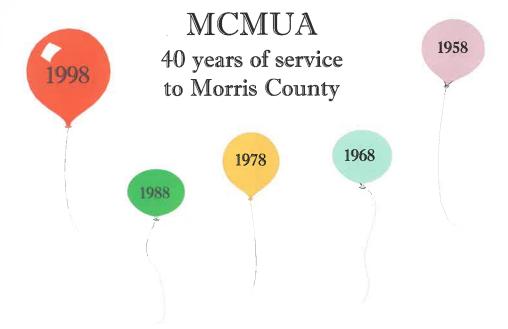
1093 Charter Street Redwood City, CA 94063

16850 Canal Street Thornton, IL 60476

6195 East Randolph Street Commerce, CA 90040

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The Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority ("MCMUA") was created by a Board of Chosen Freeholders resolution adopted on September 24, 1958. The MCMUA was granted the authorization to "investigate and study the means and methods whereby the existing inadequate supply of water and polluted conditions may be abated and thereafter to acquire, lease, construct, maintain, operate and use such reservoirs, basins, dams, canals, aqueducts, standpipes, conduits, pipelines, mains, pumping and ventilating stations, treatment, purification and filtration plants or works, trunk, intercepting and outlet sewers, water distribution systems, waterworks, sources of water supply and wells, for the providing of and distribution of an adequate supply of water."

The very first MCMUA members included all five freeholders at that time. Freeholder Norman Griffiths was elected as the first chairperson during the initial organization meeting. The minutes of the historic meeting reflect not only a concern that water was being exported from Morris County, but also a need for, as Chairman Griffiths stated, a commitment "to further the needs of the citizens of Morris County and the municipalities of the county in the providing of a suitable water supply for use of the county, not only for the immediate future, but the distant future." Through its 40 year history, the MCMUA has gone a long way to fulfill this commitment through the development of its wellfields and infrastructure to provide water to 12 Morris County municipalities. The MCMUA water facilities currently include three 3.0 million gallon (MG) storage tanks, one 2.0 MG storage tank, 30 miles of transmission main, several pump stations and meter chambers, and eight groundwater production wells. Additional infrastructure and improvements and customers are on the horizon.

Another historic event occurred on September 23, 1987, when the freeholders formally identified the MCMUA as the county's solid waste management implementing agency. Again confronted with a county-wide dilemma -- what to do with Morris County's solid waste -- the freeholders designated the MCMUA as the agency to help provide some solutions. MCMUA Board Member Ted Eppel, whose 17 years of service distinguishes him as the longest-reigning member, remembers a late night

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### Waste flow ...

- Municipal solid waste disposal rates which:
  - have been falling since 1994;
  - do not necessitate the need to impose a tax on municipal solid waste to cover the county's debt burden; and
  - √ provide long-term security from tipping fee increases over the rate of inflation.
- Infrastructure designed to serve Morris County and its municipalities.
- An implementing agency, the MCMUA, which can be trusted because its actions protect the environment. Also, the MCMUA has limited costs while simultaneously increasing services for the county.

In addition, while most of New Jersey scrambles to bring solid waste plans and systems into compliance with the court rulings, Morris County's long-term solid waste management outlook is extremely positive. It has secured solutions with respect to the major elements of solid waste management without assuming a large quantity of debt.

Anyone who would like to learn more about the benefits of the established Morris County solid waste management system may contact the MCMUA at (973) 285-8390.





A genetic link to recycling, perhaps? Penny Jones poses with the Rex Award in front of the framed obituary of Albert Ansel, her maternal grandfather who coordinated a scrap paper drive in Elgin, Illinois, during World War II; the proceeds from the sale of that paper paid for the construction of a swimming pool at Camp Big Timber, the local Boy Scout camp.

## Local recyclers win state awards

At the 1997 Annual Recycling Symposium & Awards Luncheon, sponsored by the New Jersey Recycling Forum (The Forum) and the Association of New Jersey Recyclers (ANJR), two awards were presented to recipients from Morris County. Our own Penny Jones, recycling education specialist of the MCMUA, and Drew University, of Madison, each received an award. The luncheon, held on September 30, 1998, in Princeton, was a collaborative effort of the Forum, ANJR and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

Penny Jones was presented with the prestigious REX (Recycling Excellence) Award. There have been only three other recycling professionals to receive this award since it was first presented in 1994. For the past 15 years, Penny has been dedicated to the recycling cause. In 1983, she initiated the Morris Plains recycling program when she wrote a letter to a councilman suggesting the formation of a recycling committee, of which she became the first chairperson. Penny served as recycling coordinator of Morris Plains for seven and one-half years. In February 1985 she began working for the county as its recycling education specialist. In this capacity, Penny excels at keeping Morris County abreast of what's transpiring in the ever-changing recycling and reuse arena. She has created and presented countless educational programs to Morris County residents of all ages and has organized and hosted recycling events, including the annual awards dinner. Penny has also been an active board and committee member of ANJR for the past six years. She teaches part of the Cook College Recycling Certification Series and has been asked to give

Story cont'd. in next column

presentations at the National Recycling Coalition's Annual Congress and Exposition twice. Congratulations to Penny for being recognized by her peers for her outstanding accomplishments!

Drew University received the Institutional Award. Drew's recycling program includes food waste collection from the cafeteria, complete composting of vegetative waste and an on-going education program. In 1996, Drew also received an award from the MCMUA for Outstanding University Recycling Program. Congratulations to Drew University for being committed to recycling and surpassing the minimum requirements imposed by the county and the state!

# Just a friendly reminder that we've moved!!!



In January 1997, the official address of the MCMUA became:

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

Our telephone numbers are:

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

## MCMUA celebrates 40th anniversary

phone call from then Freeholder Carol Murphy, advising him that the Water Authority was going to be expanded in size by an additional four members (to a total of nine rather than five) and was about to handle the county's solid waste crisis!

After the honeymoon period, the MCMUA embraced its new responsibility and developed a well-balanced solid waste management system. Several components of this system include:

- Out-of-state landfill agreement
- Two solid waste transfer stations
- Recycling center
- Curbside recycling program
- Two vegetative waste composting facilities
- Household hazardous waste facility and disposal program
- Marketing agreements with FCR, Garden State Paper and others

Alex Slavin, the first MCMUA executive director (1987-1994) and current chairman, has stated that all of the board members are proud of its accomplishments and look forward to continuing to provide good service to county residents for the next 40 years. The board is particularly proud that since 1994, all MCMUA revenue is generated by user fees and grants and is not dependent upon the county tax base.



## Compost comes of age

The MCMUA has two vegetative waste recycling centers that process almost 150,000 cubic yards of leaves, grass and brush generated by municipalities and private landscapers. These materials are then processed into leaf compost and double-ground wood mulch and delivered to residences during April through October. Compost and wood mulch is also sold to landscapers and large contractors.

### **Double-Ground Wood Mulch (Woodchips)**

5 cubic yards - \$40 per load 10 cubic yards - \$70 per load

### **Screened Compost**

5 cubic yards - \$40 per load 10 cubic yards - \$70 per load

### Free delivery is included with every purchase!!!

Please call the Shade Tree Commission, Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., at (973) 285-2928 or (973) 631-5185 to place an order.

# Two more join county curbside recycling program



In 1997 the Morris County Curbside Recycling Program (MCCRP) grew with the addition of Mendham Township and the Town of Dover. So far in 1998, two more municipalities have joined the program. Hanover Township began participating in January, and Mendham Borough began in April.

Hanover Township previously handled collection with its own public works department. The township collected selected materials each recycling day, which meant that some materials were collected only every other month. With MCCRP, all materials are picked up on the same day, every other week. Additionally, some new materials have been added to the list of materials accepted in Hanover Township.

The Mendham Borough schedule remains very similar to the one which was previously in place. With MCCRP, however, the borough will receive two additional recycling pickups each year, since collection has been switched from twice a month to every other week.

In addition to these four municipalities, the MCCRP also includes: Town of Boonton, Boonton Township, Chatham Township, Chester Borough, Denville, Florham Park, Morris Plains, Netcong, Randolph and Rockaway Borough. For more information about MCCRP please call (973) 285-8392.

## Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority

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Frank Markewicz
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