

THE WRAGTIMES

The Water, Recycling and Garbage Times

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Newtech Recycling Inc. employee Raphael Mancilla is in the process of shrink-wrapping computer monitors which have been delivered to the Computer/T.V. Drop-off Day held on April 14, 2001, at the Morris County Firefighters and Police Training Academy. (Photo by Kate Coronari)

Much Ado About Electronics ...

Do you have old, outdated electronic products (e.g., personal computers and peripherals, laptops, televisions) in your office or home? If so, you're not alone. According to the Institute for Self-Reliance, approximately 75 percent of obsolete electronics are being stored or warehoused until there is agreement on the best way to manage these materials.

The average life span of a computer bought today is three years, and that number is shrinking. The lightning-fast pace of computer obsolescence has created a backlog of equipment with nowhere to go. It has also raised questions about who is responsible for the expensive collection, transportation, dismantling and recycling of old computers. Last year, the National Recycling Coalition, an industry group, conducted the first large-scale survey of America's electronic recycling efforts. The results were staggering. Between now and 2007, the survey found, 500 million personal computers will become obsolete. In 1998 alone, 20 million computers were taken out of service; only 2.3 million were recycled.

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Recycling Funding Is Renewed For Municipalities



For the first time since 1996, the N.J. Department of Environmental Protection will distribute recycling tonnage grant money to municipalities.

The money will be distributed in 2001 based on the tonnage data in municipal recycling reports.

This funding is the direct result of a \$5.5 million budget appropriation and will be distributed to municipalities only, unlike in the past when tonnage grant money was given to counties and businesses (to the latter through a state-run loan program).

The Association of N.J. Recyclers played a significant role in securing this funding.



These first graders at Hillcrest School in Morristown have just observed and participated in Liz Sweedy's presentation featuring the story **The Wartville Wizard**. The presentation focuses on litter prevention, recycling and protecting planet Earth. Back row, l. to r.: Michael LoPinto, Ryan Flynn, Eric Meza, Carolina Gonzalez, Cassandra Shipe. Front row, l. to r.: Yenifer Flor, Anna Maria Trejos, Kyle Swann-Davis, Halley Hathaway. (Photo by Liz Sweedy)

Rockaway Basin Well Exploration



MCMUA Chief Engineer John Scarmozza, Water Superintendent Randy Stalter and Construction Inspector Frank Del Negro observe well-drilling operations at the new wellfield site in the Rockaway River basin. The MCMUA continues to explore groundwater resources to provide additional water supplies to Morris County municipalities. (Photo by Geoff Knapp)

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Much Ado ...

The remaining are assumed to be languishing in attics, basements and office storage closets or, worse, they have been thrown into the garbage. Once in a landfill, a computer monitor can be toxic; each cathode-ray tube, or "CRT," contains four to six pounds of lead. In addition, computers, also known as "CPUs" or "PCs," house backup batteries that contain heavy metals.

But with the right systems in place, all obsolete computers can be reused or recycled. If a PC is no more than five years old and is still in good condition, it can be resold or donated. Computers beyond their useful life can be disassembled -- or "demanufactured" -- and sold for parts, or their raw materials -- steel, plastic, aluminum, gold, silver, copper and glass which can be recycled into a different consumer product.

Computer components have changed over the years, but a PC today is typically 40 percent steel, 30 percent to 40 percent plastic, 10 percent aluminum and 10 percent other metals, including copper, gold, silver, cadmium and platinum. A monitor adds glass and lead to the components.

If a computer cannot be resold or donated, recycling companies take apart the machine -- by hand or with shredders -- and separate the materials. Scrap steel is shipped to mills to be melted down for use in cars and construction beams, among other things. Aluminum can be made into cans and foil. Precious metals are refined and sold to jewelers, dentists and chip makers. Refined copper can be reused in wiring, pipes and computer circuitry. Recycled lead finds its way into car batteries and film.

Glass and plastic are more complicated. Leaded glass, used in monitors, cannot be easily recycled, so it is often crushed and used as an industrial abrasive or to make asphalt. Non-leaded glass can be crushed and turned into usable glass.

Plastics from older computers often have paint and metallic coatings that can contaminate the waste stream. But even when computer plastic can be separated into pure streams, there are not many markets for it. DMC Electronics Recycling Company, based in Newfields, N.H., sends three million pounds of plastic each year to be recycled into pothole filler. "We pay a vendor 5 cents a pound to take it away and recycle it," said Richard Campbell, director of corporate relations for the company. "We would rather pay than see it all end up in a landfill."

The potential is there for greater recycling. I.B.M.'s IntelliStation E Pro computer has eight major parts made of 100 percent recycled plastic, and the covers of its RS/6000 server contain 25 percent recycled plastic from several sources, including old computers.

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All gussied up! MCMUA curbside vehicles now sport the blue and green MUA logo (please note the water drop and the recycling symbol in the logo). (Photo by Kate Coronari)

MUNICIPAL RECYCLING COORDINATORS' CORNER

It has been two years since the last update in the spring '99 WRAGTimes, so there is lots to report on municipal recycling coordinators' "comings and goings."

- ⇒ **Janet LaChance**, DPW secretary in Boonton Town, officially took over as coordinator at the start of 2000. Janet has been with the town for eight years.
- ⇒ **Sandy Sindlinger** of Boonton Township retired in June 2000 after ten years of service and moved to Hawaii!
- ⇒ **Patricia DiCenzo**, who has been secretary of the Boonton Township Police Department for almost ten years, acquired the title of recycling coordinator when Sandy retired.
- ⇒ **Henry Underhill**, Chatham borough administrator for 16 years, now works for Sparta in Sussex County. **Bob Venezia**, a five-year Chatham Borough DPW employee, became recycling coordinator after Henry left, and recently Bob was promoted to the position of DPW superintendent.
- ⇒ **Jim Doherty**, Chester Borough administrator for four years, now works in Wantage in Sussex County.
- ⇒ **Phil Smolha**, who is also the tax assessor for the borough, replaced Jim Doherty as coordinator.
- ⇒ **Bob Sautter**, the Kinnelon DPW superintendent, retired in December 2000 after 43 years of service! **Jeff LaPooh**, who previously worked as foreman for Little Falls Township in Passaic County, was hired to replace Bob in January 2001.
- ⇒ **Barry Lewis**, Mine Hill administrator, became coordinator in April 1999 when **James O'Brien** left.
- ⇒ **Joe Giordano** was promoted to Morris Township DPW superintendent after Dick Walter retired in August 2000. Dick worked for the township for 12 years and had a total of 35 years in public works. Previously Dick and Joe shared the title of municipal recycling coordinator.
- ⇒ **Jim (Babe) Cutler**, Morristown DPW superintendent, retired in May 2000 after providing 32 years of service!
- ⇒ **Vince Molnar** was promoted to DPW superintendent after Jim Cutler retired.
- ⇒ **Jan Gordon**, a Mount Arlington Borough councilman, voluntarily accepted the role of recycling coordinator in January 2001.
- ⇒ **Leslie Terpstra** officially became Mountain Lakes recycling coordinator in January 1999 after having been the DPW secretary since October 1994.
- ⇒ **Steve Sullins** served as general supervisor-recycling sanitation in Parsippany for two years. In April 2001, Steve became DPW director for a municipality in Pennsylvania.

Congratulations to **Vicki Berkowicz** of Picatinny Arsenal for completing the Recycling Certification Series. Vicki graduated in March 2000 at the Association of New Jersey Recyclers Annual Meeting and is now a Certified Recycling Professional.



See what's cooking* at the annual recycling symposium and awards luncheon sponsored by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and the Association of New Jersey Recyclers on October 18, 2000 (*the theme of the event). Randolph employee Kathy Heath holds the Outreach/Media award plaque, and Morris County Solid Waste Coordinator Larry Gindoff displays the award which he received from ANJR for the effort which he devoted to its Web site. (Photo by Kate Coronari)



On April 21 the MCMUA, along with the Morris County Park Commission, the Friends of the Rockaway River and the Township of Denville worked together to clean up the newly acquired open space property along Ford Road. A total of 250 tires and 5.6 tons of litter were removed from the site, including a refrigerator, a bathtub, car doors and bumpers and wooden pallets. The Friends of the Rockaway River plan to organize another cleanup of the same site in the fall. (Photo by Charles Zafonte)



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Compost
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Free delivery for residents!

Call Shade Tree at (973) 285-2928.

**The Busi-Ness of Recycling,
The 14th Annual Morris County
Recycling Awards Dinner**



WHEN: Friday, November 2, 2001
WHERE: The Hanover Manor, East Hanover
TIME: Cash bar -- 6:30 p.m.; Dinner -- 7:31 p.m.

For more information, call (973) 285-8395.

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Much Ado ...

The success of plastics recycling depends on finding enough volume to make it cost effective. Hand separation of the items is expensive, said Mike Biddle, chief executive of MBA Polymers Inc., in Richland, Calif. "If we have enough of it," Mr. Biddle said, "with our automated process, we can sell it for less than virgin plastic."

Only a handful of state and municipal governments are experimenting with ways to keep computers out of the waste stream. (In April 2000, Massachusetts became the first state to ban cathode-ray tubes in landfills.) In New Jersey, the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority was one of the first counties to implement a recycling program for computers, televisions and monitors. The MCMUA has a contract with a state-permitted demanufacturer who accepts them from both the MCMUA Permanent Household Hazardous Waste Facility, located in Mount Olive Township, and at individual disposal events that are held several times a year at other sites.

Because the high cost of operating electronics recycling programs often forces state and municipal governments to look elsewhere for help, increasingly they are turning to the computer manufacturers themselves. Out of necessity, many large computer manufacturers have had long-standing and extensive internal recycling programs in place. Hewlett-Packard, for example, recycles 3.5 million pounds of electronic equipment a month and has its own recycling center. Several companies are starting to reach out to consumers and small business owners, as well. Sony, for example, is introducing a cooperative take-back program with the state of Minnesota. Minnesota residents are able to take their old Sony products to designated drop-off sites, free of charge. Sony will then subsidize the cost of transporting the equipment to recycling centers. "We're not looking to make money on this — it's not our business," said Mark Small, Sony's vice president for corporate environmental affairs. "But in five years if we can make this cost-effective and sustainable, then we'll have succeeded."

In Hennepin County, which includes Minneapolis, the news comes as a great relief. The local electronics recycling program has grown by 30 percent each year since it began in 1992, and the county has already collected 1,000 tons of electronic waste in 2000. "The cost of the program is going to hit \$1 million this year," said Mike Brandt, conservation division manager with the county's Department of Environmental Services. While it is too early to know how much Sony's involvement will save taxpayers, Mr. Brandt said every little bit helps.

Other companies have programs as well. I.B.M. introduced a service that allows individuals and small businesses to ship old computers to a recycling center. Gateway offers rebates on new purchases when buyers bring an old computer to a collection site.

Continued on Page 11



Save This Date!

Sunday, September 30, 2001
(no rain date)

11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Frelinghuysen Arboretum
30 East Hanover Avenue
Whippany, NJ

British Legends On The Lawn
A British Car Festival and Show

Sponsored by the
Morris County Library Foundation
and the
Morris County Park Commission

The MCMUA will provide info about
automotive product waste management.

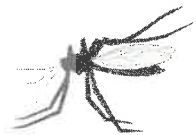
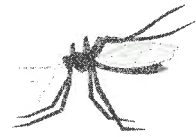


The MCMUA
Materials Exchange
Program
is now on-line!!!

Visit
www.MCMUA.com
today
to post your donation
or make a
"Wish List."



Her name does not have to be on a bulletin board or in lights as a requirement for her to lead "Glinda's Tour of Trash and Treasure." She (Penny Jones, a.k.a. Glinda Garbahj) looks forward to speaking at schools, businesses and houses of worship; at meetings of civic, social and professional organizations -- or wherever it's appropriate to spread the word about the three Rs: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle. For information, call (973) 285-8395. (Photo by Kate Coronari)

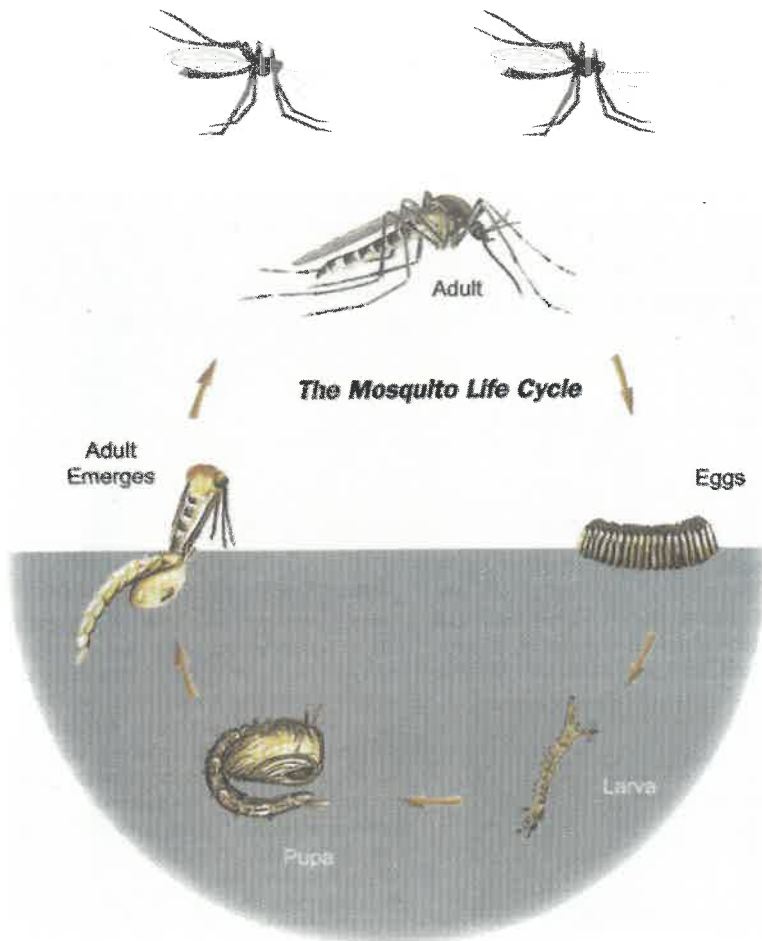


Funds Available to Assist With Tire Pile Cleanups

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection has distributed \$2.4 million to counties to clean up and dispose of tires. Morris County has received \$108,198 as its portion of the grant. The funding was released in response to concern about the West Nile Virus issue, because old tires collect rainwater and can become breeding grounds for mosquitoes.

Morris County will be identifying and removing dumped tires, collecting tires from municipalities and holding "Tire Amnesty Days" throughout the county during the summer. The amnesty days will be open to Morris County residents to dispose of up to four tires at no cost.

Anyone who is aware of a location where tires have been illegally dumped or who wants more info about the Amnesty Days may call (973) 285-8394. In addition, one may call his or her own municipality to ask if it will be having a municipal tire collection program.



"A Recycling Renaissance"

The 13th Annual Recycling Awards Dinner Is a Moo-ving Event Because of the Presence of Cowravaggio (see the photo on page 8)



Can this palm reader foretell the fate of recycling? This painting, *The fortune teller*, was painted by Michaelangelo Merisi, also called Caravaggio Caravaggio, in 1594/5.

The following awards and certificates for exceptional achievement in recycling were presented by the MCMUA on November 1, 2000, at the 13th annual Morris County Recycling Awards Dinner held at the Hanover Manor in East Hanover:

Individuals Who Have Made A Difference Awards

- On the Road Again -- Don Felker, Morris Township
- The Tireless RAFTER -- Ted Hussa, Denville
- Packaging Engineer Par Excellence -- Lorenzo De Cillis, Lucent Technologies, Mount Olive
- Unsung Heroine -- Judy Murphy, Former MCMUA Employee

Education Awards

- "C" the Corrugated Cows -- Joanne May, Sugar 'N Spice Nursery School, Roxbury
- Caring for Planet Earth -- Dennis B. O'Brien School, Rockaway Township
- "Holding Court on the Environment" -- Kids' Environmental Enhancement Program, Frelinghuysen School, Morris Township

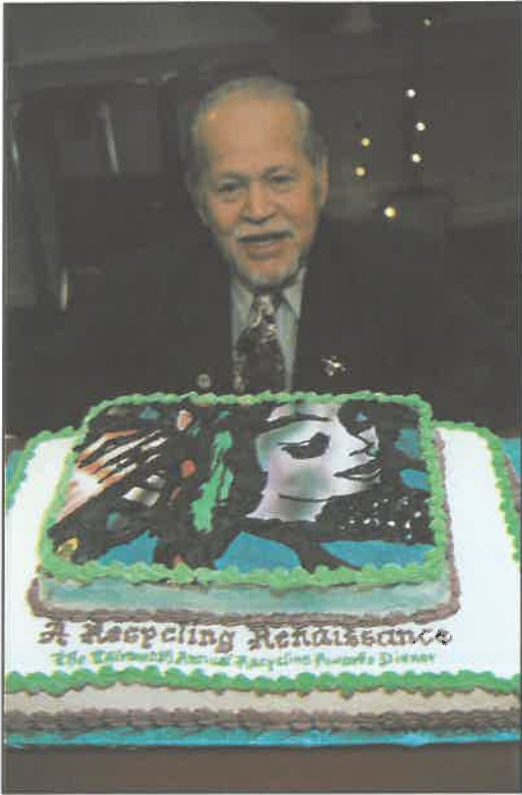
Business Awards

- Year 2000 Cool the Catalog Project -- Personal Mail International, Mendham Borough
- Small Business Waste Prevention -- A.P.W. Co., Inc., Rockaway Borough
- Large Business Waste Prevention -- Automatic Switch Company, Florham Park
- Environmental Awareness and Action -- Suburban Propane, Hanover
- Earthfriendly Shopping -- Wild Oats Community Market, Madison

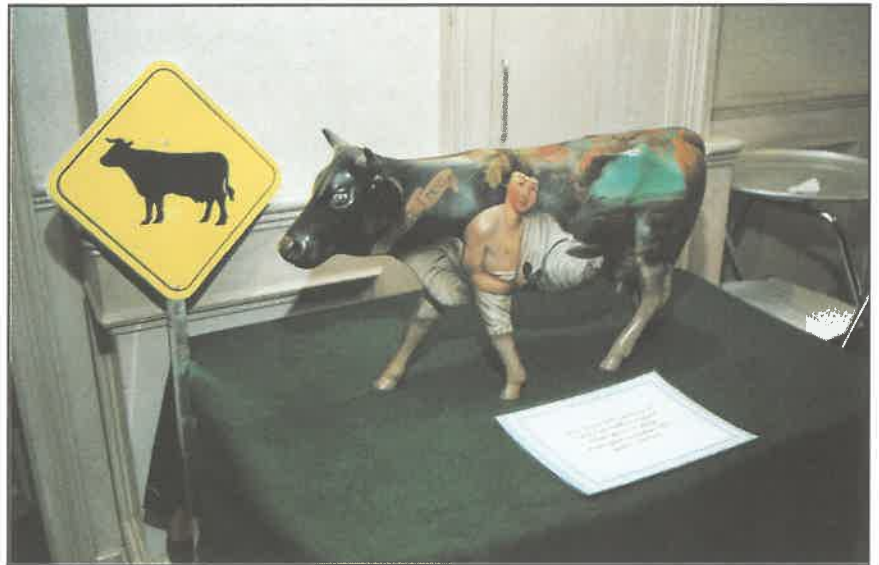
Top Ten Minus Two List for Municipal Recycling Notifications Published in 2000

(thank you, David Letterman!)

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| Chatham Borough | Randolph Township |
| Dover Town | Rockaway Borough |
| Lincoln Park Borough | Rockaway Township |
| Madison Borough | Roxbury Township |



MCMUA Board member and master cake baker Hy Nadel poses with the 10th cake which he has baked and decorated for a Morris County recycling awards dinner. (Photo by Pam Hasegawa)



Caution! A colorful cow named Cowravaggio crosses a table at the Morris County Recycling Awards Dinner! Cowravaggio, a fiberglass cow painted in the style of Renaissance artist Caravaggio by actor Federico Castelluccio, is a very special guest at the 13th annual dinner. Castelluccio, who portrays a hit man on the HBO series *The Sopranos*, painted the small cow as a test case prior to painting a life-sized cow for West Orange Cow Parade 2000. William Carroll and Joseph Milancewich (officers from the Sheriff's Office and the Park Police, respectively), took turns guarding Cowravaggio throughout the evening, for she was allowed to leave the West Orange pasture only if top notch security was provided. (Photo by Pam Hasegawa)



The models gather following the mini-fashion show during which they wore apparel or carried accessories made with recycled content. Front row, l. to r.: Larry Gindoff, Anne Jones, Penny Jones, County Clerk Joan Bramhall, Fred Wilson, Laura Macpherson, Kathleen Pelak. Back row: Tom Jones, Luter Sousa de Azinhaga, Meg Jones. (Photo by Pam Hasegawa)



And the Caring for Planet Earth Award goes to ... Dennis B. O'Brien School, Rockaway Township Public School District. Pictured are, l. to r.: Glenn Schweizer, MCMUA executive director; Craig Wilson, D. B. O'Brien principal; Kathleen Pelak, Morris County district recycling coordinator (in early Renaissance costume); Daryl Behm, D. B. O'Brien art teacher; and student Andrew Kunkes who led all of the awards dinner guests in reciting an Earth Day pledge. (Photo by Pam Hasegawa)



Lurking behind the explanatory note is a bottle of Heinz EZ Squirt™ Blastin' Green Ketchup which appeared on grocery store shelves in October 2000. Two such bottles were on every table at the awards dinner; the youngest and the oldest guest at each table received a bottle. In the note each was asked to call Heinz at (800) 255-5750 or visit the comment section of www.heinz.com in order to ask why Heinz used #7 plastic for the Blastin' Green bottles because that kind of plastic is unacceptable in most municipal recycling programs. (Photo by Pam Hasegawa)

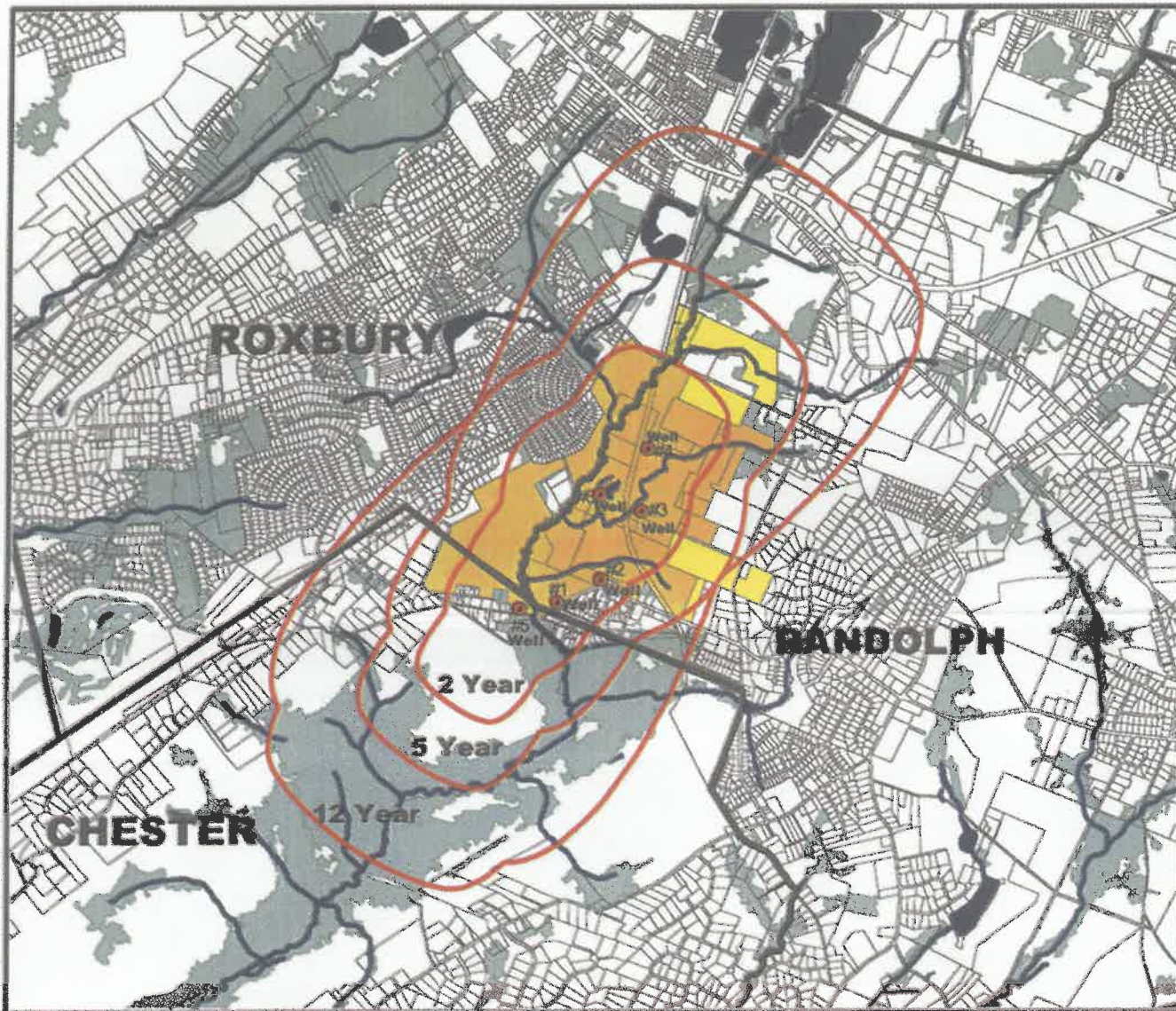










An awards dinner table favor is elevated to sacred status. The Rev. Dolores Watson, minister at the First Congregational Christian United Church of Christ in Irvington, NJ, holds a Green Glass USA goblet given to her by a member of her congregation who received the goblet at the dinner and thought that it could serve as a chalice at her church. And so it did.... (Photo by Dot Hecht)



Recipients of the Top Ten Minus Two List for Municipal Recycling Notifications Published in 2000 display their certificates. Front row, l. to r.: Kathleen Pelak; Kathy Heath, Randolph; Sylvia Banbor, Rockaway Borough; John Inglesino, Rockaway Twp.; Rich Lovallo, Lincoln Park; Debra Ward, Roxbury. Back row: Chuck Dziedzic, Chatham Borough; Doug Smith, Madison; Bill Isselin, Dover. (Photo by Pam Hasegawa)

MUA Wellhead Protection and Land Acquisition Plan



-  **Municipal Boundary**
-  **Wellhead Protection Areas**
-  **Streams**
-  **Property Boundary Lines**
-  **Waters**
-  **MUA Properties**
-  **Trust Fund Properties**
-  **Wetlands**

The MUA Wellhead Protection and Land Acquisition Plans uses three "Times of Travel" to identify vacant parcels for acquisition. The "Time of Travel" (2,5,12 years) is the amount of time it takes water or a pollutant to reach a well. The "Trust Fund Properties" were acquired through funding from the Morris County Open Space Trust Fund of which the MUA receives a portion of the funds. The "MUA Properties" were acquired in the early 1970s when the Alamogordo Wellfield was established.

Catch us at the following events ...



- ☺ 4-H Fair -- Friday & Saturday, July 27 & 28
-- Chubb Park, Chester Township
- ☺ Festival On-the-Green -- Sunday, Sept. 30
-- On the Green, Morristown
- ☺ British Legends On The Lawn -- Sunday,
Sept. 30 -- Frelinghuysen Arboretum,
Whippany

Some New Kids on the MUA Block



Continued from Page 5

Much Ado ...

For now, programs like these will remain strictly voluntary because the United States Environmental Protection Agency doesn't have the authority to mandate take-backs. But the federal government and the computer industry are closely watching developments in Europe, which is finalizing a directive that puts the responsibility for computer recycling squarely on producers' shoulders. A similar law in Japan is due to become fully enforceable this year.

At the core of many voluntary initiatives is the concept of product stewardship, or encouraging computer manufacturers to incorporate environmental responsibility into the entire life cycle of their products: design, use and end-of-life. In doing so, they would have a greater financial incentive to make their computers less toxic, more upgradable and easier to recycle. Several major manufacturers have already phased out stubborn glue adhesives; replaced nuts, screws and bolts with snap-to-fit parts; reduced the number of plastics used; and then labeled those plastics so that they are easier to separate when recycled.

To be most effective, computer recycling is a problem that must be solved at both ends: Build an infrastructure to dispose of old computers, but at the same time make design changes that will make new computers easier and cheaper to recycle.

(Portions of this article were excerpted from the Web site for DMC Electronics Recycling Co. of Newfields, New Hampshire.)



New MUA Water Division employees Robert Esposito (l.) and Joshua Parks put the finishing touches on the wall at the entrance to Markewicz Pump Station on Pleasant Hill Road in Randolph. (Photo by Kate Coronari)



Liz Sweedy, the new assistant recycling specialist who spent five years working at the Morris County Recycling Consolidation Center, shows a sea turtle puppet to Mary Stanchina who has replaced Liz at the Center. Liz uses several animal puppets when she teaches youngsters about litter prevention. (Photo by Kate Coronari)

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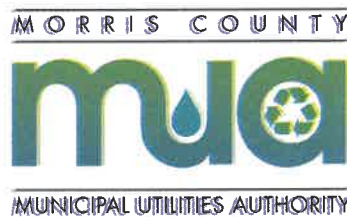
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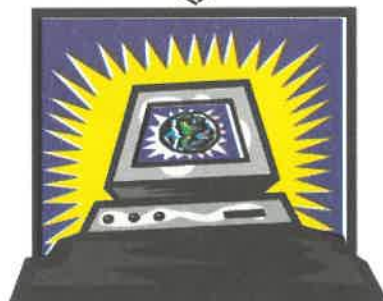
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