



Preserving Resources,  
Preventing Waste

# The New Jersey WasteWise Bulletin

Newsletter of the New Jersey WasteWise Business Network – Summer, 2006  
*WasteWise...improving your bottom line and the environment  
through waste reduction, recycling and recycled product procurement.*

## Recycling at Local Sporting Events – Make It Happen!

If you are involved with your town's youth baseball, softball, soccer, swimming, football, basketball, field hockey, lacrosse or other local sports organizations, you may have noticed that local sporting events generate large quantities of recyclable materials, especially bottles, cans and corrugated cardboard. Unfortunately, most local sports organizations do not take this into consideration and the result is that these materials are typically disposed of as trash rather than recycled. As a person directly involved in these organizations, you can make a difference by stepping up and initiating a recycling program at your sports complex and sports fields. I took on this task this past weekend and would like to share my experience with you.

As a Board member of the Ewing Edge Girls Softball Organization and the Manager of the Ewing Edge's 10 and Under team, I was recently involved in the planning and running of a major girls softball tournament. Twelve teams consisting of approximately fifteen girls each, as well as their families and friends arrived at the girls softball complex in Ewing's Armstrong Park this past weekend and were greeted by both garbage cans and recycling containers for bottles and cans. It was a hot weekend so bottled water and other drinks were in abundance.

While there were plenty of people who diligently separated their bottles and cans, there were also many folks who either did not notice the recycling container next to the garbage can or did not care enough to separate their bottles and cans from their trash. As a result, many bottles and cans had to be picked out of the trash by the tournament staff and placed into the recycling containers. Conversely, trash had to be removed from the recycling containers

every so often. Thanks to the efforts of the tournament staff, many large bags of bottles and cans were recycled at the two-day event, however, the success of this program required continual monitoring of garbage cans and recycling containers throughout the tournament. Those contemplating initiating such a program at an upcoming event need to be aware of this as cross-contamination of garbage and recyclables will most likely rule the day without such diligence.

Facilities with a concession stand will also generate corrugated cardboard, although not nearly as much in volume as the stream of bottles and cans. Obviously, this material can be easily separated and recycled, as well. I chose to load up all the corrugated cardboard generated at the softball tournament in my minivan and take it home for my curbside collection program. I took this course of action because I noticed that when I initially placed the corrugated next to the bags of bottles and cans at the location that was designated for storage of recyclable materials, the area began to attract trash despite being located far from the garbage dumpster on the site.

Clearly, considerable teamwork and oversight are needed to make a recycling program work at a local sporting event, however, it can be done successfully. You will not only be amazed at the amount of material that you collect from such a program, but you will gain considerable personal satisfaction by running an environmentally-friendly sporting event.

### Upcoming WasteWise Events

- September 15, 2006 – Special Atlantic County WasteWise Meeting (9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.) at the Atlantic Count Utilities Authority Recycling Center.
- 2006 WasteWise and NPEP Annual Conference: *Partnering for Success in Sustainability* being held on October 19 and 20, 2006, at The Westin Arlington Gateway Hotel in Arlington, Virginia.

## Did You Know...

- The Recyclers Raft, produced by RSEE Innovations of Hartstown, PA, is a pool float unlike all others. Purchasers of this unique raft need to fill it with empty capped two liter plastic bottles. The recycled bottles provide the buoyancy for the raft. For more information, visit [www.recyclersraft.com](http://www.recyclersraft.com).
- Gray Harbor Paper's "Harbor 100" is a printing and writing paper that contains 100% post consumer recycled materials. It is available in offsets, opaques and copy paper. For further details, visit [www.ghplp.com/green.php](http://www.ghplp.com/green.php).
- The Sundance Channel will launch a weekly primetime programming block focusing on environmental topics in early 2007.
- A website developed to help businesses prevent waste associated with packaging is now available at [www.deq.state.or.us/wmc/packaging/index.htm](http://www.deq.state.or.us/wmc/packaging/index.htm). The website includes case studies that highlight companies that have saved thousands – and in some cases – millions of dollars each year through packaging improvements.
- The national recycling rate for steel hit a record 75.7% in 2005, with steel cans also setting a new high mark at 63%.
- ReadPal software is designed to make documents easier to read on a computer screen, thereby reducing the amount of printing done by those who do not like to read documents on a screen. Visit [www.readpal.com](http://www.readpal.com) for details.
- StressPly® EUV is a new roofing material made from post-consumer recycled rubber from scrap tires, recycled glass from bottles and post-industrial boiler slag. For further information, visit [www.garlandco.com](http://www.garlandco.com).
- Recycled paper production creates 74% less air pollution and 35% less water pollution than virgin paper production.
- Proctor & Gamble plans to double the concentration of its detergents, including Tide, in a test that would cut package sizes and the resulting packaging waste in half.
- The National Recycling Coalition will soon launch a "rebranding" initiative designed to eliminate consumer confusion over what is recyclable and what is not.

## Congressional Recycling Caucuses Take Shape

Recycling caucuses in both the United States House of Representatives and the United State Senate were recently formed as a way of educating members of Congress about the importance of recycling. Both the economic and environmental benefits of recycling will be stressed in these forums. The House Recycling Caucus is co-chaired by Rep. Paul Gillmor (R-Ohio) and Rep. Frank Pallone (D- New Jersey). The Senate Recycling Caucus is co-chaired by Olympia J. Snow (R-Maine) and Thomas R. Carper (D-Delaware).

## Computer Recycling Opportunities Expand

Dell, Apple and Hewlett-Packard recently established new programs that will make it easier for people to recycle their old computers. While the programs vary to a certain degree, they all demonstrate that the computer industry recognizes the importance of this issue.

Under its new policy, Dell will provide consumers no-charge recycling of any Dell-branded product, regardless of whether a replacement product is purchased. Dell plans to launch this program in the United States by September and globally by November. Apple's program enables customers in the United States to recycle their old computers regardless of the manufacturer, however, customers must purchase a new Mac computer to participate. Hewlett-Packard's strategy is to host a series of collection events, which will accept a range of products from any manufacturer at no charge. They will be held from June through September in Colorado, Connecticut, Illinois, Maryland, Minnesota, New Mexico and Oregon.

*New Jersey WasteWise Business Network*  
Albert Fralinger, Public Service Enterprise Group - Co-Chair,  
856-224-1638 or [Albert.Fralinger@pseg.com](mailto:Albert.Fralinger@pseg.com)  
Steven Rinaldi, NJDEP, Bureau of Recycling and Planning –  
Co-Chair, 609-984-3438 or [Steven.Rinaldi@dep.state.nj.us](mailto:Steven.Rinaldi@dep.state.nj.us)  
Editor: Steven Rinaldi - Printed on Recycled Paper  
<http://www.state.nj.us/dep/dshw/recycle/brbn03.htm>  
[www.epa.gov/wastewise](http://www.epa.gov/wastewise)