



Recycling Update

January 2023

Bergen County Utilities Authority • Foot of Mehrhof Road, Little Ferry, NJ 07643

Certified Recycling Professional Tonnage Grant Assistance Available

In accordance with the Recycling Enhancement Act, each New Jersey municipality is required to submit an Annual Recycling Tonnage Report to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) signed by a Certified Recycling Professional (CRP). Failure to submit a Tonnage Report signed by a CRP jeopardizes a municipality's opportunity to receive the annual recycling tonnage grant. For those municipalities that may not employ a CRP, the BCUA offers at no cost to the municipality to provide the services of a CRP to sign and submit the Annual Recycling Tonnage Report to the NJDEP.

Your municipality received information in December regarding an interlocal agreement to participate in this program. If your municipality requires the services of a CRP, please complete the interlocal agreement and return it to the BCUA. For questions regarding this program, please contact Richard Wierer at rwierer@bcua.org or 201-807-5818.

Not too late to sign up for BCUA sponsored shred collections

As you may know, the BCUA offers each Bergen County municipality the opportunity to host a free paper shredding program for confidential documents. It's **is not too late to participate in 2023**. If your municipality would like to host a confidential document shredding and recycling event, please contact Richard Baroch at rbaroch@bcua.org or 201-807-8696.



JUST RELEASED

2023 Electronics, Mobile Paper Shredding & Tire Events

Bergen Community College
ENTRY VIA PARAMUS ROAD ONLY
400 Paramus Rd., Paramus
Sunday, April 30th
Saturday, August 12th

Bergen County Campgaw Mountain Reservation

200 Campgaw Rd., Mahwah
Saturday, June 3rd
Sunday, Oct. 1st
Collection Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Rain or shine!

2023 Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events

Bergen Community College
ENTRY VIA PARAMUS ROAD ONLY
400 Paramus Rd., Paramus
Sunday, April 16th
Sunday, June 11th
Sunday, Oct. 15th

Bergen County Utilities Authority

Foot of Empire Blvd., Moonachie
Saturday, March 11th
Saturday, Nov. 18th

Bergen County Campgaw Mountain Reservation

200 Campgaw Rd., Mahwah
Saturday, May 13th
Saturday, July 15th
Saturday, Sept. 9th
Collection Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Rain or shine!

Flyers will be distributed as soon as they become available. Thank you for your patience.

Bag it safe!

Reusable bags are here to stay in New Jersey and other parts of the world. Share with your residents tips on how to keep their bags clean and families healthy!



Bags need proper care to prevent things like germs and mold from growing and cross-contaminating your food. Wash and store bags safely between each use. Here's how: Wash bags after each use, following care instructions. See the fabric care label or the table

below for more details. Wipe insulated bags with a disinfecting or sanitizing cloth, especially along the seams.

Use separate bags for raw meats, seafood and produce. Label bags to avoid confusion. Keep bags for non-food items like cleaners, books, sports gear, etc. separate from food bags.

After washing, make sure the bags are dry before storing. Don't store your bags in your car trunk. This is a dark, warm and often humid environment that promotes bacteria growth. Help prevent bag bacteria by storing your bags at home in a cool, dry environment where air can circulate.



For more helpful hints like these go to the [American Cleaning Institute \(ACI\)](https://www.aci.org/).

Just launched directory



Association of New Jersey Recyclers ANJR has just launched a new service – the ANJR Supplier Directory. With over 300 suppliers, it contains recycling and disposal options for problem materials. Next time a resident or business calls about petroleum-contaminated soil or sustainable waste solutions – no problem! This directory contains seventy-five different categories of suppliers that can help your residents out. Check it out, today! [Click here for directory.](#)



You be the judge



RECYCLING: MYTHS VS. FACTS

Updated April 2021

MYTH Recycling in the United States is in trouble. **FACT** In thousands of communities nationwide, curbside recycling is collected on a regular basis. The demand for recycled commodities is increasing as e-commerce demands continues to be strong, the economy recovers and companies make bigger commitments to use recycled content in their products and containers.

MYTH Foreign countries have stopped accepting any recyclables or scrap from the United States. **FACT** Although China imposed import bans on many materials, the US continues to export these valuable commodities to other countries. In 2020, the U.S. exported 15.9 million tons of paper and 1.37 billion pounds of scrap plastic. Exports of scrap and recyclables increased in early 2021.

MYTH The contamination rate for recyclables in the United States is 30 percent. **FACT** Contamination rates vary widely by community. According to recent reports issued by The Recycling Partnership, the national average contamination rate is 17 percent. Contamination rates are declining as local governments and recycling companies educate citizens about what can be recycled in their communities.

MYTH Recycling isn't worth the effort anymore. **FACT** The market for materials may vary, but recycling always has major benefits. These include preserving landfill space, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, saving energy, reducing water use, protecting natural resources, creating new products, and supporting tens of thousands of local jobs. Recycling is an essential public service that citizens expect and are willing to pay for.

MYTH No one knows how to fix the challenges facing recycling. **FACT** Solutions are being implemented. Public education and enforcement of local rules motivate people to recycle right. Recycling facilities are updating equipment and adding new technologies to keep up with changing material streams. New domestic facilities are opening and existing ones are expanding, providing more demand for recyclables. EPA has developed a National Recycling Strategy and has issued an ambitious goal of diverting 50% of waste from disposal by 2030.

For more information visit [SWANA.org/Recycle](https://www.swana.org/recycle)

@SWANA | #RecycleRight

Upcoming Meetings/Webinars

Annual Membership Meeting

Thursday, March 9, 2023—Caesars, Atlantic City

Sustainability in Motion Conference

Wednesday, March 8—10, 2023—Caesars, Atlantic City

Agenda and details to follow

NJ Wastewise Business Network Meeting/Webinar

Thursday, May 4, 2023

Agenda and details to follow

Fast Fact

On average, every American produces 1,609 pounds of garbage every year.

This makes the US the greatest producer of trash in the world. Considering that Americans make up 5% of the world's population, it's devastating to find out that they produce 40% of the total waste in the world.



Source: <https://comfyliving.net/recycling-statistics/>

Market information contained in this newsletter is not meant to be an endorsement by the BCUA, and markets mentioned are not the only available to the County of Bergen.