

2008 RECYCLING AWARD WINNERS

AWARD CATEGORY: INSTITUTION

AWARD WINNER: Lavallette Elementary School

Lavallette Elementary School has implemented a school recycling program which is a model of teamwork (teachers, facilities staff, school administration, school board and students.). Not only do they recycle bottles/cans/paper/cardboard, but also food scraps, printer cartridges, batteries, computers and cell phones. Students learn by participating in the recycling program, and also by assisting in the creation of a Power Point presentation describing the program to others. All classrooms and other school rooms have clusters of bins for bottles/cans, paper/cardboard and trash, making the system, easy, convenient and visible.

AWARD CATEGORY: BUSINESS

AWARD WINNER: Anheuser-Busch, Inc.

Anheuser-Busch is one of the largest recyclers of aluminum cans, and its 12 domestic breweries recycle more than 99% of the brewing by-product material that is produced. The Newark brewery recycles and reclaims more than 99% of its waste and by-products. In 2007, the Newark brewery recycled 293 out of 295 million pounds of waste material. Anheuser-Busch also encourages its employees to participate directly in the company's efforts by using their "Excellence through Ideas" program, a paperless computer-based employee suggestion program. Their recycling efforts extend through all of their breweries and other Anheuser-Bush companies, including the entertainment division which includes Sea World and Busch Gardens. In 2006, they recycled more than 97% of all solid waste generated in all of their US operations.

AWARD CATEGORY: GOVERNMENT

AWARD WINNER: Trap Rock Industries, NJ Dept. of Transportation, and Rutgers University

Trap Rock, NJDOT and Rutgers University each played an integral role in the planning, design, construction, post-construction analysis, and specification writing of this project involving the use of asphalt rubber on Interstate 95. The three parties realized that by working together and utilizing their individual expertise, a long-lasting roadway would be constructed that would help to reduce noise while recycling over 80,000 used tires. After the completion of the project, the three entities were together able to generate material specifications for Asphalt Rubber Open-Graded Friction Course. The specifications will allow for the continued use of AR-OGFC that will recycle used tires while reducing pavement-related noise.

AWARD CATEGORY: LEADERSHIP

AWARD WINNER: Janet Pellichero

Under Janet Pellichero's leadership, Princeton Township achieved a 49% recycling rate in 2007. Ms. Pellichero has routinely visited each school and business owner/property manager to ascertain and maintain recycling compliance. All township parks/recreation fields have recycling containers that are serviced on a regular basis, and all groups using the facilities are provided with recycling information. Ms. Pellichero also instituted a community paper shredding/recycling program, and an e-waste recycling program. Recycling information is given to all township residents via MCIA mailers, public works and township websites and newsletters, shopping center bulletin boards and newsletters from Environmental Commissions. In September, she will begin a new program where residents can "redeem" 20 plastic bags for one cloth bag. Ms. Pellichero has successfully implemented many programs which have contributed to the success of the township's recycling program.

AWARD CATEGORY: RISING STAR

AWARD WINNER: Rowan University

Rowan University's contribution to New Jersey's recycling program is a community-based, multi-pronged effort. The program is highly ambitious, substantially collaborative, and student-centered. Through an extensive university recycling committee, the Rowan President's Council for Sustainability, and an energetic Student Recycling Team, Rowan University is rapidly becoming a model for recycling in higher education. The school was the first institution of higher education in New Jersey to convert to single stream recycling, placed third nationally in EPA's Recyclemania competition in 2006 and has earned numerous prestigious awards from Federal and State agencies for its leadership in recycling and sustainability.

AWARD CATEGORY: RISING STAR

AWARD WINNER: Thomas Quinn, Mansfield Township School District

Mr. Quinn, Facilities Manager for the Mansfield Township School District, developed a "Green Team" approach to garner support from all staff to improve the district's recycling program. The "Green Team" approach includes regular communication via e-mail regarding the district's innovative programs and policies to reduce, reuse and recycle, and encourages feedback from staff. Mr. Quinn's "Green Team" approach has successfully changed behavior and resulted in a nearly complete diversion of recyclables from the school waste stream. Mr. Quinn shares his experiences and techniques with any interested facilities managers and continues to find ways to improve this outstanding program.

AWARD CATEGORY: EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

AWARD WINNER: Ocean County Master Composter Program

The Ocean County Master Composting Program is a growing, active volunteer network that began in 2000 in conjunction with the opening of the county's Recycling Education Center and Backyard Composting Demonstration Site. to assist the County in spreading awareness about the many benefits of home composting. Over time, the Master Composter Program has proven to be an effective program, offered free of charge to County residents, to educate them about the handling of the organic portion of solid waste. Through the community outreach efforts performed by the Master Composter volunteers, the program has expanded to approximately 50 active volunteers.

AWARD CATEGORY: VOLUNTEER CITIZEN

AWARD WINNER: Megan Giulianelli

Ms. Giulianelli is a part-time teacher and full-time volunteer, wife and mother. Last year, she spearheaded an environmental filmmaking project, focusing on recycling, at her local upper elementary school. Her son's fifth grade teacher joined her and together they assembled a fun and informative curriculum that explored the pros and cons of recycling. The purpose of making a film was to be able to reach a broader audience and to reach children in grades K through 8 using a student-friendly format. The film was divided into 3 parts each focusing on a different component of the 3 Rs—Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. The films provided practical tips and information on how to Reduce, Reuse and Recycle on a daily basis at home and in school. The film was released online immediately, and DVDs of the film were shown to every student in Glen Ridge. The project has also received media coverage.