

Recycling is a success story in Pennsylvania

Editor's note: This article was provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources

In the City of Allentown, nearly 600 tons of recycled glass are being used in a project to pave 2.5 miles of city streets.

In Erie, several state grants are helping Erie Energy Products develop a completely new use for recycled paper in the production of thermoplastic products.

And in Fayette County, a cooperative effort between the county and Goodwill Industries is improving the processing capabilities of a recycling center to accommodate material generated by 10 municipal recycling programs.

Those are just three examples of Pennsylvania's efforts to "close the loop" in its recycling efforts. The recycling loop—which begins with sorting trash, curbside pickup and other collection programs—is not complete unless recyclable materials are made into new products that are purchased and used by consumers.

Recycling is one of Pennsylvania's true success stories. In 1988, Gov. Casey signed the state's mandatory recycling law requiring communities with more than 5,000 people to develop curbside recycling programs. At the same time, the Governor's Recycling Market Development Task Force was launched under the leadership of Lt. Gov. Mark S. Singel to ensure that markets are developed for recyclables.

That approach has helped us come a long way in just a few years.

We now lead the nation in the number of communities involved in recycling, with more than 700 community recycling programs. More than 20 percent of all organized, community-wide recycling programs in the nation are right here in Pennsylvania.

More than seven million Penn-

sylvania residents—nearly three quarters of our population—take positive action to preserve our environment through recycling.

State government itself is a leader in recycling. Pennsylvania last year received recognition as the number one state government for recycled paper purchases, and the state earlier this year received an international award for its recycling public service campaign.

Local governments also are doing their part, spending an estimated \$2 million-plus a year for products made from recycled materials. More than 61 percent of all Pennsylvania municipalities buy at least some products made with recycled materials.

The Market Development Task Force has played a critical role in addressing the challenges presented by recycling, targeting state resources to companies committed to improving markets. Last year alone, the state spent \$10 million on those efforts, including \$5 million to help develop the recycling manufacturing industry, creating jobs while preserving the environment.

The result of those efforts: a remarkable variety of products made in Pennsylvania from recycled materials are hitting the marketplace. New bottles from old bottles; kitchen appliances from steel cans; animal bedding from old newspapers; durable plastic lumber from recycled milk jugs; road construction materials from crushed colored glass. And the list is growing.

To help these efforts, we must make conscious, everyday decisions to look for and buy products from recycled materials and products packaged in recycled materials. It's an important step in the recycled loop that will offer tremendous economic opportunities to Pennsylvania companies as well as helping to protect and preserve the environment.



ACCEPTING CHECK - Accepting a state grant check are, from left, William Tippett, Kingston Twp. Board of Supervisors; Jeffrey Box, Kingston Twp., Mgr.; Herbert Hill, Kingston Twp. Board of Supervisors; Glenn Howell, Dallas Twp. Board of Supervisors presenting check to Spencer Martin, Chairman of the Board, DAMA; Patricia Peiffer, Dallas Boro Solid Waste & Recycling Committee; Ben Franklin, Kingston Twp. Board of Supervisors; Thomas Bagley, Executive Director, DAMA.

DAMA gets check from state for recycling

Solid waste recycling in the Back Mountain municipalities, has resulted with a grant check for \$29,827.38 from the State Department of Environmental Resources. The payout represents a reimbursement to DAMA under Act 101, Section 902 for certain expenses relative to recycling collection.

Recycling was begun under the auspices of the Dallas Area Municipal Authority, D.A.M.A. in July

1991. To date, more than 2,200 tons of solid waste has been collected and recycled through the participation of some 5,600 Back Mountain homeowners in Dallas Borough, Dallas Township and Kingston Township. D.A.M.A. serves as the administrator of the program through enabling legislation of the three municipalities involved. A hauling contract with Danella Environmental Technologies has held the cost of trash

collection and recycling to just over \$11 per month per residential customer.

D.A.M.A. has also served the wastewater requirements of Back Mountain communities for more than 20 years.

Back Mtn. exceeds 1997 goal for recycling

In less than two full years of operation and well ahead of the 1997 goal for 25% recycling of all trash, Back Mountain residents hit the 25% mark for recyclables in June, 1993.

According to a monthly report filed by Danella Environmental Technologies, the contract hauler for DAMA, more than 51 tons of newsprint, office paper, and corrugated products and more than 70 tons of cans, glass and plastics were collected for a total of more than 122 tons of recycled materials in a single month's time. Total trash collection in the Back Mountain during this time was more than 370 tons.

Back Mountain residents began recycling in July, 1991. The program is administered by the Dallas Area Municipal Authority, D.A.M.A., which has also administered sewage requirements of participating Back Mountain communities for more than 20 years.

In hitting the 25% recycling mark in June, 1993, D.A.M.A. Executive Director Tom Bagley said, "25% recycled materials in the total trash count indicates the willingness of residents to comply with the program. We believe the Back Mountain is a model area with regard to the earliness of program and the willingness of residents to do their part for the environment."

Lake Twp. recycling Sept. 11

The Lake Township Recycling Center will be open on Saturday, September 11, from 10 a.m.-12 noon. Accepting aluminum and bi-metal cans, clear, brown and green glass. Plastic #1 and #2 only can be accepted. No motor oil containers can be accepted.

Open house at Keystone Sept. 8

The Keystone Junior College Chamberlin Center for part-time studies will hold a "Walk-In Night" for anyone interested in registering for the Weekender Program on Wednesday, Sept. 8 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Chamberlin Center. For more information, call the Chamberlin Center at 945-5141, Ext. 6007.

Property transfers

Property transfers recorded at the Luzerne County Court House from August 23, 1993 to August 25, 1993. Prices are extrapolated from transfer taxes paid.

Mark A. Van Loon to Wm. J. Thomas, 78 Carverton Rd., Trucksville, property Carverton Rd., Kingston Twp., \$90,000.

John C. Thomas to Donald E. Pryor, 24 Radcliffe Dr., Succasunna, NJ, property Tiller Rd., Kingston Twp., \$23,900.

Estate of Mildred N. Johnson, Ann Vernon, Extx., to Terrence A. Cavanaugh, 133 Elmcrest Dr., Dallas, property W. Elmcrest Dr., Dallas Twp., \$91,000.

Jay F. Humphreys to Christine S. Long, 4 Richard Dr., Dallas, property L4, Bluff Point, Dallas Twp., \$77,000.

Barney Inc. to Wm. L. Chollak, 1661 Graham Rd., Meadowbrook, property 1) 2.4 acs; 2) 0.25 acs. Harveys Lake, \$192,566.

Wm. Pierce to Stanley F. Shadle, 11 Birch Hill Lane, Dallas, property Machell Ave., Dallas Boro, \$100,000.

TA Hemi Enterprises to James A. Harding, 151 Brook St., Sugar Notch, property 0.54 ac., Wedgewood Way, Dallas Twp. \$37,500.

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NEWS

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