

SOLID WASTE facts

FROM THE YORK COUNTY SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY

Resource Recovery Center Receives Facility Award

The York County Resource Recovery Center received the Large Combustion Facility Award from the Solid Waste Division of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) on May 21 at the North American Waste-to-Energy Conference held in Miami.

The award recognizes outstanding efforts within a solid waste processing facility for achieving combustion efficiency. The award is based on the facility contributions to the field of solid waste processing. The key selection criteria included success in reaching facility goals, environmental performance, innovative contributions to solid waste processing, facility economics and safety, technical contributions to solid waste processing and playing a key role in integrated waste management.

The York County Resource Recovery Center, in operation for 18 years, processes all of York County's combustible household



Accepting the award are L to R: Bill Ehrman, Authority Executive Director; Jim Sigler, Authority Chairman; Ed Salsbury, Plant Manager and Chuck Clouser, Authority Vice Chairman.

waste and some types of manufacturing waste. The facility uses three rotary combustion systems coupled with air pollution control technology to safely convert waste to energy. The facility produces enough continuous electricity to power 20,000 to 30,000 homes and saves 13 acres of land (35 feet deep) and more than 528,000 barrels of oil annually. In addition, the facility

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is a source of “green power”. By replacing fossil fuels, waste-to-energy reduces greenhouse gases such as methane and carbon dioxide. Ash from the combustion process is recycled into an aggregate used in construction applications.



The York County Resource Recovery Center.

The York County Solid Waste Authority is the owner of the York County Resource Recovery Center. Veolia Environmental Services, Inc. is the facility operator. The company operates nine resource recovery facilities in the United States and one in Vancouver, Canada. Veolia brings a strong background in environmental management and an outstanding commitment to safety to the York County Resource Recovery Center. Veolia employs 52 people at the York facility.

The North American Waste-to-Energy Conference is widely recognized as the leading industry technical conference and trade show focusing on municipal waste-to-energy. The Conference is co-sponsored by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, Integrated Waste Services Association, the Solid Waste Association of North America and the Waste-to-Energy Research and Technology Council at Columbia University.

October 6: Household Hazardous Waste Day

The Authority will hold its fall Household Hazardous Waste Collection program on Saturday, October 6 from 9AM to 1PM in the parking lot of the Authority’s Management Center located at 2700 Blackbridge Road.

All York County homeowners and residential tenants are eligible to bring their household hazardous waste to the collection site. Due to regulatory requirements, commercial entities are not eligible to participate. There is no fee to residents to participate.

Examples of items accepted include: thermometers containing mercury, liquid mercury, auto products (transmission and brake fluids, antifreeze, batteries), pesticides, herbicides, insecticides, fluorescent light bulbs, gasoline, kerosene, rechargeable batteries—Nickel Cadmium (Ni-Cd), Nickel Metal Hydride (Ni-MH), Lithium Ion (Li-ion), and Small Sealed Lead (Pb), photographic and pool chemicals, driveway sealant, and household cleansers (oven, drain, etc.). **Do not bring paint or paint products (put in regular trash).**



Workers help a resident safely unload household hazardous waste.

Recycled Phone Books Headed for “New Calling”

The Authority’s 15th annual phone book recycling program is in full swing. Residents and businesses can recycle their outdated phone books now through October 19, 2007.

Phone books will be collected at the Authority’s Recycle Drop-Off Center located across from the Resource Recovery Center, 2651 Blackbridge Road, Manchester Township and in the parking lots of the Queensgate Shopping Center, the West Manchester Mall, Saubel’s Market in Shrewsbury and the Meadowbrook Village Shopping Center (Circuit City/Borders in Springettsbury Twp.). Phone books may be dropped off seven days a week.

Residential customers with curbside recycling may place phone books in their curbside recycling container at any time.

Last year’s program collected more than 61 tons of phone books. Only phone books will be accepted in this collection program. The phone books collected will be recycled into low-grade paper products. Residents or businesses with questions about phone book recycling should call the Authority at 717-845-1066.

DOES THIS RING A BELL?

Phone books are recycled into products such as insulation, cat litter, roofing material, cereal boxes and even new phone books!

Bigger Recycling Bins Increase Recycling Rate

Since August of 2006, New Freedom Borough residents have been participating in a year-long pilot recycling bin program to try to answer the question: Do bigger recycling bins equal an increase in recycling rates? The verdict is now in and the answer is Yes!

From September 2005 through April 2006, borough residents used their old 14-gallon recycling bins and recycled a total of 74.45 tons of material. Using the new 22-gallon bins, borough residents recycled 127.99 tons of material from September 2006 through April 2007, an increase of 72 percent! Residents also received educational materials in the form of recycling guidelines and an introductory letter to help them recycle the appropriate items.

The pilot program was sponsored by the York County Solid Waste Authority and conducted in conjunction with Penn Waste which provides waste and recyclable materials collection service to New Freedom Borough. As this newsletter went to press, the remaining months of pilot program recycling data was being crunched and preliminary reports show that recycling has increased even more!

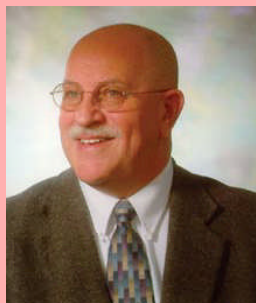


New Freedom Borough council president Brady Terrell poses with the new 22-gallon recycle bins.

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FROM THE YORK COUNTY SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY

Dear Readers:



Renewable electricity, clean energy, renewable portfolio standards, global warming, energy independence, foreign oil, fossil fuel, solar, wind, biofuels, biomass, geothermal, hydropower, national and state energy

policies, AECs and RECs. These are all terms that have found their way into the media's glossary, especially during the recent mad dash to end legislative sessions at both the state and federal levels. This fall promises to be exciting as the topic of energy is once again put before our elected officials at both government levels.

In Harrisburg Governor Rendell has promised to make energy a focus; and in Washington at least one conference committee will have to reconcile differences between senate and house bills that both deal with renewable portfolio standards. In preparation for this editorial I looked back in my files and found a letter from May of 2005 dealing with the very issues that congress is again working on this year. In 2005 congress was considering renewable portfolio legislation, and at that time waste-to-energy was not included as a source of renewable electricity. Congress failed to pass legislation in 2005 that included renewable provisions, and today the same topic is again being debated. It has passed the house and senate in different bills and will now require a conference committee to resolve differences. Today, as in 2005, waste-to-energy has been excluded as a renewable energy resource. But the problem didn't begin in 2005. As early as 2002, energy legislation has consistently failed to include waste-to-energy as a renewable energy resource.

The energy disconnect is not isolated to Washington. In Harrisburg the legislature saw fit to give ownership of alternative energy credits derived from electricity generated by waste-to-energy facilities and other renewable sources to the electric utilities, resulting in lost dollars to York County and other Pennsylvania counties with similar facilities.

At a time when this country and state need to tap every form of energy available to it, I see no reason to turn the lights off on waste-to-energy. The York County Resource Recovery Center (the "Center") or what some people refer to as the "incinerator", is a state-of-the-art facility. The Center has been processing York County's municipal solid waste since 1989 and has managed more than 7 million tons of waste. Every Year, the Center makes more than 225,000,000 kwh of electricity, saves more than 500,000 barrels of oil, provides enough continuous electricity for 20,000 homes and saves more than 13 acres of land that would have been consumed if the waste had to be managed at a landfill.

The above numbers are impressive for York County, but they become even more important when waste-to-energy is viewed as a renewable energy resource in the context of how it can benefit our nation. Twenty-three states including Pennsylvania, have already defined waste-to-energy as a renewable resource. Communities where waste-to-energy is used have a higher recycling rate. All waste-to-energy facilities comply with the US Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Maximum Achievable Control Technology (MACT), and EPA has concluded that waste-to-energy facilities produce electricity "with less environmental impact than almost any other source of electricity".

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The nation's 88 waste-to-energy facilities safely manage approximately 95,000 tons of household trash every day and have an electric generation capacity of 2,700 megawatts. By combusting trash that would have otherwise been landfilled, these facilities offset methane emissions from landfills, carbon dioxide emissions from fossil fuel-fired power plants, and (through the recovery and recycling of ferrous metals at waste-to-energy facilities) reduce greenhouse gas emissions associated with metals production. EPA has determined that for every ton of trash processed by a waste-to-energy facility, the release of one ton of carbon dioxide equivalents is **avoided**.

Today York County has a population of approximately 416,000 people generating and throwing away trash. In 2006 approximately 445,000 tons of waste was used to make renewable electricity. Our waste meets two basic criteria for establishing what a renewable energy resource is—it is sustainable and it is indigenous. We each make it every day and we each throw it away every day. So what is the problem? I'm afraid it boils down to special interests and agendas, not what is actually best for the nation, the state, York County or even you and I.

Bill Ehrman

William A. Ehrman
Executive Director

Recreation Facility Update

In August of 2006, construction of the Hopewell Area Recreation Complex began on the grounds of the now-closed York County Sanitary Landfill.

The recreation complex features a multi-use field (soccer, lacrosse, etc.), an adult softball/youth baseball field, a central walking trail made of crushed stone, mowed (grass) walking trails, a picnic pavilion, portable restrooms and a youth playground and tot lot.

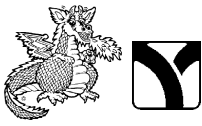


Workers install playground equipment at the Hopewell Area Recreation Complex.

Other features of the complex include a wildlife habitat and areas designated for bird watching and star-gazing. About 200 acres of the 306-acre landfill site are being used for the complex's facilities and activity areas. The complex may be used by all York County residents.

The mowed walking trail areas of the site are now open. Because grass is still being established in all other areas of the complex, **ONLY** the mowed walking trails are open to the public. The rest of the complex is expected to be ready for public use by next year.

The Authority owns and maintains the York County Sanitary Landfill and likewise, the Hopewell Area Recreation Complex. Hopewell Township is in charge of operations at the recreation complex including scheduling all facility uses and enforcing rules and regulations.



Buster the Combuster Dragon©
is the Authority's official mascot.

York County Solid Waste Authority
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Calendar of Events

- Ongoing** Phone Book Recycling continues **through Oct. 17.** Drop off old telephone books at various collection centers. Call the Authority for collection locations.
- Oct. 7** Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program. Bring HHW to the collection site at the Authority's Management Center, 9AM to 1PM.
- Oct. 10** Authority monthly public meetings. All meetings are held at the
- Nov. 14** Management Center, 2700 Blackbridge Road, Manchester Township.
- Dec. 19** Meetings start at 6:30PM. Public invited.
- Dec. 26** Christmas tree recycling. Drop off your Christmas trees for recycling at
- through** William H. Kain County Park (Lake Redman Boat Launch Area) and at the
- Jan. 31** Authority's Yard Waste Transfer Facility.

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Chuck Clouser, Vice Chairman	Clarence Nace, Member
Joseph Hoheneder, Secretary	Wayne Paup, Member
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is published for York County residents. Comments are welcomed and should be directed to the editor in writing or by calling: 717-845-1066.

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