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The county's eCycling program is one of only three in the state and already has doubled the county's collection of recyclable electronics.

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Fairhaven Retirement Community and the Baltimore Ravens have each been awarded Certificates of Excellence for establishing and improving their recycling programs.

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Baltimore County Selected for NRC Award

The National Recycling Coalition chose Baltimore County for its 2002 Outstanding Government Program Award. Page 5

Arthur G. Balmer Appointed to Authority Board

Arthur G. Balmer, Chief of the Division of Solid Waste Services for Montgomery County, has been appointed a member of the Authority's Board of Directors. After graduating from the Scott Sutherland School of Architecture in Scotland, Mr. Balmer lived in Scotland and began his career as an architect designing schools.

In 1964, Mr. Balmer, a native Scot, began a successful architectural practice and construction company. For the next 16 years, he worked on a variety of architectural design and construction projects, including office buildings, small hotels, residential and industrial projects, historical renovations, and sewer, water and road design and construction.


In 1979, Mr. Balmer moved to the U.S. and in 1981 he accepted a position with MES as general manager for field operations. In addition to ensuring that all MES operations and facilities functioned in an environmentally sound, safe and economical manner, he developed standing operating plans and procedures for all MES facilities. He also prepared vehicle, equipment and building maintenance schedules and specified equipment and supplies for procurement. Most notably, Mr. Balmer was the project manager for a \$53 million controversial dredge spoil containment site. The facility was unique in that it was an offshore location and required careful planning and designing of its security and communications.

Mr. Balmer became a project development manager in 1984 for Recovery Associates, Inc. where he again employed his architectural training in the preparation of building design drawings and specifications. He also proposed development and feasibility studies for various types of facilities and services, including a Medical Waste Incinerator.

Mr. Balmer began working for Montgomery County government in 1987 as a planner and planning manager for the Department of Environmental Protection. He was the county's project manager for the

Authority's \$290 million Resource Recovery Facility. He also managed and implemented a \$60 million expansion at the Oaks Landfill.

In 1993, Mr. Balmer was promoted to division chief for Montgomery County's department of Public Works and Transportation Solid Wastes Services. He is responsible for the management of the county's Solid Waste Disposal and Collection Fund Operating Budgets, which exceed \$90 million per year. Additionally, Mr. Balmer plans the long and short-term work programs to ensure the proper and reliable management of the county's solid waste, which also includes overseeing the conception, design, development, construction and operation of new facilities.

Mr. Balmer resides in Montgomery County with his wife, Cathy. 



Authority Releases 2002 Annual Report

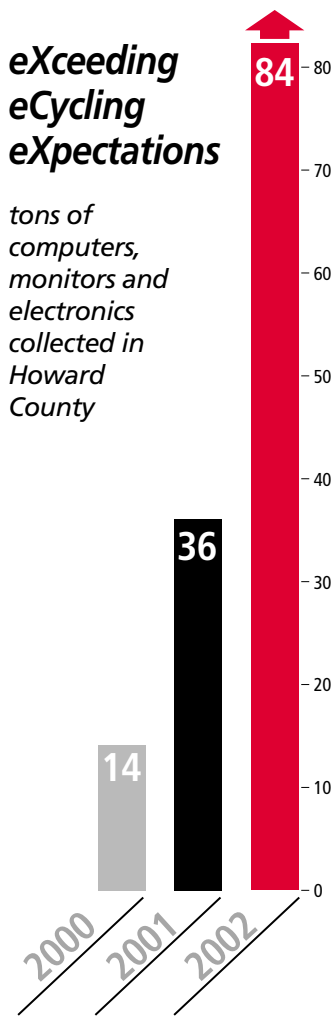
Authority Executive Director Robin Davidov reflects on the Authority's FY 2002 Accomplishments. It was, according to Davidov, a year of turning challenges into opportunities. Pages 2, 3, 4

eXcellent Results with Howard County eCycling Project

Recycling Rates Exceed Projections

eXceeding eCycling eXpectations


tons of computers, monitors and electronics collected in Howard County

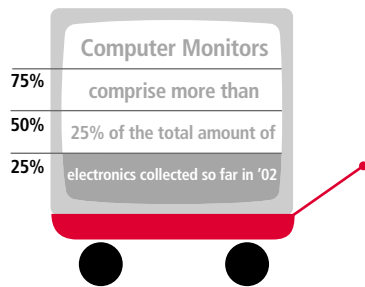


In December 1999, Howard County became the first county in the State of Maryland to collect and recycle computers and peripherals such as keyboards, mice and printers. Two years later, county officials expanded the program to include computer monitors, televisions and other small electronics through a partnership with MDE and EPA's Region III eCycling Project.

More than 14 tons of old PCs and peripherals were diverted through the county program in 2000. In 2001 that number rose to 36 tons. Recycling division staff estimated that the inclusion of computer monitors and televisions would double that number in 2002. As of August of this year, the county had already collected 84 tons of computers, monitors, and electronics. Computer monitors comprise more than 25 percent of the total collected so far this year.

Howard County's program is one of just three permanent eCycling programs in the state. eCycling material is dropped off by residents into special trailers located at the Alpha Ridge Landfill Convenience Area in Marriottsville. The county delivers full trailers to a dedicated building on the Alpha Ridge site where the components are sorted for pick-up by the county's electronics recycling contractor, Subtractions. Alpha Ridge is open from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday. The program is open to Howard County residents and small businesses. Businesses with more than 20 CPUs will be referred directly to a private contractor.

For more information on Howard County's eCycling program, please contact Phil Bresee at (410) 313-6444. 



Robin Davidov, executive director of the Authority recently released the Authority's 2002 Annual Report. Along with the Audited Statement, she presented the following summary of 2002 accomplishments:

Turning challenges into opportunities is one of the Authority's greatest strengths. Certainly, this past year has put us to the test. With four completely different projects, the Authority's dedicated members and staff creatively seized unique and unexpected opportunities to increase and preserve valuable sources of revenue.

2002:

Fiscal Year 2002 was a Year of

In a deal that was just completed at the end of the fiscal year, the Authority, on behalf of Harford County, purchased the Harford County Waste-to-Energy Facility from Waste Energy Partners, LP (WEP) for \$10.5 million. The opportunity arose in August 2001, when WEP announced it wanted to sell the facility to focus more on its core business of operating industrial facilities. Without hesitation, Harford County officials recognized that this integral component of the county's solid waste disposal system would be a valuable asset for the growing county. The Authority was directed to negotiate the purchase of the facility and to finance the purchase through issuing \$11 million in bonds. In order to assure long-term revenues to support the new debt, the Authority re-negotiated its steam purchase agreement with Aberdeen Proving Ground and extended the contract expiration date from 2008 to 2016. The extension met the U.S. Army's goals for reliable energy from a renewable fuel source and for stable and predictable energy prices. Brambles, the parent company of WEP, will continue operating the facility. After nine months of negotiations, the Authority/Harford County project team, led by Authority Member Jerry Wheeler, conducted a seamless transition, which occurred on July 1, 2002.

Another surprising turn of events thrust the Authority into quick action on a major bond issue. Earlier in the year, Covanta (formerly Ogden Martin), operator of the Montgomery County Resource Recovery Facility, suffered a reduction in its debt rating and subsequently filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy in April. Fortunately, the service agreement between the Authority and Covanta did anticipate financial stresses (although not bankruptcy) and agreements were quickly moved into place that preserved the very high rating on the Authority's bonds. Most other Covanta project bonds were downgraded. When this situation arose, I worked closely with Jonathan Bilmes, executive director of the Bristol, Connecticut Resource Recovery Facility, to organize a special committee of Covanta waste-to-energy clients across the country so

that we could more effectively advocate for our local communities. The group has been successful in encouraging Covanta to pay certain debts owed to local businesses.

Always mindful of potential new revenue sources, the Authority this year took the progressive step of approving a one-year brokerage agreement to sell greenhouse gas credits. Most government and environmental groups agree that the most efficient way to quickly improve air quality is to allow industries to purchase emission reduction credits. Thus a landfill owner who voluntarily installs a methane recovery system may offset the cost through the sale of emission reduction credits. While this is an emerging market with few public entities yet to be actively involved, we hope to complete a revenue-generating transaction in FY 2003.

Based on the premise that organic material is too good to waste, the Authority developed a low-cost pilot program to co-compost yard waste and sewage sludge. The idea was hatched a few years ago when the Commissioners of Carroll County told me that they believed in composting waste to produce a useful and marketable product. I took this as a challenge and sought out the advice of our organics consultant. After visiting some composting sites, I suggested that the county try co-composting yard waste and sewage sludge, which was being disposed of in the landfill. David Hill, marketing manager of U.S. Filter's Baltimore Composting Facility, lent a hand in designing the pilot program. Through the leadership of Authority Member Gary Horst and work by his dedicated staff, the program was successfully completed this year. The long-term goals of this composting program are to conserve landfill space and to increase the county's recycling rates, which will in time reduce the county's overall waste management costs.

I am very proud to be part of the Authority, an organization recognized nationally for leadership and innovation in solid waste management. The following is a more detailed summary of our fiscal year 2002 accomplishments.

FISCAL YEAR 2002

Southwest Resource Recovery Facility (BRESKO)

Harford Waste-to-Energy Facility

Baltimore City Composting Facility

Montgomery County Resource Recovery Facility

Anne Arundel/Howard County Waste Export Program

Commercial Recycling

Opportunity for the Authority

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

BRESCO completed its 18th year of operations. In fiscal year 2002, BRESCO installed a 5 megawatt, non-condensing turbine generator, which will allow the facility to co-generate electricity with the steam that is sold. In addition, the facility's aquaculture center has been upgraded and is again operational. BRESCO is working with the Department of Natural Resources to raise striped and large mouth bass.

In fiscal year 2002, the Authority purchased the Harford County Waste-to-Energy Facility for \$10.5 million. The Authority also worked on a plan to remove and recycle metals from ash produced at the facility, with a goal of diverting 100 percent of the ash to conserve Harford County's landfill space. The ash recycling program is planned to start in FY 2003.

The Baltimore City Composting Facility, which just completed its 14th year of operations, received an award for operational excellence. The Authority hosted tours of the facility for Johns Hopkins environmental engineering students and for waste management professionals who attended the SWANA conference.

This past year, the Authority was successful in increasing Baltimore City's share of revenues. We also have been working on locating additional storage for the compost produced at the facility. Compost from the facility was used by the city for 18 Parks Department projects.

The Authority developed and issued a request for proposals for additional rail haul equipment. Proposals were evaluated and a vendor was selected to provide rail cars. A study was completed to identify potential ways to accommodate increasing waste tonnage through the transfer station system.

The Authority continues to manage the Anne Arundel/Howard County Waste Export Program. Now in its sixth year, the program has significantly prolonged the life of landfills in both counties through waste diversion. This year, approximately 275,000 tons of waste was transported by rail to the King George County Landfill in Virginia. Authority staff members continued to monitor landfill compliance and organized a site visit for the county's new public works director and other Anne Arundel and Howard Counties officials.

The Authority continued to assist recycling coordinators with collecting data for reports required by the Maryland Recycling Act. The Authority's commercial recycling specialist completed 40 waste analysis site visits in six jurisdictions. An analysis of the recycled glass situation, in light of the declining market, was conducted and the Authority is making efforts to find beneficial construction uses and other markets for recycled glass. Additionally, the Authority implemented the recommendations of a market study conducted last year to improve its commercial recycling efforts. A GIS mapping feature was added to the Authority's business-to-business recycling website, www.mdrecycles.org. The Authority also developed and published a brochure to publicize the commercial recycling assistance programs and increase business recycling.

This year, Authority board members presented commercial recycling awards to: the Baltimore Ravens Training Facility and Home Depot in Baltimore County, Fairhaven Retirement Community in Carroll County, C&S Wholesale Groceries in Harford County and Bowels Fluidics Corporation in Howard County – all either started or significantly improved their recycling programs.

OTHER FISCAL YEAR 2002 PROJECTS

Baltimore City

A project that started in FY 2001 with the procurement of a construction company to build two truck wash facilities was completed this year. The Authority further assisted Baltimore City by overseeing the construction of both truck wash facilities. In addition, the Authority managed landfill gas and ground water monitoring for the city's Quarantine Road Landfill.

Carroll County

The Authority assisted with the successful implementation and testing of a co-compost pilot at the Northern Landfill and arranged site visits to other co-composting facilities for county staff. We are currently involved in an ongoing landfill-as-bioreactor study.

Harford County

The Authority is working with Harford County on a landfill gas migration study and continues to assist with ground water analysis. The costing of solid waste services project that began last year was completed. This study will be invaluable to the county in developing its solid waste programs.


Howard County

The Authority evaluated proposals for the marketing of Class A biosolids from Howard County's wastewater treatment plant. An award is anticipated next year. The Authority also completed a landfill gas-to-energy feasibility assessment for the county.

Legislative/Regulatory Initiatives

The Authority staff updated the Authority's public information regulations, continued its attempts to persuade MDE to adopt regulations for the beneficial use of ash residue and urged federal and state officials to include waste-to-energy in all proposals to set renewable portfolio standards.

General

The Authority held a one-day seminar on biosolids and yard waste co-composting for all Member Jurisdictions and made arrangements for several jurisdictions to tour an ash recycling facility. In addition, the Authority was selected to develop the debris management section of the Baltimore Metropolitan Council's regional disaster management plan. This effort will be completed next year. 

Retirement Community Goes to Work on Recycling!


Authority Recognizes Fairhaven for Recycling Excellence

The Authority Board voted earlier this year to award Fairhaven Retirement Community in Sykesville, Maryland a *Certificate of Excellence in Recycling* for their efforts in creating a cost-effective program that benefits the environment while improving the bottom line.

The Fairhaven Retirement Community is an extended care community that houses nearly 400 residents and employs approximately 300 employees. The facility contains cottages and apartments, assisted living quarters and nursing home beds. It also contains a large commercial kitchen and several separate office areas.

Clif Dowling, commercial recycling specialist for the Authority, visited Fairhaven earlier this year along with Ms. Vinnie Legge, Carroll County recycling coordinator. They toured the facility, reviewed the waste disposal system and made suggestions for improvements.

As a result of their suggestions, employees of Fairhaven were able to improve an existing recycling program for mixed paper and cardboard. Now residents and employees participate in an expanded recycling program.

Gary Horst, Vinnie Legge, and Tracie Reynolds presented the award at a meeting of the Carroll County Commissioners on July 25. 

Baltimore Ravens Score Touchdown for Recycling!

Authority Recognizes NFL Team for Recycling Excellence


The Board of Directors of the Authority awarded a *Certificate of Excellence in Recycling* to the Baltimore Ravens football team for the recycling program recently established at their training facility in Owings Mills, Maryland. Mr. Charles Reighart, recycling and waste prevention manager for Baltimore County, presented the award at the Ravens' training facility on October 8.

The Ravens initiated their recycling program as a result of a site analysis conducted by Joe Pistorio of Baltimore County's recycling division and Clif Dowling, commercial recycling specialist for the Authority. Pistorio and Dowling evaluated the facility's waste disposal program and made recommendations for establishing a cost-effective recycling program. The Ravens' staff then implemented a new program for recycling paper and cardboard. The team's recycling



Charles Reighart and Ellen Kobler (left) of the Baltimore County Recycling Office joined Authority Recycling Specialist Clif Dowling (right) in presenting a *Certificate of Recycling Excellence* award to Bob Eller (center), director of operations and information for the Baltimore Ravens.

program is an excellent example of a cost-effective program that benefits the environment while improving the bottom line.

Anyone interested in starting a recycling program or expanding an existing recycling program at their business or institution can learn more by going to the Maryland Recycles website at www.mdrecycles.org or by calling Clif Dowling at (410) 333-3066. 

Cheers to Baltimore County!

NRC Honors Baltimore County Recycling Program


Baltimore County's Recycling Program was awarded the National Recycling Coalition's (NRC) 2002 Outstanding Government Program Award. This is the second time in four years that the Baltimore County program has received national recognition.

Baltimore County's Recycling and Waste Prevention Manager, Charles Reighart, accepted the Award at NRC's annual conference held in Austin, Texas. The nonprofit organization is considered the principal voice of the recycling industry, representing more than 500 recycling businesses, nonprofit and government agencies and individuals.

"Our recycling program is one of the most efficient and cost-effective anywhere and everyone in Baltimore County who recycles can be proud of this national recogni-

tion," said County Executive C.A. Dutch Ruppertsberger.

Reighart attributes the award to the county's unique and successful recycling and waste prevention programs, particularly the residential once-a-week recycling and once-a-week trash collection program. The steady growth of this program over the past nine years has contributed to the county's achievement of a 40 percent recycling rate for the past two years. Last year, the county generated revenues of \$1.5 million from the sale of recyclable paper, bottles and cans.

Earlier this year, the county also was recognized for outstanding government leadership by the Maryland Recyclers Coalition, an affiliate of the National Recycling Coalition. 

Authority Appoints New Project Analyst



The Authority recently appointed Brian Bush as a project analyst. Mr. Bush received his bachelor's degree in geology from the University of Delaware and a certificate in hydrogeology from Oklahoma State University. Upon graduation, he held various positions within the oil and gas industry. His recent experience includes working as plant disposal manager for Clean Harbors of Baltimore and as an environmental specialist for EAI Corporation. In his spare time, Mr. Bush enjoys landscaping, gardening, and photography. ❧

Clean Shores Initiative Sets Sail in Baltimore County

A new initiative to clean up and protect shoreline and tidal waterways in Baltimore County was launched this summer by Baltimore County's Department of Environmental Protection and Division of Resource Management.

In the first weeks of the program, a specialized boat captain and crew employed by Civic Works removed tons of floating debris from the county's 219 miles of shoreline. Civic Works is a local youth service corps that conducts community service and environmental projects throughout Baltimore County and the City of Baltimore. The Civic Works crew has captured more than 60 tires, 100 bags of floating plastic and styrofoam trash, white goods, shopping carts, bikes and tons of wood-waste. Recovered debris comes from roadside litter, illegal dumping and debris



from storm drains that would eventually empty into the Chesapeake Bay through several large tributaries, if not for this program.

The Clean Shores program is financed through a \$40,000 grant from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources' Waterway Improvement Fund, which is generated by boating fees.

For more information on the County's Clean Shores program, contact the Department of Environmental Protection and Resource Management at 410-887-3778. ❧



Northeast
Maryland
Waste
Disposal
Authority

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