


Authority Renews Service Agreement With Waste Management

Anne Arundel and Howard Counties recently approved a one-year extension of the Authority's contract for waste disposal services. The counties have the right to deliver solid waste for 13 more years, with annual renewal options. Combined, the counties delivered 287,370 tons of solid waste during fiscal year 1999. Waste delivered to the Annapolis Junction Transfer Station in Jessup, Maryland is loaded onto railcars and transported directly to the King George Landfill in Virginia. 

Montgomery County Ash Recycling Program *(continued from page 1)*



**JUNE
6/7
2000**

The Maryland Recyclers Coalition's 12th Annual Conference will feature training and expositions. It will be held at Chesapeake College in Wye Mills, Maryland. Call the MRC at (410) 974-4472.


A Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference sponsored by Waste News will be held at the Turf Valley Inn in Ellicott City, Maryland. Call Nancy Rudy at (330) 865-6176

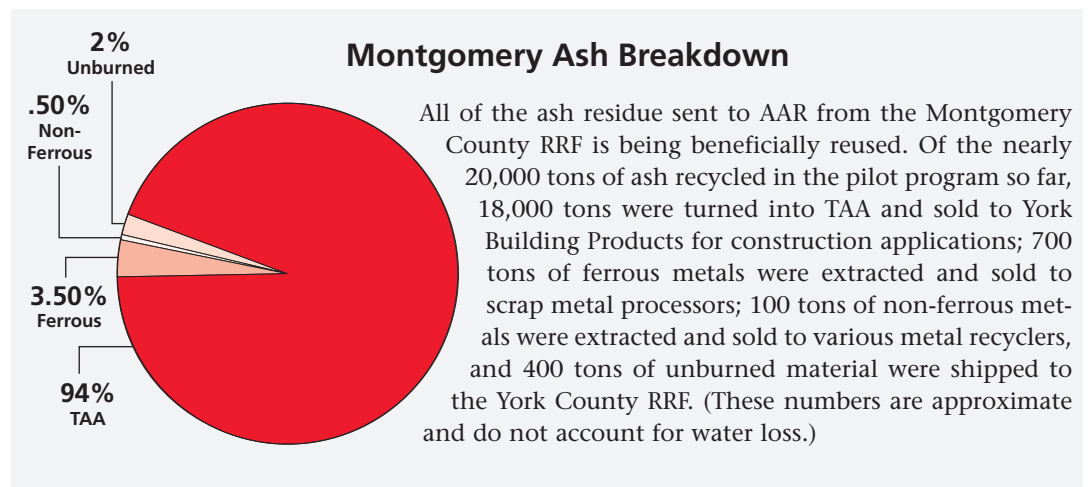
**JUNE
15/17
2000**

metals are washed and run through a hand picking station, where copper, brass, coins and small amounts of gold and silver are separated from the aluminum.

The Authority is very pleased with the results of the program so far. All of the ash residue sent to AAR is beneficially reused. Nearly 90 percent of ash becomes TAA and is used in road aggregate. The remaining

TAA is used in a variety of construction applications, such as roadbeds, concrete pillars and blocks. It also is used to make bathroom tiles and artificial reefs, and is used for erosion control.

10 percent is recovered metals. We have found there are a lot of recyclables in the waste stream that are not compatible with curbside recycling programs, but can be recovered and recycled from the ash. 



Closing the Loop Close to Home

by Clifton Dowling

Recycling advocates have long stressed that recyclable materials are not completely recycled until they have been incorporated into new products purchased by consumers. It is only when a consumer purchases a product with recycled content that the recycling loop is closed. That is why it is important to buy recycled.

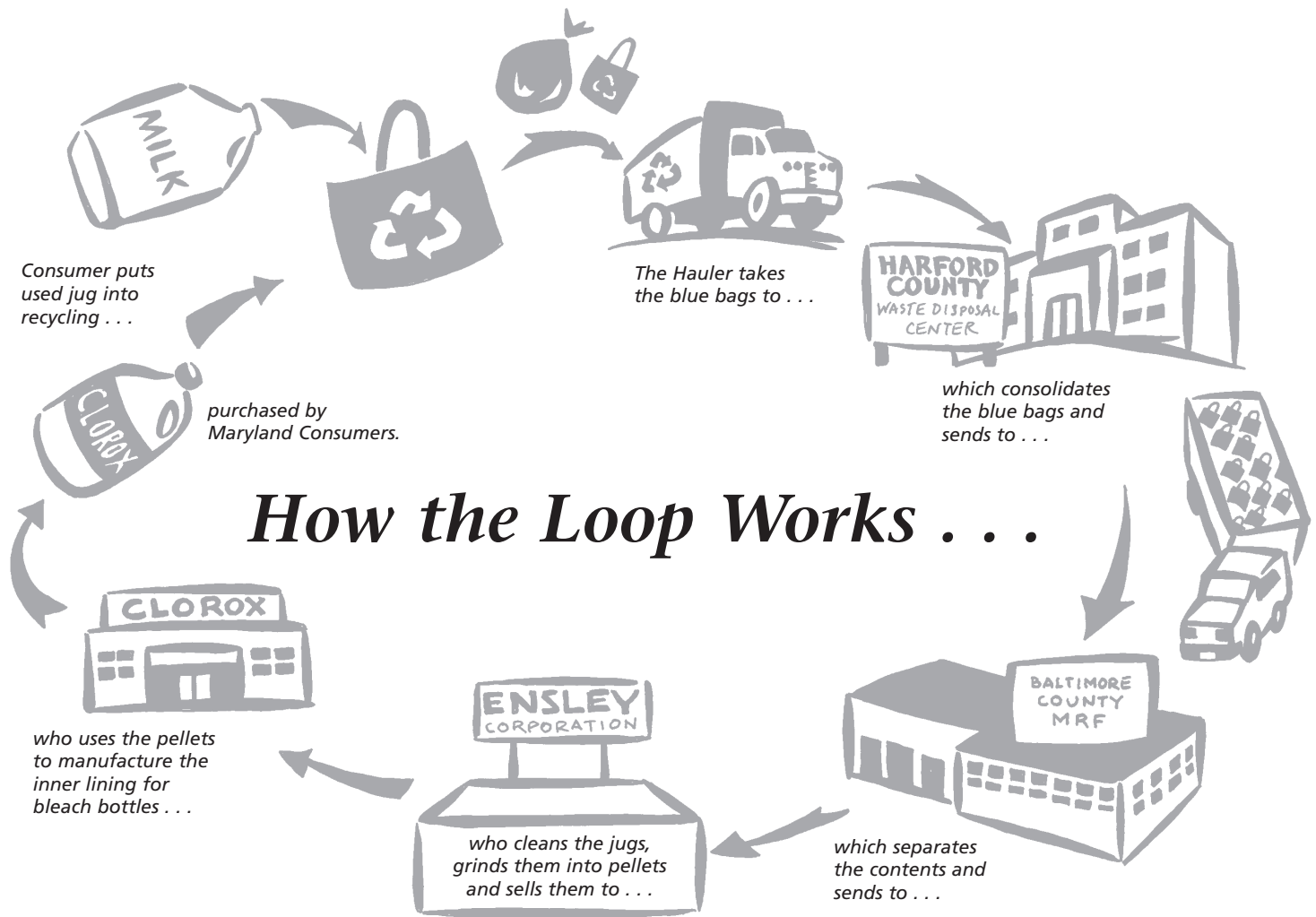
A classic example of closing the recycling loop is happening daily within the Authority's member jurisdictions. We can follow the recycling trail of the plastic in a common one-gallon milk jug to illustrate this point. If you look on the bottom of a plastic milk jug you will find a recycling symbol, three arrows following each other in a circle surrounding the number two. The "2" stands for high-density polyethylene, a plastic commonly abbreviated as HDPE.

Let's start with a one-gallon milk jug purchased by a consumer in Harford County. After drinking the milk, the consumer places the jug in a blue plastic bag and places the bag on the curb for recycling. A trash hauler picks up the bag on recycling day. The hauler takes the blue bag, along with hundreds of others, to the transfer station at the Harford County Waste Disposal Center. Thousands of blue bags are consolidated at the transfer station and eventually loaded onto a tractor-trailer, which hauls them to a materials recycling facility (MRF) in Baltimore County.

The blue bags are unloaded at the MRF, where the contents are removed and separated. The separated materials are then sold to recycling processors. Our HDPE jug is sold to the Ensley Corporation, a plastics recycler in Baltimore.

Employees at the Ensley Corporation wash the plastic jugs and grind them into pellets, which are sold to the Clorox Products Manufacturing Company in Harford County. Clorox purchases more than five million pounds of recycled plastic pellets from Ensley every year. The recycled HDPE is made into the inner lining of Clorox's famous white bleach bottle. The bottles are then filled with bleach. Some of them end up on store shelves in Harford County and other Authority jurisdictions. When a consumer purchases a bottle with recycled HDPE content, the recycling loop is closed!

Once the HDPE bleach bottle is empty, it can be placed in a blue bag at the curb to begin the journey through the recycling loop another time. As Yogi Berra once remarked, "It's déjà vu all over again." ❏





◀ Spray Dryer Absorber for unit #2 is fully assembled with penthouse and inlet duct.

BRESCO RETROFIT

update:

The BRESCO Retrofit project is at its halfway point, with 35 of 70 milestones completed. Phase two of the Building Permit was issued by Baltimore City in February. This was the last major permit required for the retrofit construction. Wheelabrator Air Pollution Control and Burns & Roe, engineers for the project, continue to review vendor submittals and resolve questions that arise in the field.

All the major equipment has been purchased and received. A vendor shop visit was made to Beaumont Birch, supplier of ash conditioner conveyors. Subcontracts were recently awarded to BPR Roofing to finish the roof, Potts & Callahan to finish the site work and Mid-Atlantic to modify the flue gas ductwork/expansion joints. Bids to finish painting are currently being received.

There has been much progress with the lime preparation building. The main foundation was completed and the skeleton of the building is in good shape, with installation of the structural steel, masonry walls, and roof deck in place. Electrical work is ongoing, with the grounding grid in place at the lime preparation slab. Three lime silos and the carbon silo have been set into position. The atomizing air compressors and the atomizing air receiver tank also were installed. A dilution water tank that will pump water to the Spray Dryer Absorbers (SDAs) was fabricated on-site. Pipe supports were set and the process piping continues. A pipe bridge, which carries atomizing air, lime slurry and dilution water from the lime preparation building to the boiler building, was constructed.

An elevator in the boiler building was completed and put into operation. In addition, the rooftop fans and ventilators were set and the ventilators were wired. A second wet vent scrubber was situated on the fourth floor of

the boiler building to limit fugitive emissions from the ash handling system. A divider wall, constructed next to the export steam station, will prevent dust from the ash handling system from migrating to the boiler building. All of the SDAs are assembled and in place including the penthouses and inlet ducts. The piping within the penthouse for SDA #1 is nearly complete and is just beginning in SDA #2. Insulation and lagging of SDA #1 is also nearly finished. The hopper heaters on electrostatic precipitator #1 were installed in the bottom third of the hopper and provide enough heat to maintain a hopper wall temperature above 300°F. ESP hopper heater controls and the ESP hopper impactors have been installed. The tumbling hammer rappers in the ESPs have been replaced. ESP purge air blowers and heaters were set so that warm air can be circulated in the bottom of the ESPs. The circulation of warm air will help prevent corrosion from occurring in the lower zone of the ESPs where a temperature drop is expected.

Another area where significant improvements were made was the ash conditioning building. Due to the SDAs and the addition of calcium products, BRESCO will generate more ash than they do now, therefore a new ash conveying and conditioning system was designed. The structural steel, siding and roofing for the building also were completed. In addition, sections of various conveyors were installed including the ash conditioner conveyor, fly ash conveyor, ash screw conveyor and drag conveyor. Wiring for the motors and instrumentation for the ash conditioning conveying equipment was installed.

The project remains on track for a mechanical completion date of September 2000 and a compliance deadline of December 19, 2000. Visit the project web site, www.brescoupgrade.com to learn more. ❧



▲ Masonry walls have been constructed for the lime preparation building.



▲ At the lime preparation building, three lime silos and one carbon silo have been received and set.

The pipe bridge will carry main process piping systems from the lime preparation building to the boiler building.



The True Meaning of Christmas

We hear and read a lot about corporate outreach and the positive effect it has on the communities in our state. This past Christmas, BRESKO employees witnessed the true spirit of the season in an unexpected act of kindness and selflessness.

Every year BRESKO employees send a "Santa" to Westport and Federal Hill Elementary schools. Last season, Federal Hill Elementary was the first stop on Santa's list and he arrived with his arms full of stockings, 250 of them! As Santa handed out stockings and the line of eager children dwindled down, it became apparent that Santa was one stocking short. One of Santa's helpers rushed out to get another stocking. Seeing that all the stockings had been given out with none left for her, the last child began to cry. But before anyone could explain that a stocking was on its way another student, who had already received a stocking, came forward and offered it to the crying child. "I don't want to see anyone cry because they don't get a stocking," she said.

Steve Tomczewski, BRESKO's plant manager, later learned that the little girl who so selflessly gave up her stocking was homeless and living in a shelter with her mother. The stocking she was willing to give up would have been the only Christmas present she would receive that year. ❧

Biosolids Conference: Fact vs. Fears

The Water Environment Federation held its 14th Annual Residuals and Biosolids Management Conference in Boston, February 27 through March 1. More than 50 companies exhibited and nearly 800 professionals from industry and government participated.

"*Accomplishments to Date: Opportunities for the Future*," was the theme of the conference. It was aimed at gaining greater public acceptance of biosolids recycling. The keynote speaker was Jeff Stier, associate director of the

American Council on Science and Health. Mr. Stier talked about the media's role in influencing public policy. He said that science information often is distorted and that this plays to public fears. He advised the biosolids industry to use accurate language and sound science when countering distortions of fact. Other topics presented at the conference included privatization, land application, stabilization processes, odor control and biosolid product stability. ❧

John M. Brusnighan Elected Chairman

John Brusnighan, director of public works for Anne Arundel County, has been elected Chairman of the Board for the Authority. He has represented Anne Arundel County on the Authority's board since 1993.

Before returning to public service, John was chief executive officer of Case Edwards Companies, an Annapolis-based developer, builder and manager of garden apartments in the Mid-Atlantic region. He also served as vice president and director of marketing for ABS Capital Management, a Washington, D.C. financial services corporation. From 1960 to 1985, John worked for the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) in Hyattsville, Maryland, the water and sewer

utility service provider for Montgomery and Prince George's Counties. He started with the WSSC as personnel director and assistant director of administrative services. In 1983, he was appointed general manager and served in that position until his retirement from the WSSC in 1985.

John has also worked as a consultant to USAID and the World Bank on assignments in the Middle East and Europe. He has served as a consultant to investment banking, management and pension consulting firms in Washington, D.C.

A resident of Severna Park, John holds a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration from the University of Alabama. ❧

Rite Aid Receives Recycling Award

The Board of Directors of the Authority and the Harford County Government awarded a certificate of excellence in recycling to the Rite Aid Corporation, which is located in Perryman in Harford County. The presentation ceremony took place at Swan Harbor Farm, a Harford County park, during the Harford County Earth Day Celebration on April 15. Ms. Robin Davidov, executive director of the Authority and Mr. James Richardson, Harford County director of human resources, jointly presented the award to Mr. Bob Kiely, facility manager for the Rite Aid distribution center.

The Rite Aid facility in Perryman serves as a regional distribution center for recyclables.

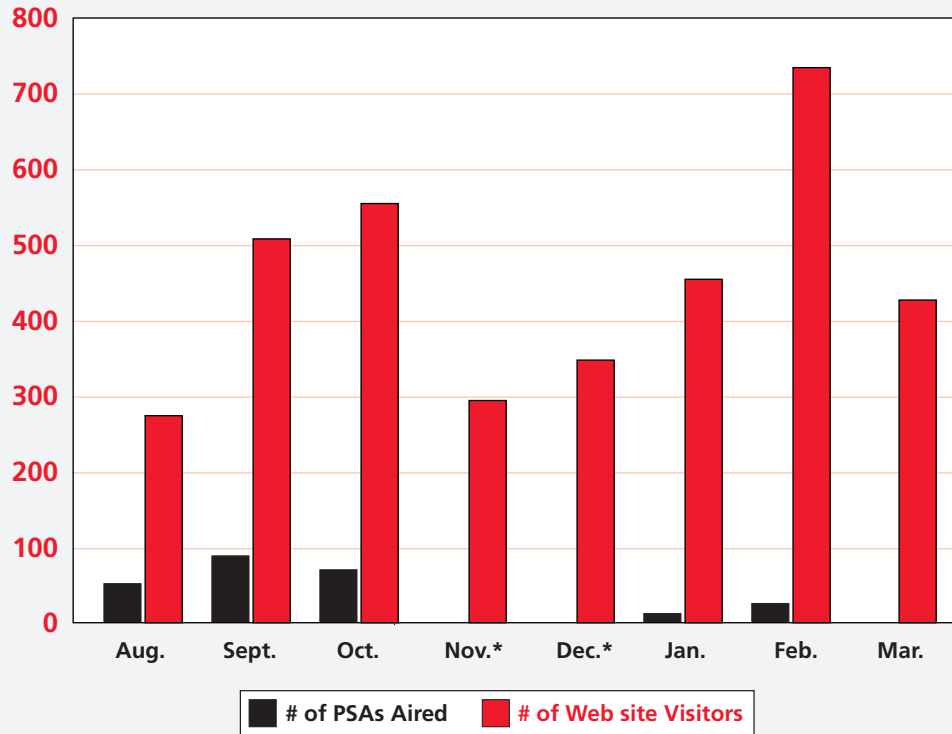
The building was constructed in 1998 and has 960,000 square feet of floor space. The exemplary recycling program at this facility employs three horizontal balers just to bale old corrugated containers for recycling. These balers produce enough bales of cardboard to fill a forty-eight-foot trailer every two days! A vertical baler is employed to bale stretch wrap and plastic pill bottles for recycling.

Employees at the facility also separate and recycle paper, wood pallets, scrap metal, used oil and used antifreeze. Even damaged bags of pet food are sent to the local humane society instead of being disposed of as trash.

The Authority congratulates the Rite Aid Corporation and its employees for their dedication to recycling. ❧

PSA Spots Prompt More Web Site Visits

This has been an exciting winter for the Authority's business-to-business recycling website, mdrecycles.org. In late January and early February, FOX-45 aired the Authority's public service announcements featuring local recycling vendors. The bar graph reveals an interesting trend. When the PSA was airing, in January and February, the number of website visitors was significantly higher than the previous two months when no spots were aired. Twelve spots aired in January and 18 spots aired in February. The number of visitors is still increasing with 738 website visitors for the month of February alone, a new record!



*PSA Spot aired from 8/16/99 through 10/25/99 and aired again from 1/25/00 through 2/9/00



Northeast
Maryland
Waste
Disposal
Authority

WASTEWATCH

25 S. Charles Street, Suite 2105
Baltimore, Maryland 21201-3330
(410) 333-2730 / FAX: (410) 333-2721
E-mail: authority@nmwda.org
Website: www.nmwda.org

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Brusnighan Elected Chairman

John Brusnighan, director of public works for Anne Arundel County, is now Chairman of the Authority. **Page 5**

Recycling Website Gets Hits

The Authority's business-to-business recycling website received a high volume of hits in January, February and March. **Page 6**

Progress Report: Montgomery County Ash Recycling Pilot Program

In January, Authority Project Assistant Paul Schmidt visited American Ash Recycling (AAR) in York Pennsylvania to observe the ash processing operation. Under the terms of a two-year pilot program (June 1999–May 2001), AAR is processing ash residue from the Montgomery County Resource Recovery Facility. AAR recovers all ferrous and nonferrous metals, removes unburned combustible materials and turns the remaining ash into a uniform Treated Ash Aggregate (TAA).

Ash treatment begins with primary screening and bulk reduction. (This step is usually skipped when processing ash from Montgomery County, because large unburned material is already separated at the county's facility.) Ferrous metals are removed through a primary and secondary separation process and washed. Aggregate is then separated and treated. The resulting product is TAA. A patented classification system removes the unburned materials. Non-ferrous metals are separated from the remaining aggregate, which is recycled back into the system. The non-ferrous

(continued on page 2)



The AAR facility in York, Pennsylvania processes ash from the Montgomery County Resource Recovery Facility.

