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Commercial Recycling Studied

The Authority recently commissioned a study of commercial recycling in its member jurisdictions. The results, which will guide future commercial recycling outreach efforts, appear on **page 3**

State Goes for Green Energy

Governor Glendening orders state facilities to begin using energy from clean sources and to increase the percentage of "green energy" use during the next decade. **Page 4**

Authority Awards Morgan State University for Recycling Program

George Winfield, Director of Public Works for the City of Baltimore and a member of the Authority's Board of Directors, presented the Authority's recycling award to Morgan State University in April. Officials from the university were recognized for their determination and commitment to establishing a campus-wide recycling program during the past year.

In assisting the university, Authority Recycling Specialist Clif Dowling completed a thorough waste assessment. In order to determine approximately how much waste the university disposed of during a typical month and how much per ton it cost to dispose of the material as trash, Mr. Dowling reviewed several months of trash hauling invoices. He

also examined the contents of all dumpsters and roll-offs serving the campus. This helped to determine what was disposed of and how much could be recycled.

Mr. Dowling also arranged for officers from Morgan to tour the University of Maryland at Baltimore County to observe the campus' highly successful recycling program. Other technical assistance provided by the Authority to Morgan State's recycling committee included suggestions about how to establish and promote the recycling program and help with finding a recycling service provider.

The community of Morgan State University currently recycles approximately nine tons of paper, cardboard and used beverage containers per month.

The Authority extends congratulations and best wishes for continued success to Morgan's staff and students. Anyone interested in obtaining more information or assistance with a commercial recycling program should contact Clif Dowling at 410-333-3066 or visit www.mdrecycles.org

Left to right: Clif Dowling and Robin Davidov from the Authority; George Winfield, City of Baltimore, Dr. Claudia Phillips, Tom Presti, and Vander Harris from Morgan State University.



Authority Studies the Value of Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Credits

Many of us know that trading emissions credits is an economical method for achieving better air quality. Municipal solid waste landfills emit methane, a natural by-product of decomposing organic matter. One unit of methane is equal to 21 units of Carbon Dioxide (CO₂), the predominant greenhouse gas. Greenhouse gas emissions reduction credits have created an emerging market that is currently unstructured and unregulated. In

order to assess the potential of this market, the Authority recently initiated a study designed to estimate the monetary value of greenhouse gas emissions reduction credits for landfills owned by its member jurisdictions. Just like other commodities, greenhouse gas emission credits are traded through the purchase and sale of current credits and forward options. Most of the *demand* for credits in the years 2008-2012 will be in Europe, the

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OGDEN MARTIN ANNOUNCES NAME CHANGE

Ogden Corporation changed its name on March 14, 2001 to Covanta Energy Corporation. Ogden Martin Systems of Montgomery, Inc. will now be Covanta Montgomery, Inc.

MARYLAND TIRE RECYCLING LP FORMED

Maryland Environmental Service, Connor Environmental and Environmental Capital Holdings, Inc. recently formed a limited partnership to develop, own and operate a crumb rubber manufacturing facility. Maryland Tire Recycling Limited Partnership will be located in the Baltimore area serving the region within a 200-mile radius manufacturing value-added, high quality crumb rubber.

Business Recycling Made Easy

Authority Offers a Range of Services to Help Businesses Start Recycling

A recent study conducted for the Authority indicates that many businesses throughout the state do not know how to recycle and do not know how to get recycling information. The Authority is countering this problem by promoting three important services that combined offer the most comprehensive business recycling assistance available anywhere. All of these services are offered by the Authority, free of charge, and are proven to be effective:

Business Recycling Database

The Authority, in cooperation with the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), maintains a database of more than 300 businesses that recycle materials generated throughout the state. Most of the businesses listed in the database are recycling processors located in Maryland. Some of them are also manufacturers that use recycled materials to make new products. Brokers and reuse businesses also are listed in the database.

Business Recycling Website

The Authority maintains a website that offers commercial recycling assistance at www.mdrecycles.org. An easy-to-use directory lists recycling companies by category based on the specific recycling materials they accept. Just click on the waste material generated by your business, and a list of recycling service vendors in the Baltimore-Washington area appears. All you have to do is contact a vendor and arrange for them to process your recyclable waste material.

The website also offers a how-to guide for commercial recycling, a section on buying recycled-content products and links to local recycling coordinators. This unique website is a valuable resource for any business or institution that wants assistance with starting or improving a recycling program.

The Authority, through the website, also offers a free commercial recycling assistance program available to any business or institution located in any of the Authority's seven member jurisdictions — Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford, Howard and Montgomery Counties and Baltimore City.

Waste Assessments

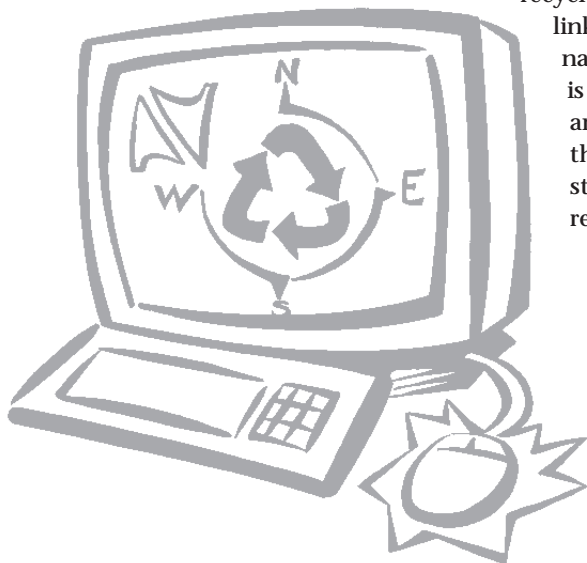
If further assistance is needed, a commercial recycling specialist from the Authority is available to make site visits and perform waste assessments to determine the type and amount of waste generated by a business or institution. This information is used to make recommendations for establishing or improving waste reduction and recycling programs. A well designed waste reduction and recycling program can improve a company's bottom line through a combination of avoided waste disposal costs and possible income from some recycled commodities. You can arrange for a site visit or request more information by contacting Clifton Dowling at (410) 333-2730 or email to authority@nmwda.org.

More Help on the Horizon

The Authority is working on a new feature to enhance the usefulness of the recycling businesses database. A revised Geographic Information System is being used to produce maps that show the location of each business listed in the database. When this project is completed, the Authority will be able to generate maps that locate recycling businesses by the type of materials they accept for recycling or by the jurisdictions in which they are located.

When a business contacts the Authority for assistance with developing a recycling program, Authority staff members will be able to generate customized maps that highlight recycling businesses within a given radius of the requesting business or institution.

Future plans include incorporating the maps into the website. Users of the website will be able to interact with the maps by clicking on the location of a given recycling business to bring up a screen that will provide pertinent information such as the business name, address, telephone number and a list of materials accepted. This should facilitate local matching of supply and demand for recyclable commodities.



Commercial Recycling Focus Group Study Completed

Authority members have identified the need to increase commercial recycling rates as a top priority. To address this important issue, the Authority commissioned Potomac Communications to assess the recycling habits, attitudes and motives of businesses in each of its seven member jurisdictions. Potomac was involved in a multi-year recycling program in Montgomery County.

Potomac conducted 6 focus groups of 6-12 participants from each of the Authority's member jurisdictions. Focus group participants consisted of facilities and recycling managers for commercial, manufacturing and distribution firms, that generate potentially recyclable materials. Sixty-five percent of the participants were from large companies (more than 100 employees) and 35 percent were from smaller companies (more than 50 employees).

Generally, participants representing large manufacturing and distribution facilities recycled less out of an environmental commitment, and more as a way of reducing solid waste disposal costs. In most cases, recycling programs were implemented in order for the company to realize a cost savings.

Clearly, focus group participants looked at

recycling as a cost of doing business. Companies expect to make a profit or, at the least, save on waste disposal costs. Not many companies are willing to pay to recycle.

A common complaint among the focus group participants was a lack of resources for locating recycling processors and/or a central clearinghouse for accessing commercial recycling information.

Other obstacles identified as reasons for companies not to recycle were: variable and volatile recycling markets that reduce or negate profits, and increase a company's costs of disposal. Smaller companies do not generate enough recyclable material to make recycling feasible. Still other companies complained that space limitations make separation and storage of recycled goods an added expense.

Focus group participants consistently expressed two motives for establishing a recycling program: to reduce waste disposal costs and gain public recognition for being environmentally friendly.

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Greenhouse Gas Emissions *(continued from page 1)*

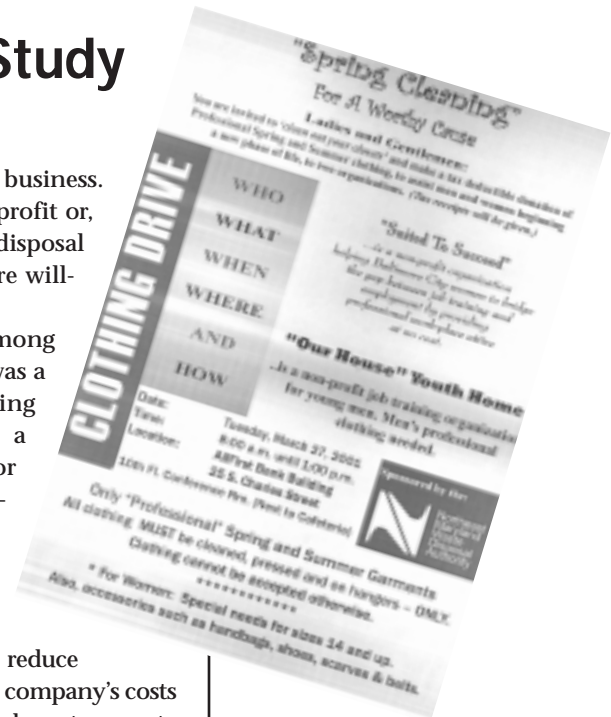
Far East and Canada, while the *supply* of credits will come from all over the world.

The Authority, with help from SCS Engineers, researched the characteristics of each landfill to determine which sites are eligible to sell emissions credits. Mike McGuigan and Eric Peterson, landfill gas experts with SCS Engineers, recently presented the results of a study that analyzed the monetary value of reducing landfill gas/greenhouse gas emissions at landfills located in the Authority's member jurisdictions. They provided background information on the landfill gas-to-energy industry in the United States. In the study, they identified landfills in the Authority's member jurisdictions, explained the methodology used to analyze the landfills and estimated the potential greenhouse gas emissions reductions credits for the top six landfills. The landfill characteristics considered in this study included: New Source Performance Standards/Emission Guidelines status (only landfills not regulated under this

rule are candidates for emissions reduction credits); amount of waste in place; landfill age, and whether the gas credits had been contractually sold to a gas system developer.

Based on these criteria, seven priority sites were selected. The landfills were further analyzed on an individual basis with the strongest candidate sites being: Alpha Ridge and Midshore Landfills. Second tier sites identified were Northern Landfill and New Cut Landfill. The last three priority sites were Millersville, Quarantine Road, and Eastern Landfills.

While the value of credits is determined by individual negotiations between buyer and seller, conservative estimates were projected for the seven priority sites based on three time categories: historic, future and compliance periods. Per credit values range from \$5,000 to \$976,000. Results of the study were presented to the solid waste managers of each member jurisdiction. The Authority is now preparing the documents required by sellers for consideration by our members. 



Authority Gets Into Recycling with Spring Clothing Drive


In March, the Authority sponsored a clothing drive to benefit Suited to Succeed and Our House Youth Home. Hallwood Management, manager of the Allfirst Building, provided space for the collection. Suited to Succeed is a non-profit organization helping Baltimore area women bridge the gap between job training and employment by providing professional work-place attire at no cost. Our House Youth Home is a non-profit job training organization for young men in Howard County.

The recycling effort was a big success with 139 articles of clothing collected along with numerous accessories!





Truck Wash Award


On March 1, 2001, the Authority's Board approved Allied Contractors, Inc. to construct two truck wash facilities for the City of Baltimore. The project is scheduled for completion by mid-summer. 



Governor Glendening Issues Executive Order for Green Energy

In March, Governor Parris Glendening signed an Executive Order declaring the benefits of Clean Power (Green Energy), Green Buildings and Energy Efficiency. The order requires all facilities, owned by the state, to procure at least six percent of all energy from "Green Energy" sources. Green Energy is defined as "energy generated from wind, solar photovoltaic, solar thermal, biomass, landfill gas and the combustion of municipal solid waste." Power generation contractors approved and accredited by the State of Maryland will be given priority consideration in the

procurement process.


State facilities also are required to reduce energy consumption by 10 percent per gross square footage by 2005 and 15 percent by 2010. Those reductions are to be achieved through the expanded use of renewable energy and the utilization of energy efficient products. Waste generation is to be reduced by at least 20 percent in state facilities through diversion and recycling. Purchasing guidelines for fleet vehicles will be rewritten to provide more flexibility in purchasing low emission and alternative fuel vehicles. 

Commercial Recycling Study Group

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Almost all of the participants expressed a need for factual information on how to recycle. They preferred an easy to use source, such as a website, that was also confidential so that business information would not be available to competitors. Furthermore, recycling managers are not fully aware of what processors and other resources exist. None of the focus group

participants had heard of the Authority's recycling website, www.mdrecycles.org.

The Authority's commercial recycling campaign is structured to respond to the needs expressed by the focus group members. Look for print ads and a new and improved website over the upcoming months. The Authority's commercial recycling specialist, Clif Dowling, continues to respond to requests for on-site advice. 



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