



July 5, 2007

Dear Waste Generator/Hauler:

**RE: Recycling Inspections to Increase**

Since 1993, the Morris County Solid Waste Management Plan has designated specific recyclable materials that must be source separated at the point of generation and then recycled. This applies to all types of waste generators in Morris County, including but not limited to residents (single-family homes, multifamily complexes, hotels, etc.), businesses, schools, medical facilities, governmental buildings, construction sites, etc. The designated materials that are required to be recycled include aluminum cans, glass bottles and jars, plastic bottles coded #1 (PETE) and #2 (HDPE), steel (tin) cans, newspaper, corrugated cardboard, mixed paper, leaves, grass, brush, natural wood waste, oil-contaminated soil, used motor oil, lead-acid batteries, hazardous dry cell batteries, metal appliances and whole tires.

For the most part during the 1990s, Morris County was doing an excellent job of recycling and thereby meeting its state-mandated recycling goals. More recently, however, Morris County's recycling rates have fallen beneath the state-mandated goals. This has been consistent with a downward statewide trend. In an effort to turn this decline around, New Jersey and Morris County have implemented efforts to reinvigorate recycling. Part of this recycling reinvigoration effort involves an increase in the inspection of the waste being delivered to the two Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority ("MCMUA") transfer stations. This is to insure that designated recyclable materials are not included in the trash being delivered to the transfer stations for disposal.

This letter serves as a notice to both waste generators and waste haulers that disposing of designated recyclable materials in the trash is not acceptable and is illegal in Morris County. If designated recyclables are found in the trash during transfer station inspections, the MCMUA will notify the hauler, the generator and the generator's municipality about this matter. Initially, the hauler will be provided with a copy of an inspection warning at the time of the inspection so that the hauler can begin working with the generator to correct the non-compliant behavior as soon as possible. The immediate issuance of the initial inspection warning will be followed up with the mailing of an associated inspection notification to the generator, the hauler and the generator's municipality. This inspection notification requires the hauler and the generator to work together to discontinue the non-compliant behavior. In addition, the notification requires both the hauler and the generator to send written responses describing how they will properly manage recyclable materials; those responses must be received by me within 15 days of the date of the inspection.

Failure to respond to the warning notices within the required time frame and/or failure to stop the non-compliant behavior will result in the MCMUA's referring the matter to the Morris County Office of Health Management ("MCOHM") and the generator's municipality for further enforcement actions. In addition, failure of the hauler to cooperate fully with the inspector at the transfer station at the time of the



inspection will result in immediate referral of the matter to the Morris County Office of Health Management for enforcement. Penalties issued by the MCOHM range from \$500 per offense and increase to \$50,000 per day/offense. In addition, the recycling ordinance from the generator's municipality includes its own penalty schedule.

The MCMUA would prefer not having to refer any of these matters to enforcement agencies for the issuance of penalties and would prefer to see the generators and the haulers work together to achieve compliance. The inspection warning program is focused on providing that opportunity prior to referring both parties to proper enforcement agencies. As such, MCMUA staff and municipal recycling coordinators will be available to provide assistance to the hauler and generator to bring them both into compliance with the recycling regulations.

If you need help with improving your recycling program or remaining compliant with local, county and/or state recycling mandates, please contact the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority and their recycling professionals at 973-285-8394. In addition, if I can be of any help to you I will be happy to discuss this matter with you. Feel free to call me at 973-347-1106.

Sincerely,



Michael Flora,  
Solid Waste Enforcement

Glenn Schweizer, MCMUA Executive Director  
Larry Gindoff, MCMUA Solid Waste Coordinator  
Kathleen Hourihan, MCMUA Recycling Coordinator  
Howard Steinberg, Morris County Office of Health Management