MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

October 13, 2026

The Regular Meeting of the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority was held on October 13, 2026, at 7:01 p.m. in the First Floor Conference Room at the MCMUA Offices located at 370 Richard Mine Road, Wharton, New Jersey in person as well as remotely using conference call software.

In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of the location, date and time of this meeting was made by posting on the MCMUA website, the Morris County Clerk's bulletin board and the officially designated newspapers for the MCMUA. The meeting may be attended in person or through remote communication in conformance with the directives of the State of New Jersey. Additional notice regarding remote public access is provided at the MCMUA entrance, on its website and in the Daily Record.

Chairman Dour requested a roll call.

PRESENT: Mr. Frank Druetzler, Mr. Larry Ragonese, Dr. Dorothea Kominos, Ms. Laura Szwak, and Mr. Christopher Dour.

ABSENT: Mr. James Barry, Ms. Maria Farris, Dr. Arthur Nusbaum, and Mr. Ron Smith.

Also present were Larry Gindoff, Executive Director; Larry Kaletcher, Treasurer; Marilyn Regner, Secretary; Brad Carney, Esq., Maraziti Falcon LLP; Gabrielle Hartman, Esq., Maraziti Falcon LLP; James Deacon, Solid Waste Coordinator: and Anthony Marrone, District Recycling Coordinator.

Chairman Dour asked for the Board's approval of the September 15, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes and Closed Session Minutes.

Ms. Szwak mentioned that she has a change on Page 2 of the Regular Minutes, the second to last paragraph, last sentence, "Solid Waste Committee" should be deleted and replaced with "Regular Meeting".

MOTION: Mr. Ragonese made a Motion to approve, the Regular Meeting Minutes, as amended, and Closed Session Minutes of September 15, 2026, and Ms. Szwak seconded the Motion.

ROLL CALL: AYES: 5 NAYES: NONE ABSTENTIONS: NONE

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Mr. Kaletcher presented the Treasurer's Report for the Solid Waste Operating and Water Operating for the month of September 2026. Also included are the Comparative Balance Reports for both Solid Waste and Water Divisions year-to date through September 2026, and the MCMUA

Investment Report which shows no new investments were purchased during the month of September 2026.

Chairman Dour asked the Board for a Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report.

MOTION: Mr. Druetzler made a Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report and Mr. Ragonese seconded the Motion.

ROLL CALL: AYES: 5 NAYES: NONE ABSTENTIONS: NONE

Mr. Kaletcher stated he has the Bill Resolution No. 2026-086 slated for approval after members review the schedule of warrants.

Mr. Druetzler commented on payment of five vouchers. He explained the reason why he is voting against paying four (4) H2M vouchers and also one (1) Dee-En Electrical Contracting, Inc. voucher.

He mentioned that we hired H2M to do a study and he asked that they look at Park property, M.U.A. property and Greystone property. We don't want to explore on extremes of the County, we want to be near where there will be future needs. They came back here in February with an Executive Summary letter which talked about Greystone. Mr. Druetzler told H2M their information on Greystone was wrong and you better check it.

He continued by saying now here we have the Final Report and in Table 7, Wells of Potential Interest to MCMUA two wells are listed as SMCMUA/ Morris Plains, Block 21, Lot 2. He reported on the history of the wells in the Greystone area from the 1930s to present. On April 14, 1993, Morris Plains bought from SMCMUA Block 21, Lot 2. When Morris Plains bought the property, there were three wells; two were capped and Morris Plains gave SMCMUA an easement for this one well. The report says there are two wells on that property and there certainly was only one well since 1993. Around 2016 when he was still Mayor, SMCMUA said they were not getting any water out of that well and asked if they could drill another well 100 feet away. They drilled another well and it came up dry. They also drilled two other observation wells on the extreme ends of the property and they were negative. But the report says there are two wells and we should look at them. How can we look at wells, when one well doesn't exist and the other well is dry? He does not know about the rest of the report, he knows only about Morris Plains. He does not think that Staff should go looking around verifying a report. You expect a report to be reliable and for that reason, he cannot support it and he won't vote for paying the H2M Bills associated with this report. Therefore, he is not in favor of paying these two H2M vouchers that are on the Water Bill List.

Mr. Ragonese mentioned that you would wonder if the report is done and based on looking at Google and old documents and generating a nice looking document. Chairman Dour added that there are no dates on some of them. Mr. Druetzler mentioned that he has lost confidence in that Company.

Mr. Carney mentioned you could do this in a couple of Motions. You could do a Motion to pay the bills with the exception of the four (4) H2M bills and take a vote on that; then move the Bill List on the four (4) H2M bills and take a vote on that. Chairman Dour asked if there are four (4) H2M bills or just two bills and Mr. Gindoff replied two on the Water Bill List and two on the Solid Waste List. Chairman Dour asked if we have a problem with H2M on the solid waste?

Mr. Carney mentioned then there is the voucher for Dee-En Electrical Contracting, Inc. on the Solid Waste Bill List that was tabled last month. Mr. Druetzler asked Brad Carney if you pay Dee-En, are you going to have them sign a document that says that they will not bid on our work for the next five (5) years? Mr. Carney replied no; he will not because the Local Public Contracts Lawdoesn't allow for that absolute prohibition, even for a negative prior experience, they can still bid on the job and if they are the low bidder, they are entitled to a hearing before they are disqualified.

Ms. Szwak asked if Dee-En finished the work though and it was just late? Is that the problem? Mr. Druetzler replied that it was a year and a half late and it is not just one, there has been a number of jobs with Dee-En. He feels that the Board has to be stronger on this and they can have all these excuses they want, but the bottom line is you have to do the work in a timely manner because the Engineer has to go out there and keep checking on them and that is a cost to us. Ms. Szwak said she would pay this and they would have a cloud on their head.

Mr. Carney mentioned that there is two things here. One is if you negotiate a Contract and they agree to that, that is one thing that works, and that is wonderful if it does. If they don't agree to that, you are just stuck with the way the Local Public Contracts Law works, which has very strict definitions of what constitutes a prior negative experience. If it is a prior negative experience, that is not a ban for five (5) years. It does say that for a period of five (5) years, they can still bid on a project; you can disqualify them if they are the low bidder for a prior negative experience after you give them an opportunity to speak at one of our meetings where you are going to have a resolution to award a contract to somebody else. That is the statutory process under Local Public Contracts Law. Contract negotiation and what parties agree to is its own thing, so that is a separate topic.

Chairman Dour asked if we want H2M to fix the report and Mr. Gindoff replied that he already put another $1,000 of money into it to try to close it out. After the Water Committee Meeting, he was at a point, why do we need the Report; they are not showing us anything. Speaking with Mike McAloon, he thinks we need to close it out, so at least we have a formal report.

Mr. Druetzler mentioned that we should pay the H2M Solid Waste bills, but he cannot support paying the H2M Water bills. He further commented that when Larry Gindoff shows H2M this Report, they should walk away, because the Report is defective. Mr. Gindoff mentioned that they have been doing good engineering work for us in Solid Waste.

With regard to the Report, Ms. Szwak mentioned that this report gives us evidence for the future. The one thing that was missing in the Report was there was no analysis of vacant land, which is what she expected, but there isn't much vacant land in Morris County; only six percent, she doesn't know if that would have given us anything.

Chairman Dour asked for the Board's approval of the Bill Resolution:

Bill Resolution No. 2026-086

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the bills as shown on the SCHEDULE OF WARRANTS all having been approved by the Board of officials where legally required, be and the same are hereby paid. The SCHEDULE OF WARRANTS designated as Bill Resolution No. 2026-086 containing 4 pages for a total of **$5,767,415.11** dated and made a part hereof by reference.

SUMMARY

CHECK NUMBERS

WATER OPERATING FUNDS	**7422, 7442-7469**	**$ 268,803.83**
SOLID WASTE OPERATING	**17423, 17439, 17504-17599**	**$ 5,498,611.28**
		$ 5,767,415.11

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that all vouchers listed above have been reviewed and found to be in proper form for payment, and I have compared the SCHEDULE OF WARRANTS to the vouchers for payment and have determined it to be correct.

DATE: October 13, 2026 BOARD CHAIRMAN APPROVAL

_____
Christopher Dour, Chairman

SIGNED: _____
Marilyn Regner, Secretary

TREASURER'S CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that there are sufficient funds in the appropriations charged, or accounts listed to cover the expenditures included in the SCHEDULE OF WARRANTS dated: October 13, 2026.

DATE: October 13, 2026

_____
Larry Kaletcher, Treasurer

MOTION: Mr. Druetzler made a Motion that the vouchers be approved for payment, except for two vouchers on the Water Bill List for H2M and one voucher on the Solid Waste Bill List for Dee-En Engineering, and Ms. Szwak seconded the Motion.

ROLL CALL: AYES: 5 NAYES: NONE ABSTENTIONS: NONE

Chairman Dour mentioned to the Board that there are no Resolutions in the Consent Agenda this month.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Mr. Gindoff mentioned that the only Correspondence this month was for the NJDEP approval of the Dan Como Plan Amendment.

There is no additional correspondence.

CORRESPONDENCE REPORT:

SOLID WASTE

1. 2026-09-18 Letter to John A. Napolitano, Esq., Morris County Counsel, from Paul Baldauf, Assistant Commissioner, NJDEP, regarding Certification of the May 27, 2026 Amendment to the Morris County Solid Waste Management Plan proposing County Plan inclusion of the Dan Como & Sons, Inc, c/o Daniel R. Como Jr. Facility, located at 3 Como Street (Block 41, Lot 1), in the Township of Montville from an existing Exempt Facility to a Multi-Class B&C Recycling Facility.

WATER ENGINEER'S REPORT:

In Mr. McAloon's absence, Mr. Gindoff mentioned that Mr. McAllon will not be giving the Engineer's Report and therefore, there will be no Engineer's Report. Mr. Gindoff asked if the Board has any questions on the Report.

Ms. Szwak pointed out the Water Gallonage for Parsippany-Troy Hills for September 2026, it is 1.6MG and you look at September 2025, it is much less. Mr. Gindoff replied they had several water main breaks over the last year and they have been relying on the MCMUA for water. Mr. Druetzler mentioned he read an article in the paper about Parsippany-Troy Hills having several ordinances on water and they are spending a lot money so obviously they have some issues.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Through September 2026 the MCMUA sold 1,414.585 million gallons, 117.197 million gallons more than the same period in 2025 and 219.852 million gallons more than 2024. Full-year sales are still projected to exceed 1,800 million gallons. Pleasant Hill Phase II is substantially complete, but retainage of $23,607.48 is not ready for release. The Flanders generator replacement remains in

punch-list, at 95 percent complete. Sovereign's Alamatong Well No. 4 and No. 5 payment application No. 4, $82,727.29, is recommended. The Mt. Arlington pump contract is executed and a pre-construction meeting is being scheduled. H2M's Water Exploration Report is being distributed.

Closeout of the Mount Olive motor-control-center contract remains tabled from September 15 but placed before Board for October consideration.

PROJECT STATUS

1. General System:

A. Through the month of September 2026, MCMUA sold approximately 1,414.585 MG. This amount is approximately 117.197 MG more than the amount sold in the same time period in 2025 and approximately 219.852 MG more than the amount sold in the same time period in 2024. If the water usage is similar to 2025, for the months of October, November and December, the total usage could exceed 1,800 MG.

2. Flanders Valley #1 and #2 Generator Replacements

The Contractor is addressing a few minor punch list items, including the louver operation and grouting a small gap in the housekeeping pad. We are still awaiting the final closeout documents, and will continue to press for a November closeout.

Project Completion Summary Through October 13, 2026

Contract Start Date		May 13, 2024
Original Contract Completion Time		365 Calendar Days
Days Elapsed:	366	100%
Days Remaining:	0	0%
Original Contract Completion Date		May 13, 2025

Project Financial Summary Through October 13, 2026

Original Contract Amount	$520,798.00
Payment Application #1	$19,230.54
Payment Application #2	$34,300.00
Payment Application #3	$42,605.50
Payment Application #4	$7,840.00
Payment Application #5	$369,082.84
Payment Application #6	$14,084.53
Total Value of Work Complete	$497,085.11
Percent of Work Complete	95%
Total Retainage to Date	$9,941.70

3. *Pleasant Hill Road 24-Inch PCCP Retirement – Phase II*

Underground Utilities Corp. is in the process of preparing all of the necessary closeout documents. While anticipated to be closed out at the October meeting, we are not in a position to release the retainage.

Project Completion Summary Through October 13, 2026

Contract Start Date		April 28, 2026
Original Contract Completion Time		120 Calendar Days
Days Elapsed:	120	100%
Days Remaining:	0	0%
Original Contract Completion Date		August 26, 2026

Project Financial Summary Through October 13, 2026

Original Contract Amount	$1,309,045.00
Total Value of Work Complete	$1,180,373.83
Payment Application #1	$877,705.24
Payment Application #2	$134,203.79
Payment Application #3	$144,857.32
Percent of Work Complete	90.1%
Total Retainage to Date	$23,607.48

4. *Mt. Olive Transfer Station Motor Control Center Improvements*

Following the tabling of the Resolution Accepting Work and Authorizing Final Payment & Release of Retainage during last months meeting, the Resolution is presented this month. The final payment amount of **$10,348.00** is recommended.

Project Financial Summary Through October 13, 2026

Original Contract Amount	$159,900.00
Change Order #2	($10,000.00)
Current Contract Amount	$149,900.00
Payment Application #1	$7,199.08
Payment Application #2	$1,715.00
Payment Application #3	$17,434.20
Payment Application #4	$57,677.90
Payment Application #5	$55,525.82
Payment Application #6	$10,348.00
Total Value of Work Complete	$149,900.00
Percent of Work Complete	100%
Total Retainage to Date	$0.00

5. *Alamatong Well #4 and #5 Electrical Improvement Project*

Sovereign Consulting, Inc., has continued advancement of shop drawings, and release of materials. Instrumentation & Control upgrades have been advanced in preparation for the upcoming Well 4 & 5 work.

The Contractor has submitted payment application #4, in the amount of ***$82,727.29***. SCE has reviewed and finds this reflective of the work completed, and recommends processing if all necessary documents are submitted.

Project Completion Summary Through October 13, 2026

Contract Start Date		March 23, 2026
Original Contract Completion Time		365 Calendar Days
Days Elapsed:	204	56%
Days Remaining:	161	44%
Original Contract Completion Date		March 23, 2027

Project Financial Summary Through October 13, 2026

Original Contract Amount	$1,225,000.00
Payment Application #1	$84,280.00
Payment Application #2	$118,041.00
Payment Application #3	$31,767.26
Payment Application #4	$82,727.29
Total Value of Work Complete	$323,281.17
Percent of Work Complete	26.3%
Total Retainage to Date	$6,465.62

6. *Mt. Arlington Pump Replacement*

The Contracts have been fully executed, and we are in the process of scheduling the pre-construction meeting. ***Sovereign Consulting*** is in the process of coordinating shop drawings for the proposed pump.

7. *Water Exploration Engineer*

H2M has provided the final Water Exploration Report, a copy of which is provided to the Board. If necessary an internal meeting can be scheduled with the Water Committee to discuss the report.

Project Financial Summary Through October 13, 2026

Original Contract Amount	$86,000.00
Total Value of Work Complete	$72,843.50
Percent of Work Complete	84.7%

SOLID, HAZARDOUS AND VEGETATIVE WASTE REPORT:

Mr. Deacon reported on the following: (1) Tonnage is now forecasted at 2.5% greater than 2025 totals. Both transfer stations continue to be very busy.; (2) The North Tipping Floor repairs down at Parsippany were completed by Infrastructure Repair on September 25 and 26. MCMUA Staff was there and are pleased with the repairs and recommend accepting the work. Payment Application No. 3 was on the schedule for approval at tonight's meeting. The project closeout is anticipated at the November 10 Board Meeting. We are just awaiting valves as part of the Change Order on the North Tipping Floor and we should have them in November.; (3) Mt. Olive Transfer Station Permit work continues with Alaimo. The O&M Manual update is still pending at this point.; (4) The water main installation and connection extensions on Gold Mine Road up at Mt. Olive have been completed by Vollers, which is a contractor for N.J. American Water. Alaimo Group is currently working on completing the plans and specifications to go out to bid for the completion of the on-site service connections and fire pump installation. Alaimo has recommended that soil investigative work be performed prior to going out to bid to confirm that there are no contaminated soils on the site that would need to be eventually properly disposed. Once the soil investigation has been completed, Alaimo will finalize construction costs in order for the MUA to budget this project for 2027.

Mr. Druetzler asked if the 2" line is hooked up and Mr. Deacon replied that one is active and nothing is hooked up. Basically the line comes across the street to a hot box and from that hot box, it is our responsibility to get it to the station. The 8" fire service line is not active in the hot box, but it is active at the hydrant.

(5) Regarding the HHW Facility, the project design for the roof and wall are expected to be completed by Alaimo by the end of November. Hopefully to go out to bid this year.; (6) Last HHW event in Parking Lot #9 at CCM, during a state of emergency, was 615 vehicles.
(7) Numbers show in the Vegetative Waste Report that we are still ahead of 2025 by $50,000 due to the large amount of wood waste we took in. All inbound material has to be processed.

Mr. Deacon asked for the Board's approval of the following Resolution:

Ms. Szwak asked what was the reason for us not paying Dee-En Engineering and Mr. Deacon replied that there was a big delay for emergency generators and Motor Control Centers and that was confirmed during our tarp rack project, Alaimo was there to look at some of the electric for the tarp rack and the electrician for Alaimo confirmed the same thing about MCC delays. Mr. Deacon added when the Motor Control Center showed up, it was damaged and it was back and forth with Suburban and it was my call that we waited this long and we did not want a damaged Control Center. We want new and what we paid for and that delayed it for another nine months. Beyond that it was punch list items. It was confirmed by Suburban that the job is complete and there was a lot of engineering visits and a lot of money was spent on the project. Mr. Gindoff added that we actually did have a positive experience with Dee-En before this MCC disaster where they did work at the Mt. Arlington Booster Station that seemed to go well.

Mr. Carney mentioned that this resolution does two things: one is the payment and the other thing is it accepts the work. That has the consequence of starting the 60-day clock called the Mechanic's Lien Law. You may want to accept the work and not pay them.

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Mr. Druetzler mentioned that he would vote on the resolution if the 2nd operative clause regarding payment is eliminated. The resolution was voted on with this 2nd operative clause eliminated.

Resolution No. 2026-087
Resolution Accepting The Work Of Dee-En Electrical Contracting, Inc.
For Contract No. 2024-SW01 "Mt. Olive Motor Control Center Improvements"

WHEREAS, the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority ("MCMUA") and Dee-En Electrical Contracting, Inc., 3014 Tremley Point Rd, Linden, New Jersey 07036 ("Dee-En" or the "Contractor") entered into an agreement on May 06, 2024 to perform the improvements at the Mt. Olive Solid Waste Transfer Station in accordance with a contract that was subject to public bidding in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Contractor successfully achieved substantial completion of the work on Monday, August 10, 2026; and

WHEREAS, SUBURBAN CONSULTING ENGINEERS, INC. ("SCE") evaluated the work performed and determined the work, and any punchlist items were satisfactorily addressed; and

WHEREAS, the Contractor successfully completed the work to the satisfaction of the Owner and Engineer, and furnished the necessary project closeout documents including certified payroll reports, and release of all liens; and

WHEREAS, due to a reconciliation of un-used quantities that were not needed for the work, Change Order No. 2 results in a decrease in the final contract price by $10,000.00 and a

three hundred ninety eight day time extension of the contract time for the completion of the work; and

WHEREAS, SCE evaluated the aforementioned Change Order No. 2 and the aforementioned decrease in the contract price and SCE recommends approval of Change Order No. 2 which decreases the contract price in the amount of $10,000.00 and extends the completion date of the Contract to the substantial completion date; and

WHEREAS, the Engineer recommends processing the final payment to Dee-En in the amount of $10,348.00, which includes the release of retainage; and

WHEREAS, the MCMUA Treasurer has certified that sufficient funds are available in the Capital Improvement Fund, account number 01-1-900-000-128 for the release of the final payment and retainage to Dee-En.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority as follows:

1. The MCMUA determines that the work performed by Dee-En pursuant to Contract 2024-SW01 has reached final completion and the completed work is accepted.

2. ~~The Executive Director is authorized and directed to process the final payment to Dee-En in the amount of $10,348.00, which includes the release of retainage in the amount of $2,998.00.~~

3. The Executive Director, staff and consultants are authorized to take all appropriate actions to effectuate this Resolution.

4. This Resolution shall take effect as provided by law.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority at the Regular Meeting held on October 13, 2026.

MORRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL
UTILITIES AUTHORITY

By:_____
Christopher Dour, Chairman

ATTEST:

By:_____
Marilyn Regner, Secretary

MOTION: Mr. Ragonese made a Motion to Accept The Work Of Dee-En Electrical Contracting, Inc. For Contract No. 2024-SW01 "Mt. Olive Motor Control Center Improvements", as amended, and Mr. Druetzler seconded the Motion.

ROLL CALL: AYES: 5 NAYES: NONE ABSTENTIONS: NONE

SOLID, HAZARDOUS AND VEGETATIVE WASTE REPORT:

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In September 2026 the MCMUA transfer stations accepted 44,309 tons, 7.04 percent more than September 2025. Full-year 2026 tonnage is now projected at 488,701 tons, 2.5 percent above 2025 and in line with the 490,000-ton figure used in the September budget amendment. The Parsippany North Tipping Floor is substantially complete after the September 25–26 EucoFloor repairs; Payment Application No. 3 is before the Board, with closeout expected in November. The Mount Olive public-water main is in service, with three hydrants live and the 2-inch domestic service active; the 8-inch fire service remains closed until the station connection is ready. NJDEP certified the Dan Como & Sons plan amendment on September 18. The Commercial Warrant of Removal for Block 770, Lots 17, 18 and 19 was served and executed on October 1, and the MCMUA is in sole possession. The September 26 HHW event at CCM processed 615 vehicles. Vegetative-waste screening and grinding are complete ahead of leaf season, and the Mount Olive loading-ramp bid is targeted for the November 10 meeting.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

The internal Solid Waste 2027 budget meeting with the Executive Director and Treasurer/CFO was held in the MCMUA main office conference room on Tuesday, September 29. All Solid Waste divisions and programs were reviewed in detail, including the transfer stations, Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) program, Curbside Recycling program, Vegetative Waste program, and Solid Waste Planning Department. Significant discussion and focus were placed on the MCMUA's first year of assuming operations at both transfer stations, beginning December 16, 2025, as well as the five-year budgeting plan associated with the new transfer station contracts with J.P. Mascaro & Sons. Discussions also addressed unanticipated overtime costs, staffing levels across all departments, and the need for additional/replacement heavy equipment, while recognizing the continued improvements being made throughout the Solid Waste Division. The Board's Budget Committee meeting is now anticipated to take place in early November. The MCMUA Solid Waste staff will be well prepared and available to address any questions or concerns from the Committee at that time.

Formerly Leased to AJACO Lots: Following the August 20, 2026 Order of Disposition and Judgment for Possession, a corrected Commercial Warrant of Removal for Block 770, Lots 17, 18 and 19 (New Road and Edwards Road, Parsippany-Troy Hills) was signed by the Court on September 24 and served and executed by the Special Civil Part Officer on October 1, 2026. The eviction is complete. The MCMUA is in sole possession of the property, and AJACO may enter only with the Authority's permission. Resolution 2026-085, adopted September 15, 2026, acknowledges that the property is used solely for a public purpose and is exempt from local property tax under N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.3. Counsel has served the Superior Court complaint for taxes already paid and holdover rent. A limited number of vehicles remain on the site. Counsel is identifying ownership and any liens before those vehicles are removed. Staff will coordinate with counsel on securing the property and on the fence.

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Dan Como & Sons, Inc. (Como)- In Fall 2022, Dan Como & Sons, Inc., also known as "The Mulch Depot", located at 3 Como Court (Block 41, Lot 1) in Towaco, Montville formally requested inclusion in the Morris County Solid Waste Management Plan to allow the facility to transition from an exempt leaf-transfer operation to a NJDEP approved Multi-Class B/C Recycling Facility. The Morris County Board of County Commissioners conducted a second public hearing on May 27 and unanimously approved the proposed amendment. The application materials, hearing records, and the transcript were then forwarded to the NJDEP for review and final determination. On July 6 the MCMUA received the NJDEP's Notice of Completeness for the Como Amendment. More recently, on September 18, the MCMUA received NJDEP's Certification of the Amendment, adopting the Como facility as a Multi-Class B/C Recycling Facility in the County Plan.

TRANSFER STATIONS

Tonnage Summary- The 44,309 tons of solid waste accepted at the two (2) transfer stations in September 2026, was 7.04% greater than the 41,393 tons accepted a year ago in September 2025. The third quarter of 2026 saw the acceptance of 4.57% more solid waste than the equivalent third quarter of 2025. With the first nine (9) months of actual solid waste tonnage data in the books for 2026, it is now projected that for all of 2026 a total of 488,701 will be accepted for the year, which would represent a 2.5% increase over the 477,215 tons accepted for all of 2025. Please refer to the attached Transfer Station Disposal Report by Month and the comparison statistics provided below for additional details.

September Monthly Transfer Station Comparison Statistics (2025 to 2026):
Mount Olive Transfer Station:

Inbound Tonnage- About 16,678- 955 more tons than 2025
Total Customers- 4,384- 260 more than 2025
Self-Generated/ Residential Customers- 1,058- 141 more than 2025

At the nine (9) month/three quarter mark of 2026, Mount Olive's inbound tonnage is 140,685 tons, which is 5,056 tons more than the 135,628 tons processed after nine (9) months in 2025. 2026 had 37,661 total customers, which is 2,025 more than 2025 at 35,636. Self-generated/homeowners total 9,241, which is 1,124 more than 2025 with 8,117 after nine (9) months.

Parsippany-Troy Hills Transfer Station:

Inbound Tonnage- About 27,635- 1,965 more tons than 2025
Total Customers- 6,327- 445 more than 2025
Self-Generated/ Residential Customers- 565- 35 more than 2025

At the nine (9) month/three quarter mark of 2026, Parsippany's inbound tonnage is 224,505 tons, which is 85 more tons than the 224,419 tons processed after nine (9) months in 2025. 2026 had 52,872 total customers, which is 808 more than 2025 at 52,064. Self-generated/homeowners total 4,617, which is 256 more than 2025 with 4,361 after nine (9) months.

Solid Waste Professional Engineering Services- MCMUA 2025-2027 planned projects and improvements involving the Alaimo Group (Alaimo), Suburban Consulting Engineers (SCE), and H2M at the two (2) MCMUA transfer stations. Updates will be provided to the Board at the October 13 meeting:

Parsippany-Troy Hills Transfer Station

- The North Tipping Floor/Small Floor project at the Parsippany-Troy Hills transfer station which included the replacement of the top section of the deteriorated floor using Euclid Chemical's EucoFloor 404 system, new trench drain system, safety bollards and concrete attenuators, emergency valves that control the underground holding tank, and a new plasma-cut steel grate system. The 240' linear feet of new "Jersey" barriers have also been placed by Persistent Construction to permanently separate Tipping Floor Bay #5 from Bays #6 and #7. As discussed at the September 15 Board meeting, surface imperfections in the newly installed EucoFloor 404, including footprints and areas affected by curing sheeting, were identified and corrected by Infrastructure Repair Service (IRS) on September 25 and 26. Repairs included grinding high spots, saw-cutting and removing damaged areas, cleaning and sandblasting, applying epoxy primer and silica sand, and replacing the EucoFloor 404 coating. Overall, the project is substantially complete, corrective floor work has been completed, and the project is moving toward final closeout. Payment Application #3 has been submitted for the October 13 Board meeting, with final project closeout anticipated at the November 10 Board meeting.
- The Parsippany Scale House Improvement Project- is being proposed for 2027, with feasibility engineering anticipated to begin in 2026. With assistance from Treasurer/CFO Larry Kaletcher, staff determined that the funds previously dedicated to this project should be redirected to assist with completion of the Mount Olive Transfer Station Bathroom Alterations and Mezzanine Addition (Breakroom/Shop) Project discussed below. In preparation for the 2027 budget, staff requested that H2M provide pricing for engineering design, bidding, and construction oversight services for the Parsippany Scale House project. H2M subsequently provided the MCMUA with a proposal for a Phase 1-Feasibility Study, which includes a comprehensive existing conditions assessment, preliminary cost estimate, and schematic design. This approach is similar to the process currently being used for the Mount Olive Transfer Station Breakroom/Shop Project. MCMUA approval of the Phase 1 proposal will allow H2M to begin the feasibility work and keep the Parsippany Scale House Improvement Project on track for 2027.

Mount Olive Transfer Station

- Mount Olive Transfer Station NJDEP Solid Waste Facility Permit Renewal (PI #133624)- With the Mount Olive Transfer Station's NJDEP Solid Waste Facility Permit set to expire on January 11, 2027, the MCMUA engaged Mr. Tom Cappetti, Environmental Planner with Alaimo Engineering, to assist with the permit renewal process. MCMUA staff collected and provided the required data and supporting information, including annual, monthly, and daily tonnage records, current stormwater and air permits for the station, active permits for all three (3) landfills receiving Morris County's solid waste, and

information regarding capital improvements completed at the Mount Olive facility over the past five (5) years. A major component of the renewal process is updating the facility's Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Manual to reflect MCMUA's operation of the facility since assuming operational responsibilities in mid-December 2025. Work on the updated O&M Manual is currently ongoing and will be incorporated into the permit renewal submission.

- Mount Olive Transfer Station Bathroom Alterations and Mezzanine Addition (Breakroom/Shop)- Proposed improvements include the construction of a dedicated employee break room, renovated restroom and shower facilities, and a new mezzanine-level locker room within the existing double-height maintenance and garage area (shop) of the Mount Olive Transfer Station building. H2M Architects and Engineers (H2M) completed their feasibility report, schematic drawings, and cost opinion for this 2026 budgeted capital improvement project. More recently, the MCMUA approved H2M to move forward on "Task 2", which includes design development, construction documents, bidding and permitting, construction administration, and project closeout services. Staff remain in constant communication with H2M to make sure this 2026 project continues to move forward.
- Mount Olive Transfer Station Public Water Service Project- This project involves the installation of 800 feet of 8" diameter ductile iron concrete lined pipe necessary for 2" domestic service/ 8" fire service along Gold Mine Road to provide domestic water service and fire protection to the Mount Olive Transfer Station. An onsite preconstruction meeting was held on September 11 at 1:00 PM with representatives from MCMUA, New Jersey American Water (NJAW), Vollers (contractor), Alaimo Group, Mount Olive DPW, the Mount Olive Health Department, the Mount Olive Fire Official, and the Morris County Fire Marshal's Office. Following the meeting, construction of the main extension began on Monday, September 28. Vollers and NJAW continued work on the main extension throughout the week, including the installation of three (3) hydrants along Gold Mine Road. On October 6, MCMUA staff received notification from NJAW's onsite project manager that the project was substantially complete and was awaiting the required water sampling results to pass inspection. NJAW measured 50 psi of water pressure at the final hydrant, which met the pressure requirement identified by Alaimo Group. The water main is now active and in service, and all three (3) hydrants live and filled with water. The 2" domestic water service at the curb is also active. The 8" fire service will remain inactive until MCMUA is ready to connect the facility. At that time, MCMUA staff will contact NJAW to have the valve opened and place the fire service into operation.

  Remaining Steps:
  - The developer will contact NJAW Customer Service to arrange for installation of the water meter.
  - Alaimo Group is continuing to work with MCMUA staff and the Morris County Fire Marshal's Office on the next phase of the project, including finalizing the fire

    - pump design and completing the plans and specifications for the service-connection phase into the Mount Olive Transfer Station.
- The Motor Control Center (MCC) Improvement Project with DEE-EN Electrical Contracting, Inc. (DEE-EN)- DEE-EN had completed the punch list items provided by SCE at the end of August. Resolution No. 2026-084 was tabled during the September 15 meeting and will now be presented to the Board as Resolution No. 2026-087 for consideration at its October 13 meeting. This presented resolution is to accept the completed work and authorize final payment. Included with the resolution for project closeout will be Payment Recommendation No. 6 to DEE-EN in the amount of $10,348.00, as well as Change Order No. 2, which represents a reconciliation of unused line items and a three hundred ninety-eight (398)-day time extension associated with delays in equipment production.

CURBSIDE RECYCLING

Through Resolution No. 2026-083, approved by the Board at the September 15 meeting, the MCMUA purchased and received four (4) Stertil-Koni Earthlift Model ST1085-2FRA mobile hydraulic units, or mobile lifts. These lifts use less energy while providing the strength, speed, and power required for heavy-duty lifting. These mobile hydraulic units have a lifting capacity of 22,000 pounds per column and a maximum lifting height of 73 inches. Factory training for the Curbside mechanics was provided by the vendor. Because these units are mobile, they can be transported to other MCMUA facilities for use as needed.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE (HHW) MANAGEMENT

Program Participation- During the month of September 2026, the permanent Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Facility serviced a total of 276 appointments. This included 253 Morris County residents, 3 Very Small Quantity Generators (VSQGs)/small businesses, and 20 out-of-county residents. For comparison, in September 2025, the HHW Facility serviced 282 total appointments, consisting of 255 Morris County residents, 4 VSQGs/small businesses, and 23 out-of-county residents. Year-to-date, through the first nine (9) months of 2026, the HHW facility has serviced 2,554 appointments, including 2,335 Morris County residents. Even with the slower month at the facility, participation is at an increase over 2025 by 155 more customers year-to-date.

The MCMUA Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) event at County College of Morris (CCM) Parking Lot #9 on Saturday, September 26, 2026, was a success despite challenging weather conditions. The morning started with heavy winds and rain, prompting some concern about whether the event should be canceled due to the State of Emergency in the surrounding Counties. Fortunately, the decision was made to proceed, and **615 vehicles** were processed throughout the day. MCMUA staff and MXI personnel worked through the difficult conditions, with the wind and rain ramping up at times. Overall, the CCM event ran smoothly and was successful. The limited signage deployed at the site because of the winds also made for a quick and efficient take-down at the end of the event. Special guests included Morris County Commissioner Doug Cabana and Sheriff Jim Gannon, who were attending the Global War on Terrorism Memorial event at CCM. Due to the weather, that event was moved indoors. The MCMUA would like to

extend its sincere appreciation to Mr. Steve Ackerman, Supervisor of Public Safety at CCM, for his continued support of our program. Mr. Ackerman allowed the MCMUA to proceed with the HHW event despite the parking lot change and provided signage and digital signs to assist customers throughout the day. CCM Security personnel also regularly checked in with MCMUA staff to make sure they had everything they needed.

The fourth and final 2026 MCMUA HHW One-Day Drop-Off Event is quickly approaching:

- **Saturday, October 24, 2026**, at Pequannock Valley Park- Marvin Road/PV Park Road, Pompton Plains section of Pequannock Township, New Jersey 07444.

MCMUA staff continue to work with Structural Engineer Piotr Grodek and Project Manager Michael Kobylarz from the Alaimo Group on the 2026 improvement project at the Household Hazardous Waste Facility (HHWF) located within the Mount Olive Transfer Station. MCMUA will continue to work with Alaimo with hopes of going out to bid in November 2026, with the goal of completing all improvements in the beginning of 2027. As a reminder for the Board, the two (2) major components of the project, as outlined in the 2026 budget, include:

- Demolition and installation of a new standing seam roof system, including new roof deck sheathing, as well as cleaning and protection of the existing steel barn columns.
- Demolition of the existing barrier wall and installation of a new landscape block retaining wall, along with privacy chain-link fencing equipped with privacy slats.

VEGETATIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT

MCMUA staff met with Suburban Consulting Engineers (SCE) on October 2 to continue development of the stormwater management plans and Drainage Control Plans (DCP), including filter traps, and to finalize the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SPPP), and associated best management practices. On September 24, the MCMUA was contacted by the NJDEP Bureau of NJPDES Stormwater Permitting. As part of the permitting process, NJDEP would like to conduct site visits at the MCMUA facilities. The site visits can occur before the DCP and SPPP documents are finalized, after they are submitted, or ideally, before NJDEP begins monitoring. Having NJDEP visit before the documents are finalized or submitted would provide the MCMUA with an opportunity to use the Bureau as a resource during development of the plans and ensure that the proposed measures meet permitting requirements. The second purpose of the SCE meeting was to finalize the design of the proposed bin-block and loading ramp projects and prepare the projects for bidding. Due to the increasingly urgent condition of the main loading ramp (Ramp #1) at the Mount Olive facility, timing has become a significant concern with the approaching winter season. The MCMUA hopes to award all or a portion of this project to a qualified bidder at the November 10 meeting.

MCMUA Heavy Equipment Operators Joseph Furey and Justin Buller successfully completed the Rutgers–New Jersey Compost Operator Certification Course on September 15 and 16. All MCMUA certifications are framed and posted in both office trailers for inspectors to view. Through the MCMUA Shared Services Agreement with the Parsippany Forestry Department, the Diamond Z brush grinder arrived at the MCMUA Parsippany Vegetative Waste Facility on September 24 to process the large volume of wood waste generated by recent storms. MCMUA staff assisted the Parsippany Forestry Department throughout the following week, with all of the

material processed by October 7. Due to the large volume of material generated through the grinding operation, Program Manager Stephen Adams reached out to County departments, including Parks, Roads and Bridges, the Sheriff's Office, OEM, Buildings and Grounds, and others, to offer the processed material at no cost. When staff availability permits, the MCMUA also offered free delivery in 10-cubic-yard (CY) increments. If equipment and staff are available, the MCMUA will request the same services from Parsippany Forestry for the Mount Olive facility, where significant amounts of wood waste remain in piles.

The rental Phoenix 3300 Trommel Screener from Emerald Equipment, used to complete the fall screening of compost at both facilities, finished operations at the Parsippany facility on or around September 14. The screener was then transported to the Mount Olive facility, where staff began screening operations immediately. All unscreened compost onsite was processed through the screener, with multiple passes made as needed. Staff also rescreened the overs/tailings to recover as much usable material as possible before the remaining material was transported to the MCMUA Transfer Station for disposal. Screening operations at Mount Olive were completed on September 25. Following completion, staff cleaned, fueled, and prepared the screener for transport. From September 14 through September 18, staff screened approximately 3,795 cubic yards (CY) of compost from the windrows, generating approximately 3,015 CY of usable material. On September 21, staff rescreened approximately 600 CY of tailings/overs and recovered an additional 277 CY of usable material. Also, under the direction and recommendation of MCMUA Operations Manager Bobby Ross, staff began screening material from the site's berms on September 21 and completed the work on September 25. As a trial run and an effort to determine whether additional viable material could be recovered for potential sale, staff screened approximately 2,062 CY from a section of the site's berms and successfully generated approximately 1,230 CY of usable material. All remaining tailings/overs from the berm screening will be reincorporated into the berms.
Final Screening Stats from Mount Olive:

- Unscreened 3,795 CY into Screened 3,015 CY.
- Rescreen Tailings/overs 600 CY into 277 CY for site "free pile".
- Site Berms 2,062 CY into viable material 1,230 CY.
- Tailings/Overs estimated 337 CY for disposal at the Mount Olive Transfer Station.

Vollers continues to provide walking-floor trailers at both facilities to transport bulk sales of wood mulch, with approximately 70 CY shipped per load. Sales of the aforementioned surplus materials through HVI (Vollers) will continue throughout the off-delivery season. Vollers has also taken advantage of the newly screened compost available at both facilities, sending large dump trucks (25 CY) to be loaded for transport and subsequent commercial sales. Vollers was also pleased with the quality and results of the screened berm material, taking samples and successfully identifying a market for the material. The Mount Olive facility also completed a larger sale of screened compost to Randolph DPW in early October. Credit to the Vegetative Waste staff for a successful month of operations, including screening, grinding, continued residential deliveries, and preparing both facilities for the upcoming leaf season. The staff's continued efforts have helped ensure that both sites are well-positioned for the increased activity associated with leaf season. Additional information regarding vegetative waste material flow and sales is provided in the Vegetative Waste Report being presented at the October 13 meeting.

RECYCLING REPORT:

Mr. Marrone reported on the following:

Recycling Market and Operations Report Update

In September, Republic Services finalized that month's Single-Stream Recycling rate at (Negative) $78.38/ton, a $3.65/ton increase in value from the August rate.

In September and early October, Northeast recycling markets split sharply: paper and metals strengthened, while plastics remained deeply depressed. Demand varies widely by material.

Fiber now accounts for more than half of outbound tonnage in the Northeast among MRFs, helping offset recent price increases in plastics this fall. Paper markets are rebounding, and domestic mills show Cardboard reaching nearly $100 per ton in October, double last year's price, driven by mill investments and expansions, along with increased demand ahead of the holiday season.

Post-consumer plastics are struggling with oversupply and brand reluctance, especially in the Northeast, where cheap virgin plastic hinders sustainability efforts. A small fraction is due to the NJDEP's extension of Recycled Content Law exemptions for food containers and packaging to December 2029, citing limited capacity to scale food-safe PCR. Cheap virgin material keeps PET prices flat, displacing recycled flakes despite brand pledges. Northeast MRFs face costly sorting and low returns.

Steel and aluminum scrap remain stable amid strong regional demand and low inventories. Experts expect fall prices to rise as our region's mills compete for scarce infrastructure scrap, pushing up material prices.

For the remainder of 2026, Northeast recycling is divided; mill demand and holiday packaging are expected to favor fiber, while tight inventories and strong demand support metals. Post-consumer plastics are expected to remain deeply depressed through year-end.

Shared Service Agreement Updates:

Proposals and working drafts of shared service agreements are before four Morris County municipalities for their consideration currently:

- The Town of Boonton - Curbside and Depot Collection SSA Renewal and the Township of Washington's First Amendment to Depot Collection are still pending determination on the part of the municipality.
- Harding Township's Depot Collection Agreement draft is awaiting the township's comment.
- Mendham Township's first amendment to its existing SSA for quarterly brush collection at the DPW is pending review by the Township Solid Waste Committee.

Highlights for September are as Follows:

MCMUA Presents at the NJ Association of County and City Health Officials on Food Waste:

On September 17, I presented at the New Jersey Association of County and City Health Officials (NJACCHO) Large Forum, attended by state, county, and regional health departments and nonprofit Share My Meals, who explained its service model and the public health value of food rescue.

I covered the County Food Waste Planning Law, upcoming county reduction goals, and how health departments can partner with municipal recycling teams to reach the 50% reduction target. I highlighted food donations' role in meeting state diversion goals and the benefits of towns tracking recycling data, including grant eligibility and increased recycling rates. I also discussed future county-municipality mandates prioritizing food prevention, recovery, and recycling over disposal.

Several towns asked for an optional survey I created to accompany their Health Department annual license renewals, which educates licensed food waste generators about donations and recycling, and requires businesses to report haulers, donations, and estimated materials. Completed surveys will be sent to the Municipal recycling coordinators, who can use the data to track progress and compile county reports.

I was also invited to present on the same topic to similar audiences at the Morris Regional Public Health Partnership Meeting on Food Redirection on October 29 and the NJACCHO Small Health Department Forum on December 2.

Regarding Our Other Food Waste Recovery, Redirection, and Recycling Efforts and Education:

- We have been updating our website's food waste landing page with additional educational information.
- We are moving forward in working with the NJ Office of the Food Security Advocate to build a network of food recovery resources, gather food recovery and donation data to quantify our efforts, and explore potential actions ahead of the food waste reduction mandate.
- Continue collaborating with the NJDEP, NJDA, and NJ Composting Council to develop guidance documents and compliance advisories on on-farm composting, feeding excess food to animals, setting up food-waste recycling drop-off programs at municipal depots, and arranging pickups with micro haulers.
- Advance education and work with ANJR and fellow county recycling coordinators to develop our administrative actions for the NJDEP.
- Build relationships with the Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions and Sustainable Jersey to advance various initiatives in support of these efforts.
    - Andrea presented food waste mini-grant projects on Sept. 25 at the annual ANJEC Environmental Congress.
    - Andrea and I are also speaking in two separate sessions about food waste prevention and recovery, and municipal recycling projects, at the League conference.

Municipal Tonnage Grant (MTG) 30-Day Audit 2024 Reporting Data Update:
On September 29, NJDEP released preliminary estimates for 2024 municipal tonnage grant (MTG) submissions. Municipalities had 30 days to review and verify reports, but this year's review period was shortened to 20 days to expedite payments.

- Municipal Recycling Coordinators were asked to compare reported recycling and solid waste totals with state figures. Since fewer than a quarter of municipalities have historically done so, MCMUA reviewed all towns' data for common errors and improved countywide accuracy.

- NJDEP under-reported about 1,394 tons of recycled material, worth several hundred dollars in additional grant funding beyond what towns reported.

- Transfer station data show NJDEP over-reported disposal by approximately 10,870.73 tons, potentially lowering municipal and county recycling rates.

- MCMUA submitted its findings to NJDEP for review, alongside municipal comments.

Regarding our Fall Meetings:

The Planning Division had two successful meetings last month.

- Our Annual Clean Communities Coordinator Meeting at Kean Skylands.
    - It focused on legislative updates, new program initiatives, grant spending, and program compliance.

- As well as our Fourth MRC Meeting, which included MRCs from Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Morris, and Passaic counties at the NJSEA in Lyndhurst.
    - Speakers included the NJDEP, which discussed legislative and new program updates, recycling markets, and local recycling initiatives and success stories from the region.

- Our Fifth MRC Meeting: On October 21, will feature tours of the MCMUA's Mount Olive Transfer Station, Household Hazardous Waste Facility, and Mount Olive Vegetative Waste Recycling Facility.

The NJ Clean Communities Council Names Chavanne Coordinator of the Year

On October 8, the NJ Clean Communities Council held its annual fall litter summit and awards ceremony, marking 40 years of fighting litter, protecting the environment, and building community pride. Attendees discussed litter and environmental issues, exchanged ideas, and built partnerships to strengthen the program.

Morris County stood out at the awards ceremony. Morristown coordinator Caitlin Posthumius received the Municipal Coordinator of the Year award, while the MCMUA's own Michelle Chavanne was named County Coordinator of the Year. Though new to their roles, both have built impressive records and set an example for fellow coordinators.

Please join me in celebrating their achievements and the work they do to advance the program's goals in our County.

Marrone Appointed to Serve on the State's Plastics Advisory Council:

This month, the NJDEP asked me to serve on the Plastics Advisory Council (PAC) as a governor-appointed member and put forward my name to the governor's office for appointment.

I will represent the environmental community on behalf of the 21 County Recycling Coordinators and the Association of New Jersey Recyclers on the 16-member PAC within the DEP.

The PAC oversees the law's implementation and assesses its success in reducing single-use plastics and plastic waste statewide, reports on these efforts, and suggests legislative or administrative improvements.

I have already been asked to weigh in on the DEP's potential extension of the Polystyrene Food Service Product Exemptions through 2028, and I have a Policy Subcommittee meeting tomorrow to review ongoing legislative initiatives and a General Council meeting on October 20 to align efforts on the committee's fourth-year report.

RECYCLING REPORT:

Executive Summary

In September 2026, the preliminary single-stream recycling tip fee at Republic Services was negative $79.06 per ton, $2.97 more favorable than August's finalized rate of negative $82.03. Fiber and metals remained firm while plastics stayed weak. Shared-service drafts remain with Boonton and Washington Township; Harding (depot collection) and Mendham Township (quarterly brush-container amendment) were added. Staff led the five-county MRC meeting on September 23 (more than 100 attendees) and the Clean Communities coordinator meeting on September 16 (46 attendees). The 2024 municipal tonnage-grant review found NJDEP under-reported about 1,394 tons in category 24 and over-reported 10,870.73 tons of disposal; a countywide correction was filed, with municipal responses due October 12. Marrone has been recommended for appointment to the NJDEP Plastics Advisory Council. 2027 curbside contract billings are forecast at $2,589,107.61, plus $170,544.24 for schools and $106,168.06 for complexes.

Recycling Market and Operations Report Update

In September, the preliminary single-stream recycling rate with Republic Services was negative $79.06 per ton, a $2.97 increase in value from the previous month's finalized rate of negative $82.03 per ton.

In September and early October, the Northeast recycling market shows a stark split between strengthening paper and metals markets and heavily depressed, stagnant plastic segments.

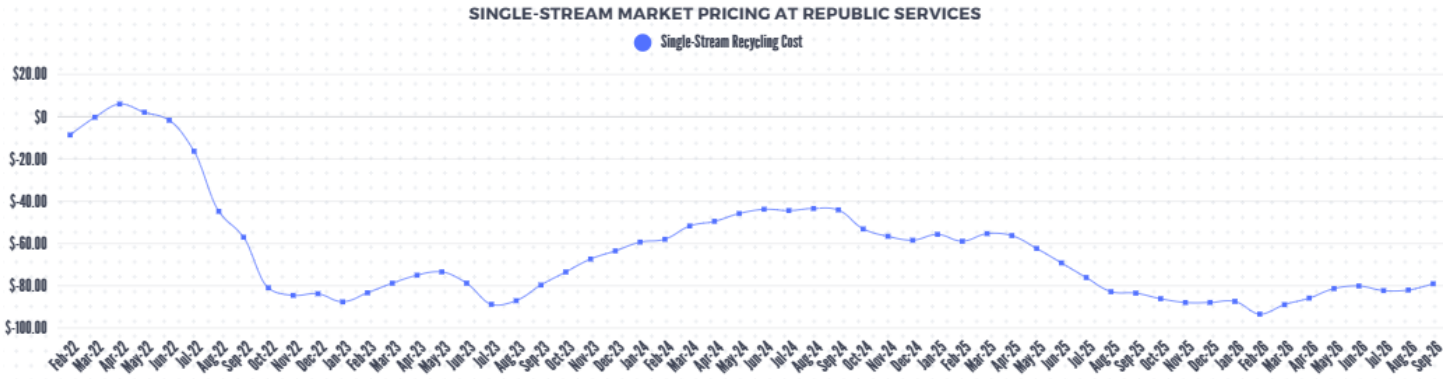
Data forecasts show that different material types face very diverse demand pressures right now.

Fiber makes up nearly 50% of outbound tonnage at our Northeast Materials Recovery Facilities (MRFs), and its strong performance in the fall is vital to the region's recycling program finances, especially as paper and cardboard markets rebound. The paper sector has shown the strongest growth heading into October, despite previous mill closures and low-demand periods last year, indicating steady domestic mill interest. Regional mills are increasing mixed paper content in their packaging to reduce raw material costs, supporting municipal curbside programs. As for cardboard, the month-to-month price rise to $95/ton as present, is mainly due to a significant domestic manufacturing investment boom, driven by large North American mill projects and expansions aimed at recycling fiber. This extra capacity creates a durable demand hub in the Northeast, protected from international market fluctuations, with current rates well above last year's $62.50/ton level.

The post-consumer plastics industry faces oversupply and brand hesitation, especially in the Northeast, where high virgin plastics production clashes with stalled sustainability goals. In September, the NJDEP extended the food containers and packaging exemption under the state's Recycled Content Law from January 2027 to December 2029 because food-safe PCR technologies have limited scalability. This has led to canceled recycled-resin contracts and reduced purchasing intentions as reported by several groups in our area. Moreover, despite policy pressures, PET prices have flatlined, even as brands pledge more recycled content; low virgin PET prices lead brands to buy cheap, new plastics instead of recycled PET flakes. Additionally, Northeast MRFs are also absorbing high sorting costs without financial return. Natural HDPE can be dyed any color and is highly versatile, while colored HDPE’s value is limited by pigment restrictions, keeping its worth low.

Scrap metals like steel and aluminum remain stable, driven by regional industrial demand and low inventories. Used beverage containers continue to command high prices, around 100 cents per pound, since May. Domestic aluminum mills have maintained aggressive buying to meet local manufacturing demands, making aluminum the most profitable curbside recycling item per pound. Steel cans also stay strong, averaging $207.50 per ton during this time. The regional scrap metal market is gaining momentum in fall, with experts predicting localized price increases due to structural supply shortages. Northeast steel mills are actively competing for limited scrap to support regional infrastructure, allowing MRFs to maximize profits through magnetic separation lines.

The market outlook for the remainder of 2026 across the Northeast recycling sector is a highly divided, “two-speed” market forecast. As we enter the final quarter (Q4) of the year, macroeconomic conditions are heavily favoring fiber, driven by mill demand and holiday packaging surges, and metals amid tight inventories and higher-than-average demand, while post-consumer plastics are expected to finish the year deeply depressed.



Monthly MCMUA single-stream recycling tip fees at Republic Services.

Ongoing Shared Service Agreements and Contract Activities

In September and October, Marrone and Chavanne continued follow-up conversations regarding the adoption of shared service agreements for the following towns and their respective contracts for their consideration:

- *Town of Boonton – Curbside and Depot Collection SSA Renewal.*
- *Township of Washington First Amendment to Depot Collection SSA – Scrap Metal Container Addition.*
- *Township of Harding – Depot Collection SSA.*
- *Township of Mendham – First Amendment to SSA – Brush Container Temporary Collection Event Addition on a Quarterly Basis.*
    - This amendment would include adding container services to their DPW yard for residential and municipal brush via temporary drop-off events, and the MCMUA transporting the material to one of our two vegetative waste recycling facilities.

Recycling/Clean Communities Education, Inspections, and Customer Service Support

Below are summaries of Recycling and Clean Communities' projects, public outreach, and education programs in September 2026. Details regarding these activities are provided in a supplemental report.

Recycling and Clean Communities Projects, Public Outreach, Education, and Inspections:

- MCMUA, County Recycling Coordinator, and ANJR Joint Efforts
- MCMUA Assists in Shaping New Jersey's County Food Waste Reduction Guidance Document
- MCMUA, NJDEP, and NJDA Work to Create Food Waste Recycling Regulatory Education
- MCMUA Plans for its Fifth MRC Meeting of the 2026 Calendar Year
- MCMUA Sponsored Internship with Morris County's Higher Learning Institutions
- MCMUA Attends the Denville Farmer's Market and Educational Green Fair Event
- MCMUA Provides Recycling Education at the Parsippany Whole Foods Event
- MCMUA Attends and Networks at the 5th Annual Morris County Community Exchange Event

- MCMUA Participates in the Sustainability Fair of the Chathams
- Solid Waste Planning Division Assignment Update
- MCMUA Recycling Public Outreach Educational Materials and Efforts
- MCMUA Attends the Rutgers Certified Recycling Professionals Course
- MCMUA Attends the Rutgers Certified Clean Communities Coordinator Course

Solid Waste Planning Activities and Special Projects

MCMUA Presents at the NJ Association of County and City Health Officials on Food Waste:

On September 17, Marrone presented at the New Jersey Association of County and City Health Officials (NJACCHO) Large Forum, which gathered representatives from state, county, and large regional health departments. During the meeting, Marrone invited the nonprofit Share My Meals to introduce its service model and demonstrate how food rescue can be a valuable tool for these departments. The presentation, attended by a large audience, covered the new County Food Waste Planning Law signed in January, upcoming county food waste reduction goals, and ways public health departments can collaborate with municipal recycling teams to achieve the county's 50% reduction target. Since donations will play a significant role in reaching state diversion targets, Marrone emphasized the existing framework for towns to track recycling data and highlighted the benefits, including grant funding and increased recycling rates. He also discussed future county-municipality mandates focusing on food prevention, recovery, and recycling before disposal and introduced an optional food waste survey that health departments can include in annual license renewals to educate licensed food waste generators on the importance of donating excess food and recycling as needed. This survey not only serves an educational purpose but also requires businesses to report on food waste haulers and donations, including material estimates, so the municipal recycling coordinator can monitor progress and gather county data. Also, as part of this presentation, the MCMUA introduced our past and current ongoing projects, which aim to reduce food waste for further replication. The MCMUA was also asked to speak at several other meetings with organization partners, including the Morris Regional Public Health Partnership Meeting on Food Redirection on October 29 and the NJACCHO small health department forum on December 2.

Marrone Appointed to Serve on the State's Plastics Advisory Council:

In late August and again in September, Marrone was contacted by the NJDEP regarding serving on the Plastics Advisory Council (PAC) as a governor-appointed member. After a recent vacancy, several NJDEP members voiced their recommendation, with one stating they "strongly recommend Marrone for the Council, citing his strong experience and work in the field of solid waste and recycling", noting that Marrone would "bring valuable leadership, extensive experience, and a strong record of success to the PAC's work," and put forward his name to the governor's office for appointment. Marrone will represent the environmental community on behalf of the 21 County Recycling Coordinators and the Association of New Jersey Recyclers.

The "Get Past Plastic Law" created the 16-member PAC within the DEP. The PAC oversees the law's implementation and assesses its success in reducing single-use plastics and plastic waste across the state. It must also report on these efforts and suggest legislative or

administrative improvements. Furthermore, the law mandates that the PAC study:

1. The environmental and public health impacts of single-use plastics and microplastics;
2. Healthy, environmentally friendly alternatives to single-use plastics;
3. Strategies and policies to boost plastics' recyclability and minimize their environmental entry;
4. The technological feasibility of increasing recycled content in consumer plastics and expanding plastic types produced from recycled materials;
5. Ways to promote markets for post-consumer recycled plastics, including state and local purchasing and procurement practices.

On September 28, Marrone met with several NJDEP and Council Members for an onboarding session to review expectations, goals, and next steps for further exploration. On October 14, Marrone will attend the next Policy Subcommittee meeting to review ongoing initiatives, and the Plastics Advisory Council General meeting on October 20 to align efforts on the committee's fourth-year report.

Municipal Tonnage Grant (MTG) 30-Day Audit 2024 Reporting Data Update:

On September 29, the NJDEP announced its initial data estimates for the 2024 municipal tonnage grant submissions. All towns have 30 days to review and verify their reports, with Municipal Recycling Coordinators instructed to compare their 2024 MTG-reported recycling and solid waste data against the state's figures. This year, the review period has been reduced to 20 days to facilitate faster grant disbursements to municipalities. While all municipalities are expected to review and inform the NJDEP of any discrepancies, the MCMUA reviewed data for all municipalities to identify overarching error trends in their calculations, as follows, to ensure the most accurate reporting for our County, as historic trends have shown that less than a quarter of our municipalities perform this check.

Municipal Recycling Total Review:

- Eight towns have no reporting errors according to our calculations.
- Five towns had large issues with their calculations that did not align with our MCMUA records. This could be a town or DEP reporting error; ultimately, these towns must correct any errors and were directed to do so once we brought the discrepancies to their attention.
- Twenty-six towns had issues with only the #24 category, "Other Material Not Listed." The #24 category is further broken down into "Fluorescent Lights", "Other Material Not Listed", Paints & Stains", and "Batteries (Dry Cell)." The NJDEP failed to report 3 of the 4 subcategories for #24.
    - It is estimated that the NJDEP overlooked as much as 1,394.00 tons in the #24 category, amounting to approximately $181.22 at the REA rate of $0.13 per ton.
    - This does not include statistics for the five towns with major reporting issues but would result in even higher grant payouts if found conclusive.
    - These twenty-six towns were also notified of these errors and instructed to inform the DEP directly of any further notes they find.

Municipal Disposal Total Review:

The MCMUA cross-referenced NJDEP-reported solid waste totals with the MCMUA

Transfer station data and found that DEP overreported 10,870.73 tons of solid waste in 2024, with Morristown and Parsippany showing the largest reported differences of 1,137.04 and 1,365.32 tons. The less trash reported, the higher the recycling rates will be for municipalities and, therefore, for Morris County. The MCMUA has requested the DEP disposal data to cross-check their information for accuracy, as done in previous years.

As previously noted, while we expect our Morris County municipalities to submit their noted changes, the MCMUA has submitted a detailed, countywide response covering the aforementioned solid waste and recycling discrepancies to the Bureau of Planning and Licensing for review. To date, only three municipalities have copied the MCMUA on their responses, noting their issues as the October 12 deadline approaches.

MCMUA Hosts its Fourth MRC Meeting of the 2026 Calendar Year:

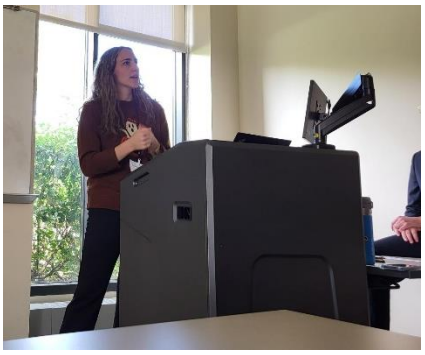
On September 23, the MCMUA, along with four other counties: Bergen, Essex, Hudson, and Passaic, held their regional recycling coordinator meeting at the NJSEA, located at 1 DeKorte Park Plaza in Lyndhurst, NJ 07071, in the auditorium of the former environmental center. The meeting brought together over 100 municipal, county, and state recycling professionals and provided a full day of solid waste and recycling education and resources. The MCMUA handled all preparation work, organization, moderation, paperwork, state-mandated summaries, and cataloging for the event, as well as applying for credits for its participation. Speakers included the NJDEP, which discussed updates on the new County Food Waste Planning Law/Tiered Composting, the Scrap Tire Recycling Law, E-Waste Reporting Forms, and the Single-Use Utensil and Condiment Law. Updates were also provided on the status of current recycling markets and pending legislation, ANJR updates, a presentation from the Flooring Foundation about its new recycling facility in Somerset County, information on food waste recycling programs from Montclair and Leonia Townships, and a report from the Meadowlands Environmental Commission on school field trips and programs, followed by a tour of the Environmental Center grounds led by their on-site teaching staff. With the recycling coordinators from two other counties leaving their positions before the meeting, Morris led the event activities and ensured it was successful. Next year's meeting will be held at the Passaic County Public Safety Academy in Wayne in the spring of 2027.





MCMUA Presents at the Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions Annual Symposium:

On September 25, the Solid Waste Planning Division attended the ANJEC 2026 Environmental Congress at Rutgers University, New Brunswick. The event started with remarks from NJDEP Commissioner Potosnak, who provided environmental updates from the Sherrill administration. The day featured workshops on environmental protection, sustainability, regulatory issues, and water quality, along with examples of projects from environmental commissions statewide. Three Morris County municipalities, Morristown, Morris Township, and Mendham Township, attended and participated in discussions. During the "Environmental Advocacy Tools" session, Dolan discussed current food waste issues, the new county law promoting food waste diversion, municipal actions to reduce waste, and her successful food waste drop-off program pilot, which she developed as a member of Morristown's Environmental Commission. Presenting through ANJEC allowed Dolan and the MCMUA to connect with regional environmental commission members, positioning the MCMUA as a resource for food waste diversion and fostering partnerships for outreach and broader diversion efforts. Following the presentation, Marrone and Dolan have a follow-up meeting with ANJEC scheduled for October 16 to explore potential collaborations and how ANJEC can support municipal waste reduction in Morris and beyond.



2026 MCMUA Enhances Partnerships with Morris County Environmental Commissions:

Since announcing the five winning municipalities in our Recycling Enhancement Mini-Grant awards for Environmental Commissions, our awardees have been actively pursuing their waste diversion objectives. Throughout September, Marrone regularly consulted with recipients, offering guidance and support. Marrone and Dolan collaborated to engage additional county municipalities about mini-grant opportunities, narrowing focus and funding toward four new grants for projects with innovative ideas. Dolan also built on last month's research and the county-wide Environmental Commission listing by connecting with individuals who can take on leadership roles in those volunteer roles. These interactions will inform upcoming Environmental Commission case studies, a spring 2027 gathering for environmental commissions to share ideas, and the development of a sustainability hub with biannual meetings for environmental commission and green team members in a more regular format. Meanwhile, Dolan continues partnering with other Environmental Commissions and Green Teams across the county to explore collaborations and establish shared goals.

Solid Waste Planning Division Develops its End-of-Year and 2027 Calendar Year Plan:

In September and October, the Division began preparing and planning its 2027 calendar, covering special projects, grant commitments, regulatory outlooks, and shared service obligations. Marrone and Chavanne also updated the billing sheets the Finance Department uses for the remainder of 2026 and forecast 2027 rate increases, including specifications to streamline billing. These sheets include all current contracts, broken down into monthly and annual payments,

additional fees, mailing addresses, contract expirations, and additional notes. Staff also created one large file that includes all 2027 contracts to accommodate contracts whose contract year changes mid-year. By the numbers, the MCMUA can expect the annual municipal curbside contracts to total ~$2,589,107.61. This does not include marketing costs or costs per pull at recycling depots or events and may change as contracts develop. Schools with contracts account for an additional $170,544.24, and complexes account for $106,168.06 in 2027. Other entities the MCMUA is contracted with do not have a lump-sum annual cost and are based on pulls per year. These are not included in these figures.

Morris County Clean Communities Program

New Jersey Clean Communities Council Best Practices Committee:

In September, Chavanne, a member of the NJCCC Best Practices Committee, collaborated with other committee members throughout the month to review and update the Council's website. Over the coming months, the NJCCC plans a comprehensive overhaul of the NJClean.org website, aiming to complete it in mid-October to align with the graduation of the new Clean Communities Coordinator certification cohort. Chavanne specifically revised part of the litter cleanup webpage on NJClean.org, fixing broken links and photographs, adding NJDEP information on illegal dumping, and including their reporting hotline. Additionally, Chavanne developed a general Clean Communities Coordinator Handbook and an Excel-based statistical report expenditure tracker to be added to the site for statewide use, along with other games and resources for coordinators. Marrone and Chavanne also collaborated to update resources such as assemblies, presentations, and field trip vendor examples so coordinators can use grant funding for program education.

MCMUA Hosts its Annual In-Person Clean Communities Coordinator Meeting:



On September 16, the MCMUA held its annual in-person Clean Communities meeting at the Kean Skylands Campus in Oak Ridge. Forty-six people attended, mostly Morris County municipal coordinators, with some from outside the county seeking to enhance their own programs. The event featured an overview of the Morris County Program, updates, related resources, a review of the revised website, a campus tour, and discussions on its history and educational initiatives. Part of the meeting focused on the new "Single-Use Utensil and Condiment Law," which bans food service businesses from providing single-use utensils and condiments under certain conditions and requires DEP to run an education campaign to promote reducing these items. Several speakers presented, including Q-Star Technologies on anti-littering and illegal dumping prevention, GOATOTE on their reusable bag initiative, the New Jersey School of Conservation on water pollution prevention, and the Kean University Students Sustainability Squad on their outreach and sustainability efforts. The meeting concluded with updates from the NJ Clean

Communities Council's program, led by the Executive Director, highlighting their new "Love Where You Learn" campaign to cut litter in schools, and Chavanne sharing new educational resources for the upcoming grant cycle. Attendees, both local and from outside Morris County, held the training in high regard and responded positively.

Statistical Report Submission Update:

On September 14, the NJCCC provided the county coordinators with the updated list of submitted and outstanding Clean Communities statistical report submissions to date. So far, 32 out of 39 Morris County municipalities have submitted their 2025 reports. Chavanne continues to work with the seven municipalities that still need to submit their reports, as well as several others with outstanding past reports. Notably, two of the towns' coordinators told us they cannot submit reports because their municipalities have not cooperated in providing data. Chavanne and the NJCCC's Executive Director plan to conduct targeted outreach in mid to late October to tackle this challenge. Moreover, a majority of our towns have now regained compliance with the NJCCC program by submitting reports from 2022-2025. The goal is to ensure all towns understand their reporting responsibilities and adhere to guidelines for the 2026 grant submission, further improving reporting rates.

New NJCCC Guideline for Reusable Bag Collection and Reuse Campaigns:

Governor Murphy signed S-3511 on July 22, 2025. This law, designated as P.L. 2025 c. 106, permanently allocates $500,000 annually from the "Clean Communities Program Fund" to the Department of Environmental Protection to support public outreach on reducing single-use plastics. The fund gathers money from fees paid by manufacturers, wholesalers, distributors, and retailers of litter-producing products, along with penalties and voluntary donations. Initially, these funds helped finance education and law enforcement for the single-use plastics ban until 2023, including a bag redistribution program that collects reusable bags for redistribution to food banks, pantries, and food programs. The law took effect immediately, and in spring 2026, the NJCCC and NJDEP broadened their Clean Communities spending guidelines to include bag collection and reuse programs as eligible expenses. This change followed the high volume of discarded reusable bags. Several municipalities, such as Montville, have already initiated bag reuse programs, often linking them with events like shredding drives to boost participation. The MCMUA is exploring funding a temporary event or fixed collection point at the Interfaith Food Pantry and resource center in Parsippany now that recycling options for bags unsuitable for donation are emerging with several vendors.

Morris County Clean Communities Sponsored County Roadway Cleanup(s):

In September, the Morris County Clean Communities Litter Abatement Program continued its efforts to remove litter from county roads, collaborating with the contractor Adopt-A-Highway. Throughout the month, Division Team Members conducted on-road searches in several areas previously identified as having increased litter. The team evaluated and marked several roadway sections for potential future cleanups. On October 2, the team cleared litter around the Parsippany Transfer Station and nearby roads, with 6 volunteers covering 2.5 miles. They collected 40 bags

of trash and 17 bags of recyclables. They also disposed of about 51 pounds of miscellaneous materials, including large quantities of litter such as wooden pallets, rigid plastics, Styrofoam pieces, ceiling tiles, a pot planter, and carpets.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Kaletcher mentioned that he needs to speak with Board members at the end of the meeting to go over dates to set up a Budget Committee Meeting. Mr. Ragonese mentioned that he would like to set up a Solid Waste Committee Meeting also.

Ms. Szwak asked if there is a time that she could sit down and ask questions at a Water Committee Meeting. Larry Gindoff will coordinate setting this up.

There being no further Old Business, this portion of the meeting was closed.

NEW BUSINESS:

There being no New Business, this portion of the meeting was closed.

PUBLIC PORTION:

There being no comment from the Public, this portion of the meeting was closed.

CLOSED SESSION:

Chairman Dour asked the Board for a Motion for the meeting to go into closed session at 8:14 p.m. for property acquisition related to two open space projects; one being Drew Forest in Madison and the other being Heritage Homes in Washington Township and pending litigation, Morris County M.U.A. vs. AJACO Towing.

MOTION: Ms. Szwak made a Motion for the meeting to go into closed session at 8:14 p.m. for property acquisition to discuss two open space projects and pending litigation, Morris County M.U.A. vs. AJACO Towing, and Mr. Ragonese seconded the Motion.

ROLL CALL: AYES: 5 NAYES: NONE ABSTENTIONS: NONE

Chairman Dour asked the Board for a Motion for the meeting to go into open session 8:44 p.m..

MOTION: Mr. Ragonese made a Motion for the meeting to go into open session at 8:44 p.m. and Ms. Szwak seconded the Motion.

(Dr. Kominos was on mute during the vote.)

ROLL CALL: AYES: 4 NAYES: NONE ABSTENTIONS: NONE

There being no further business, Chairman Dour asked for a Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:44 p.m.

MOTION: Mr. Ragonese made a Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:44 p.m. Ms. Szwak seconded the Motion and it was carried unanimously.

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Marilyn Regner
Secretary

/mr