

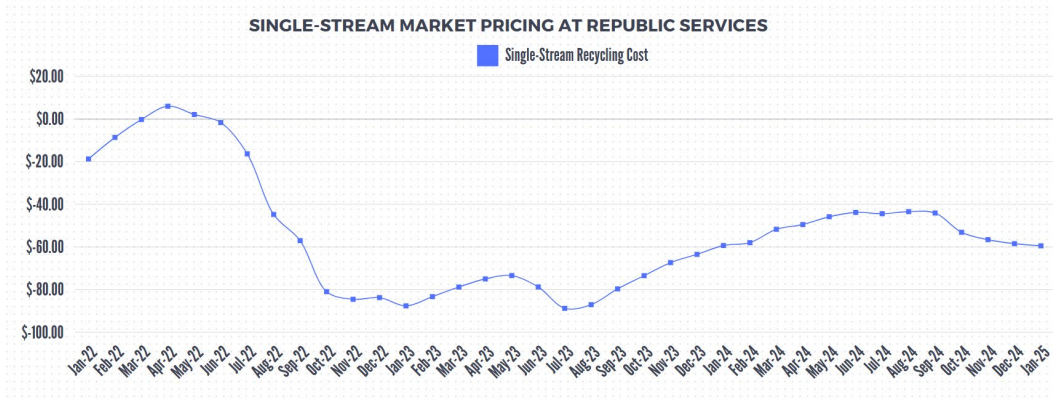
District Recycling Coordinator Monthly Board Report January 2025

Recycling Tonnage and Value

January Recycling Markets and Operations Update:

In January, the preliminary single-stream recycling rate was reported at \$59.49 per ton, reflecting a cost increase of \$1.02 from the finalized rate of \$58.47 in the previous month. During January, the markets for recovered materials remained largely stagnant, except for plastic materials, which moved gradually following shifts in oil prices. This plateau in January was primarily influenced by uncertainty surrounding tariffs expected to be imposed on Mexico, Canada, and China, as well as significant impacts on commingled containers and fiber markets under the new administration. According to market reports, many major exporters from the United States increased their “preloads” of material in December and early January, raising their demand in anticipation of any tariffs the president-elect highlighted before taking office on the 20th. This situation accounts for a stabilized rate when the first quarter typically experiences a decrease in pricing due to a decline in consumer purchasing following the holiday season.

It is essential to note that recycling and waste organizations have expressed concerns that while any proposed tariffs may offer some localized benefits for U.S. domestic manufacturers, their broader impact will negatively affect recycling markets through 2025. This situation could continue to drive commodity values downward, hindering infrastructure investments and disrupting trade relationships and the flow of materials.



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

Shared Service Agreements and Contract Activities

MCMUA’s Work on Renewing Expiring and Addition of New Collection Service Agreements:

Throughout December, Marrone and Toomey continued to work to prepare for the large quantity of upcoming shared service agreements expiring in 2025, which had previously been reported to the Board. The following was completed this month as follows:

Township of Mendham Recycling Services Renewal Update:

In January, the MCMUA and the Township concluded discussions on implementing a proposed new shared services agreement for curbside recycling collection with the Township administration. The Township pushed back its plans to approve our new agreement for recycling collection services from its January 23 council meeting to February 11. As for our MUA adopting resolution, this will be presented to the MCMUA Board for consideration at our February 2025 meeting.

District Recycling Coordinator Monthly Board Report **January 2025**

Township of Long Hill Recycling Services Renewal:

In January, Marrone and Toomey finalized the draft shared service agreements for Long Hill, which included options for lump-sum and market-rate pricing. Additionally, the discussion touched on including new units in the draft agreement, even though these units have not yet been constructed. Since the plans for these units have not been reviewed, the MCMUA cannot guarantee service to these sites. This is because many multifamily housing developments do not consult with haulers or MRCs before construction, resulting in issues like inadequate recycling storage capacity or limited access to collection vehicles.

After the meeting, Toomey and Marrone learned that Long Hill would like to include recycling collection as an option in their next solid waste bid, which is scheduled for later in the year. This means the MCMUA cannot reserve the municipality's current slot on the collection calendar, as another town may need it if Long Hill cannot ensure early renewal. This situation prompted Toomey and Marrone to state in all future draft agreements that pricing is only guaranteed for a limited time. They informed the municipality that they cannot reserve the spot on the calendar until a contract is signed and that pricing is not guaranteed after 60 days.

Township of Roxbury Recycling Depot Marketing and Transportation Services Renewal Update:

In January, Marrone and Toomey finalized a revised draft shared services agreement for recycling depot collection services in Roxbury and sent it to the MRC and administrator for review. On January 24, Marrone and Toomey met with the MRC and the DPW Director to discuss the depot agreement for signature and the possibility of adding curbside recycling collection services by the MCMUA when their current contract expires. The Township is considering this change due to dissatisfaction with its current service and a desire to switch to single-stream recycling considering the changing recycling markets.

Morris School District Recycling Services Renewal:

In January, Marrone and Toomey initiated discussions with the Administrator of the Morris School District to begin working on a new contract for services, as the current contract is set to expire at the end of June 2025. Following preliminary talks with the district, they expressed interest in adding additional services to the new draft agreement for consideration. On January 31, a revised agreement was presented to the district, and the MCMUA offered to meet to discuss the services outlined. The district will review our proposal at their next meeting and will reach out with any questions or decisions they may have.

County College of Morris Services Proposal:

On January 10, Marrone and Toomey were notified that CCM would like to move forward with the proposal to now charge for the mixed paper container and transportation provided by the MCMUA. This has opened discussions about providing CCM with a proposal for recycling and garbage collection services for the entire campus when their contract expires on June 30, 2025. CCM has provided a list of their current collection locations, container needs, and schedules. Marrone and Toomey will work with the Curbside Department to develop a proposal for these services.

Township of Randolph Recycling Services Proposal:

District Recycling Coordinator Monthly Board Report **January 2025**

In January, Marrone and Toomey engaged in discussions with the Township about a potential agreement for recycling collection, following up on their initial meeting from the previous month. The MRC and the Health Officer provided details from their most recent solid waste bid specifications to inform the Township about the number of units and collection locations. Using this information, Toomey began drafting a shared services agreement for the Township's consideration and approval.

Township of Parsippany Troy-Hills Personnel and Equipment Rental Services Renewal:

In January, Marrone and Toomey began discussing the expiration of our current shared services agreement with the Township, which expires on October 31. The agreement allows for backup use of each party's rear-loading compactors, front-end loaders, and the personnel required to operate. Marrone seeks to expand upon these services to include their horizontal grinder equipment in this current agreement, which the MCMUA previously utilizes at its compost sites. A draft is before the Township for their review and edits, and the MCMUA is finalizing pricing for our services.

Borough of Wharton Recycling Services Renewal:

In January, Marrone and Toomey began discussions with the Borough regarding the expiration of our current curbside collection services agreement, which expires at the end of the year. Considering the new contract, the MCMUA will add (2) 40-cubic-yard compactors, one for single-stream and the other for cardboard, eliminating the current open-top roll-off system and streamlining services. In addition, the Borough would like the MCMUA to consider utilizing carted collection throughout the new agreement. A draft agreement is currently before the DPW Director for edits and comments, and the MCMUA is presently working out pricing for a new agreement considering these services.

Borough of Chester Recycling Services Renewal:

In January, Marrone and Toomey initiated discussions with the Borough about the expiration of our current curbside collection services agreement, which will expire at the year's end. On January 17, Marrone met with the new MRC and DPW Director to review the existing contract, the services offered, and potential expansions, as well as to provide necessary solid waste and recycling education, given his new role. Following this meeting, the MRC received a draft of a new agreement for review with the Borough Administrator and will return with any edits or questions.

Later that same day, Marrone was informed that the Borough would expand services for its residents and create a depot. Consequently, the MUA plans to include single-stream and vegetative waste container services in their proposal. The Borough also expressed interest in adding electronic waste recycling through the MUA contract with GreenChip. A revised draft of the agreement is being developed and will be submitted for their consideration and approval.

MCMUA Welcomes its New Environmental Education & Program Assistant to its Team:

On Tuesday, January 14, 2024, the Solid Waste Planning Team welcomed Sophia Civitella as its new part-time Recycling Program Environmental Education and Program Assistant at the MCMUA. In this role, Civitella will divide her time between the Recycling and Clean Communities programs, focusing on public

District Recycling Coordinator Monthly Board Report January 2025

outreach. She brings experience in environmental education and outreach from organizations such as AmeriCorps and The Land Conservancy of New Jersey. Civitella is a graduate student at Montclair State University and is set to complete her studies this spring semester. Civitella has expressed a strong interest in collaborating with Marrone and Eramo on current food waste reduction initiatives and the open space program. She aims to help identify and preserve future properties and provide stewardship for those within our purview. Additionally, she is eager to support our educational programming and assist in developing and sharing educational materials for the MCMUA. We look forward to working with her and the new perspective she will bring to reduce waste further and improve Morris County's recycling efforts. We are confident in her abilities and anticipate great things from her soon!



Sophia Civitella, MCMUA's new Environmental Education & Program Assistant

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

Below are summaries of Recycling and Clean Communities' projects, public outreach, and education programs during January 2025. Details regarding these activities are provided in a supplemental report.

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

- MCMUA Tours the SCMUA Landfill and Recycling Facility in Lafayette
- ANJR New Professionals Network Subcommittee Efforts
- MCMUA Conducts Research on Food Waste and Strategically Plans its Future Initiatives
- MCMUA Attends NRDC Food Matters Meeting Network Call
- MCMUA Attends the Rutgers Certified Recycling Professionals Course
- MCMUA Presents at the Borough of Madison's Junior High School
- MCMUA and MCDPH Collaborations
- Community Lead Testing Event for Consumer Items, MCMUA, and MCDPH Partnership
- Morris County Office Recycling Excels (M.O.R.E.) Program Inspections
- MCMUA Continues Planning for its Municipal Recycling and Clean Communities Coordinator Meetings of the 2025 Calendar Year
- MCMUA Recycling Public Outreach Educational Materials and Efforts

District Recycling Coordinator Monthly Board Report **January 2025**

- MCMUA and MCOC Collaborations

Solid Waste Planning Activities and Special Projects

MCMUA Boat Shrink Wrap Recycling Stewardship Efforts:

In January, Marrone began work on a program to recycle boat shrink wrap generated within the County of Morris for a third year. Over the month, Marrone worked with Roxbury Township's Municipal Recycling Coordinator, the owner of Ultra-Poly Corporation, who will recycle the collected materials, and the Executive Director from the non-profit Lake Hopatcong Foundation (LHF) to finalize details for implementing the 2025 boat shrink wrap recycling program with April 1 start date.

On January 31, 2024, Marrone organized a meeting with representatives of Ultra-Poly Corporation and several interested parties to work out the best method for recycling materials for the opening season. During the upcoming year, the LHF hopes to expand the program to the public again during hosted event drop-off days at the Jefferson Health Center following last year's heightened interest in that avenue with the public. In addition, we will reach out to the boating clubs and water recreational outlets to provide them with the public drop day in advance so they have time to plan to store uncovered wrap and transport it to the recycling site on collection day. A second meeting is scheduled for February with the participating Marinas and the LHF to inform them once again of the program and spread awareness for its start date for the spring season.

Morris County Clean Communities Program

Morris County Municipal Clean Communities Coordinators Receive 2025 Program Information:

In January, Birmingham assembled informational packets for each of the County's Municipal Clean Communities Coordinators, which included educational materials and MUA-specific resources to support their roles. Each Coordinator received a 2025 Clean Communities Artwork Contest Calendar, the MCMUA's Environmental Guide, and additional job-specific information. Each packet also contained a personalized note explaining how to access our other resources, detailing the contents of the packet, and encouraging them to reach out to us for any questions or potential program collaborations. The letters were well received and garnered positive feedback.