

# “One Person’s Trash...”

Your guide to reducing, reusing and recycling



Bergen County  
Utilities Authority  
201-641-2552  
www.bcua.org

## BCUA Receives Award for School Environmental Grant Program

In recognition of its Environmental Awareness Challenge Grant Program for Schools, the Bergen County Utilities Authority received a prestigious WAVE Award from the Association of Environmental Authorities (AEA). WAVE Awards recognize excellence in the public water, wastewater, recycling, and solid waste sectors in New Jersey. Since a wave is a symbol of constant change, a person or organization that “makes waves” is active, always thinking, seeking answers to problems, and striving for progress.

**BCUA staff member Angela Bonanno-Lynch (center) at the WAVE Awards ceremony with AEA Executive Director Peggy Gallos and AEA Treasurer Stephen Specht.**



## Wishful Recycling — More Harm than Good

Bergen County residents love to recycle! But sometimes residents get a little too enthusiastic and put inappropriate items into recycling bins, hoping they will be recycled. When this happens, we call it “wishful recycling,” and it can do more harm than good.

Unless you have been away on a long vacation or avoiding all news, you know that recycling is facing major challenges. Items you place into your recycling bin get mixed with everyone else’s and then sent to a large plant called a Materials Recovery Facility. At this plant, paper, cardboard, glass, cans, and plastic are separated by type and then shipped on to companies that do additional processing. Eventually, the can or plastic bottle that you recycled becomes a raw material in making a new product, such as a new can or bottle. That bottle or can is filled, sent to a store, and the process begins again.

At least that is how it is supposed to work. Recycling is a group project and, unfortunately, not everyone in the group is doing their part. Items that are dirty or just don’t belong are going into recycling bins. Dirty recyclables contaminate clean materials. Items that don’t belong can get hopelessly tangled with other items or in machines at the sorting facility. Yucky items, such as diapers, can create a huge mess and ruin entire loads of recyclables.

Make sure you are recycling correctly and know what goes into recycling bins. Wishful recyclers can cause as many problems as careless recyclers. So combine your good intentions with good information. Go to your municipality’s website (see page 4) to learn what is accepted for recycling in your community. And, when in doubt, throw it out.

# NO

### Don’t recycle these items:

- Pizza boxes
- Glass dishes and bakeware
- Plastic grocery bags (store drop-off available)
- Garden hoses
- Disposable coffee cups
- Wire hangers

# BCUA Awards Schools More Than \$95,000 in Local Grants



At the October 12th school grant check ceremony, Hillside School (Allendale) Ecology Center Coordinator Susan Clauss (holding award), and Superintendent of Schools Michael Barcadepone (center) are joined by (L to R) Bergen County Freeholder Tracy Silna Zur, BCUA Chairman Ronald Phillips, and Bergen County Executive James Tedesco III.

The BCUA introduced an Environmental Awareness Challenge Grant Program in 2007 as a way to reinvigorate recycling and environmental awareness in Bergen County schools. In 2018, 101 schools received grants totaling \$96,311.77. BCUA Executive Director Robert E. Laux stated, "Since the inception of the grant program, the BCUA has awarded \$804,693.51 in grants to 846 schools."

County Executive James Tedesco III and Freeholder Tracy Silna Zur, along with more than 200 school officials, students, and family members, attended the award ceremony on October 12, 2018 at Bergen Community College. The program is funded entirely by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and managed through the BCUA. Both public and private schools may apply for grants up to \$1,000. All eligible schools have an existing recycling program or have applied to use the grants to implement one.

This year's projects included outdoor gardens and classrooms, cafeteria food waste recycling, a plastic bag reduction and reuse program, water conservation, and more. Congratulations to the following schools:

**Allendale:** Hillside School, Northern Highlands Regional High School

**Bogota:** Bogota Jr./Sr. High School, E. Roy Bixby Elementary School, Lillian M. Steen Elementary School, St. Joseph Academy

**Carlstadt:** Carlstadt Public School, Cliffside Park School #3, Cliffside Park School #5, Cliffside Park School #6

**Cresskill:** Academy of St. Therese, Merritt Memorial School

**Demarest:** County Road School, Luther Lee Emerson School

**East Rutherford:** Becton Regional High School

**Edgewater:** Eleanor Van Gelder School, George Washington Elementary School

**Elmwood Park:** Gantner Avenue Elementary School, Gilbert Avenue Elementary School, Memorial High School, Memorial Middle School, Sixteenth Avenue Elementary School

**Emerson:** Emerson Jr./Sr. High School, Memorial Elementary School, Patrick M. Villano Elementary School

**Englewood:** Bergen Family Center, Dr. Leroy McCloud Elementary School, First Presbyterian Preschool & Kindergarten

**Fair Lawn:** Lyncrest School, Memorial Middle School

**Garfield:** Christopher Columbus School #8, Woodrow Wilson School #5

**Harrington Park:** Harrington Park School

**Hasbrouck Heights:** Hasbrouck Heights High School

**Hillsdale:** Ann Blanche Smith School, Pascack Valley High School

**Ho-Ho-Kus:** Ho-Ho-Kus Public School

**Leonia:** Anna C. Scott School, Leonia Middle School

**Lodi:** Lodi High School, South Bergen Jointure Commission, Wilson Elementary School

**Lyndhurst:** Columbus School, Jefferson Elementary School, Lincoln Elementary School, Memorial Campus, Washington Elementary School

**Mahwah:** Betsy Ross School, Joyce Kilmer School

**Midland Park:** Midland Park High School

**Montvale:** Fieldstone Middle School

**New Milford:** Bertram F. Gibbs School, David E. Owens Middle School, David E. Owens Preschool, The French American Academy, Wings Academy

**North Arlington:** North Arlington Middle School

**Northvale:** Northvale Public School

**Oakland:** Academies at Gerrard Berman Day School

**Old Tappan:** Charles DeWolf Middle School, Northern Valley Regional High School at Old Tappan

**Oradell:** Saint Joseph School

**Palisades Park:** Palisades Park Jr./Sr. High School

**Paramus:** Ben Porat Yosef Yeshiva Day School, Bleshman Regional Day School, Stony Lane School, Visitation Academy Interparochial School, Washington Elementary School, West Brook Middle School

**Park Ridge:** East Brook Elementary School, Our Lady of Mercy Academy, West Ridge Elementary School

**Ramsey:** Eric S. Smith School, Mary A. Hubbard School, Ramsey High School

**Ridgefield:** Ridgefield Memorial High School, Slocum Skewes School

**Ridgefield Park:** Lincoln School, Roosevelt School, Grant Elementary School

**Ridgewood:** Ridge Elementary School, Ridgewood High School

**River Edge:** Cherry Hill School, River Dell Regional Middle School, Roosevelt School, St. Peter Academy

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# Household Hazardous Waste

In 2018, the BCUA held eight, one day household hazardous waste (HHW) management events. In all, 13,255 Bergen County households took advantage of these mobile events to dispose of 1,154,135 pounds of unwanted hazardous waste materials. The amount of hazardous materials delivered averaged 87 pounds per participant. These events continue to be the largest attended one-day events in the State of New Jersey.

This popular BCUA program continues this year. All collections are free, but they are open to Bergen County residents only (proof of residency is required). At these HHW drop-offs, we will accept a wide range of materials used in and around your home. Please keep all chemicals in their original, labeled containers and store them out of reach of children and pets. For a complete list of materials accepted, as well as event dates and locations, please call the BCUA Environmental Programs Hotline at 201-807-5825 or visit [www.bcua.org](http://www.bcua.org).

Bergen County businesses classified as Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generators (CESQGs) may participate in this program for a nominal fee. All interested CESQGs must receive prior approval from the BCUA to participate. For further details, please contact Richard Baroch, Solid and Special Waste Program Administrator, at 201-807-8696.

# Mobile Paper Shredding

Residents may deliver their confidential paper documents to various locations and observe as their documents are shredded on site. Acceptable documents are limited to confidential and sensitive materials only. Non-confidential materials, such as books, magazines, and newspapers, should be recycled through your local municipal recycling program and will not be accepted. You do not have to remove paper clips, staples, or paperboard binder covers. In an effort to accommodate all of those wishing to participate, there is a limit of four (4) bags or boxes of documents weighing no more than 10 pounds each.

The BCUA offers each municipality the opportunity to host a collection event at a municipal site of its choice. In addition,

the BCUA sponsors four one-day collection events at two locations in Bergen County. In 2018, 56 municipalities opted to participate in this program and the BCUA collected a total of 467,664 pounds of confidential paper for destruction and recycling.

For more information about future events or for directions, call the BCUA Environmental Programs Hotline at 201-807-5825 or visit [www.bcua.org](http://www.bcua.org)

# Tire Recycling

During 2018, the BCUA collected 2,154 tires from Bergen County residents for recycling at one-day drop-off events, which continue this year. At these events, there is a limit of four tires per participant. No businesses may drop off tires at these events. To learn more, please call the BCUA Environmental Programs Hotline at 201-807-5825 or visit [www.bcua.org](http://www.bcua.org).

Many municipalities also collect tires. Residents should check with their local municipal recycling coordinator for a collection or drop-off schedule.

# Computers and Electronics

During 2018, the BCUA collected 193,725 pounds of computer and electronic equipment for recycling from both residents and businesses.

**For Residents:** The BCUA operates the Computer and Electronics Recycling Depot for all Bergen County residents at the BCUA, Foot of Empire Blvd., Moonachie. The depot is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. The BCUA also hosts one-day drop-off events for Bergen County residents only (no businesses). For more information, contact the BCUA Environmental Programs Hotline at 201-807-5825 or go to [www.bcua.org](http://www.bcua.org).

Most municipalities also collect computer and electronic equipment for recycling. Residents should check with their local municipal recycling coordinator for a collection or drop-off schedule.

**For Businesses:** The Computer and Electronics Recycling Depot accepts equipment from businesses for a nominal fee. Payment must be made by check only and materials must be received by appointment only. Contact the BCUA Environmental Programs Hotline at 201-807-5825 for details.

### 2019 HHW Events

*9 a.m. to 3 p.m., rain or shine*

**Saturday, May 11** – Bergen County Campgaw Mountain Reservation, 200 Campgaw Rd., Mahwah

**Sunday, June 23** – Bergen Community College, 400 Paramus Rd., Paramus

**Saturday, July 20** – Bergen County Campgaw Mountain Reservation, 200 Campgaw Rd., Mahwah

**Saturday, September 14** – Bergen County Campgaw Mountain Reservation, 200 Campgaw Rd., Mahwah

**Sunday, October 20** – Bergen Community College, 400 Paramus Rd., Paramus

**Saturday, November 16** – BCUA, Foot of Empire Blvd., Moonachie

### 2019 Paper Shredding, Tire Recycling, and Computers & Electronics Events

*9 a.m. to 2 p.m., rain or shine*

**Saturday, June 8** – Bergen County Campgaw Mountain Reservation, 200 Campgaw Rd., Mahwah

**Saturday, August 17** – Bergen Community College, 400 Paramus Rd., Paramus

**Sunday, October 6** – Bergen County Campgaw Mountain Reservation, 200 Campgaw Rd., Mahwah

## MUNICIPAL RECYCLING INFORMATION

Municipality	Recycling Coordinator Phone	Municipal Website
Allendale	201-818-4411	www.allendalenj.gov
Alpine	201-784-2900	www.alpinenj07620.org
Bergenfield	201-387-4055, ext. 3	www.bergenfield.com
Bogota	201-342-1736, ext. 267	www.bogotaonline.org
Carlstadt	201-939-2857	www.carlstadtnj.us
Cliffside Park	201-943-3456	www.cliffsideparknj.gov
Closter	201-784-0753	www.closterboro.com
Cresskill	201-569-5400	www.cresskillboro.com
Demarest	201-768-0167	www.demarestnj.net
Dumont	201-387-5022	www.dumontnj.gov
East Rutherford	201-729-9751, ext. 277	www.eastrutherfordnj.net
Edgewater	201-943-1700, ext. 5004	www.edgewaterparknj.org
Elmwood Park	201-796-1833	www.elmwoodparknj.us
Emerson	201-262-8199	www.emersonnj.org
Englewood	201-568-3401	www.cityofenglewood.org
Englewood Cliffs	201-568-0242	www.englewoodcliffsnj.org
Fair Lawn	201-794-5341	www.fairlawn.org
Fairview	201-943-3300	www.fairviewborough.com
Fort Lee	201-592-3570	www.fortleenj.org
Franklin Lakes	201-891-0048	www.franklinlakes.org
Garfield	973-546-2200	www.garfieldnj.org
Glen Rock	201-670-3990	www.glenrocknj.net
Hackensack	201-646-3980	www.hackensack.org
Harrington Park	201-768-0944	www.harringtonparknj.gov
Hasbrouck Heights	201-288-1072	www.hasbrouck-heightsnj.org
Haworth	201-384-1037	www.haworthnj.org
Hillsdale	201-666-5053	www.hillsdalenj.org
Ho-Ho-Kus	201-445-8161	www.ho-ho-kusboro.com
Leonia	201-592-5771	www.leonianj.gov
Little Ferry	201-641-0023	www.littleferrynj.org
Lodi	973-365-4005	www.lodi-nj.org
Lyndhurst	201-438-5478	www.lyndhurstnj.org
Mahwah	201-529-3344	www.mahwahtwp.org
Maywood	201-845-2900, ext. 208	www.maywoodnj.com
Midland Park	201-445-5720	www.midlandparknj.org
Montvale	201-391-5706	www.montvale.org
Moonachie	201-935-2344	www.moonachie.us
New Milford	201-967-8172	www.newmilfordboro.com
North Arlington	201-955-5665	www.northarlington.org
Northvale	201-767-0210	www.boroughofnorthvale.com
Norwood	201-768-7200	www.norwoodboro.org
Oakland	201-337-8104, ext. 3007	www.oakland-nj.org
Old Tappan	201-664-4438	www.oldtappan.net
Oradell	201-261-8200, ext. 268	www.oradell.org
Palisades Park	201-585-4133	http://palisadesparknj.us
Paramus	201-265-2100, ext. 658	www.paramusborough.org
Park Ridge	201-391-3933	www.parkridgeboro.com
Ramsey	201-825-3400, ext. 229	www.ramseynj.com
Ridgefield	201-945-5319	www.ridgefieldboro.com
Ridgefield Park	201-440-4860	www.ridgefieldpark.org
Ridgewood	201-670-5579	www.ridgewoodnj.net
River Edge	201-599-6275	www.riveredgenj.org
River Vale	201-664-2346, ext. 4	www.rivervalenj.org
Rochelle Park	201-587-7752	www.rochelleparknj.gov
Rockleigh	201-768-4217	www.rockleighnj.org
Rutherford	201-460-3000, ext. 4000	www.rutherford-nj.com
Saddle Brook	201-587-2903	www.saddlebrooknj.us
Saddle River	201-327-2609	www.saddleriver.org
South Hackensack	201-440-3283	www.southhackensacknj.org
Teaneck	201-837-1600	www.teanecknj.gov
Tenafly	201-568-4134	www.tenaflynj.org
Teterboro	201-288-1202	www.teterboronj.org
Upper Saddle River	201-327-2196	www.usrtday.org
Waldwick	201-652-5300, ext. 227	www.waldwicknj.org
Wallington	973-777-0318	www.wallingtonnj.org
Washington Twp.	201-664-4404	www.twpofwashington.us
Westwood	201-664-2349	www.westwoodnj.gov
Woodcliff Lake	201-391-4977	www.wclnj.com
Wood-Ridge	201-939-0202	www.njwoodridge.org
Wyckoff	201-891-7000, ext. 118	www.wyckoff-nj.com

## BCUA Awards ...

*(Continued from Page 2)*

**Rutherford:** Academy at St. Mary, Lincoln Elementary School

**Saddle Brook:** Saddle Brook Middle/High School

**Saddle River:** Wandell School

**South Hackensack:** Memorial School

**Teaneck:** Academy of Saut Ul Furqan, Teaneck Community Charter School

**Upper Saddle River:** Reynolds School

**Wallington:** Frank W. Gavlak School, Jefferson School

**Washington Township:** Immaculate Heart Academy

**Westwood:** Primoris Academy

**Wyckoff:** Coolidge Elementary School, Eisenhower Middle School, Sicomac Elementary School

**We welcome your  
suggestions, questions,  
and comments!**



**Bergen County Utilities  
Authority**

P.O. Box 9  
Little Ferry, NJ 07643  
201-641-2552  
www.bcu.a.org

**BCUA Environmental  
Programs Hotline:  
201-807-5825**

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