

Building a Solid Foundation for Recycling

The Professional Recyclers of Pennsylvania



*2008
Annual
Report*



Mission Statement

Professional Recyclers of Pennsylvania mission and statement is to operate a non-profit nonpartisan statewide association of recycling professionals dedicated to promoting and enhancing the interests of municipal and county recycling programs in Pennsylvania.

The purpose of the Corporation is to develop the skills and resources of its members by enhancing recycling, to promote the common interests of those engaged in recycling in Pennsylvania, to educate the public and private sectors, institutions, and media about the appropriate role of recycling, to facilitate communication and informative exchange among recycling professionals in the public and private sectors and among various levels and branches of government, to establish and promote standards within the profession of recycling, to consider and express opinion on solid waste and recycling issues and, to provide comment on proposed rules, regulations and legislation.



From the President

Hello Fellow PROOP Members,

It has been my honor to be your President since last November. I contend that no other state recycling organization has the array of programs, training, and membership benefits that PROOP does. Our organization truly flourishes as a result of the dedicated Staff, Board and Membership. I can not remember a time when our financial snapshot looked this bright.

Along those lines, I want to take this time to thank and honor the PROOP staff. In early years of the organization, the "work" of the organization was conducted by the Board and Committees. While not diminishing the importance of the Board and Committees, the PROOP staff now handles much of the physical labor and has time and time again produced training courses, conferences, seminars and various other projects that put the shine on our organization.

One of my concerns with the organization has been the strain put on our members by the changing face of the industry and economy. From my perspective, we have experienced many changes and turnover of Board members just in the few months that I have been President. While part of this is a function of a larger Board, it also stems from the strain that counties, municipalities and private industry are feeling from new regulatory requirements, increasing costs and tightening budgets. I feel that PROOP advocacy must continue to focus on issues that address this economic and regulatory strain.

In closing, as you read this Annual Report, please note the numerous projects tackled by our Staff and Committees. We have the honor to be the host committee for the National Recycling Coalition (NRC) Congress in Pittsburgh this September. Our own Annual Conference continues to provide training, address current issues, sponsor a trade show and, maybe most importantly, is the foundation for an invaluable recycling network. Lastly, I hope that you will consider being an active part of a Committee as membership input in this process is invaluable. You can contact the Committee Chair or me to express your interest. There are no prerequisites and often Committees meet via conference call. Many hands make light work.

I look forward to serving the remainder of my term and welcome your input!

Lori Robson

*President, Professional Recyclers of Pennsylvania
Solid Waste Specialist, Gannett Fleming, Inc.*



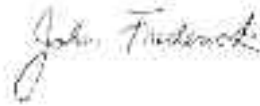
From the Executive Director

To all those that make recycling work in Pennsylvania,

There are bundles of things that could make all of us cynical and pessimistic as we move into the 2008-2009 fiscal year. PROP's public sector members are confronted with even greater funding concerns and from several fronts. Our private sector recyclers continue to struggle with waning enthusiasm in far too many communities. Composters and soil builders long for the commitment to organics recovery that we witness in Europe. Our consultant members and other professional service providers sense that there is great need for their services, but ever-decreasing funds to pay for them. Even PROP is concerned that DEP's support will fade as money is moved to other programs.

Yet in all this, hope springs eternal and recycling and composting moves on. Vibrant commodity markets have helped the financial side of the industry. Meanwhile concerns over higher energy prices and climate change have sparked a resurgence in environmental stewardship among the general public. As our members also try to find ways to do more with less, collection and processing innovations provide additional opportunity to improve efficiencies.

I hope you can all join me in making a pledge to prove all those cynics, critics, and pessimists wrong. Recycling and composting are here to stay and those that do not think so need to get out of the way of those that believe otherwise.



PROP Staff take a break from the usual work flurry to enjoy a mug together.

*From left clockwise:
Seated: John, Amy, Season and Mike Alcott, Summer Intern
Standing: Jan, Becky, Doug and Jill*



John Frederick
Executive Director

Jan Arnold
Program Manager

Jill Brubaker Reigh
Communications Manager

Amy Carlotto-Zuckett
Education Director

Season Consiglio
Administrative Assistant

Becky Miller
Fiscal Manager

Douglas Orner
Information Technology
Manager



2007-2008 Projects & Initiatives

PROP Projects

US Department of Agriculture
Rural Waste Management

National Recycling Coalition
(NRC) 2008 Congress

17th Annual PROP Conference

Social Marketing Campaign



John Frederick speaks at one of the educational campaign workshops. Local media covered the event.

Waste Watchers

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful

PROP will begin work associated with a grant from the United States Department of Agriculture's Solid Waste Management Grant program in late 2008. This initiative would provide recycling and composting education and assistance to rural areas in the Commonwealth. The project would enable us to address and correct recycling challenges and widespread improper disposal practices that include illegal dumping and littering issues, open burning, and waste accumulation and associated blight on private property. PROP will provide the necessary training via locally-held workshops for public and private entities.

Pittsburgh, PA will be the site of the 2008 NRC Congress and Exhibition and PROP has been designated as the State Host. PROP will invite NRC attendees "to prepare to come aboard" *The Majestic*, flagship of Pittsburgh's Gateway Clipper Fleet for "Renaissance on Three Rivers." This elegant dinner reception celebrating the Steel City's renaissance aboard *The Majestic*, a ship reminiscent of another era when industry was first shaping Pittsburgh, will highlight PROP and Pennsylvania with themed food stations. PROP is recruiting sponsors for this once in a decade event.

From July 30 through August 2, 2007, PROP members converged on Valley Forge, Pennsylvania for the 17th Annual PROP Conference. Nearly 250 attendees enjoyed the camaraderie, networking opportunities and historic setting, while learning the latest recycling and composting technology from the exhibitors in a sold-out hall at the Radisson Valley Forge. Special guest speakers included Kathleen McGinty, Secretary of DEP, Lynn Rubenstein of Northeast Recycling Council and a final morning pep talk from Governor Ed Rendell.

PROP began work on their first comprehensive social marketing campaign for a municipal curbside program this past spring. The organization is developing a campaign for the Intermunicipal Relations Committee (IRC) in Blair County, a multi-municipal curbside program in Altoona and three other mandated suburban communities.

The IRC approached PROP to produce a comprehensive public relations/education campaign with brochures, website development and other media coverage, promoting the theme "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle...Repeat." It is hoped that projects like this will help PROP develop resources and templates for other members seeking assistance to enhance their own educational and social marketing efforts.

Fifty recycling, composting and waste reduction programs across the state will again be recognized at the PWIA/SWANA or PROP conferences for their outstanding efforts as part of the organization's Waste Watcher recognition program.

PROP continues its partnership with a number of other non-profit, public agencies and private sector association organizations in KPb's efforts to reduce illegal dumping, littering and associated blight across Pennsylvania. PROP chairs the committee on proper collection practices and hopes to bring mandatory collection to the state.

PROP Committee Highlights

All sixteen of PROP's Committees meet several times each year and accomplish their goals based on PROP Strategic Planning. Every committee strives to operate as an extension of the PROP office in furthering recycling and composting in the Commonwealth. Below is just a sampling of what was accomplished this past year.

Data Management Committee

- The committee planned and hosted two certification classes, the annual Data Management Workshop and the Commercial Recycling/Waste Assessment.
- Their work will go national in September as they host the waste assessment course at the National Recycling Coalition's annual congress in September.

Education Committee

- The first edition of the *Recyclopedia* was distributed and the committee continues work on updates, promotion and distribution of the Education Toolkit.
- Committee members organized the display of education materials at PROP's first Education Breakfast at the annual conference in Gettysburg, PA.

Government Liaison Committee

- The Government Liaison Committee, PROP staff and lobbyist Pugliese and Associates continued their legislative advocacy work, particularly on the bill authorizing levying of county fees and proposed waste landfill bans.
- A Legislative Webinar and a subsequent Legislative Day at the Capitol helped members reach out more effectively to their own legislators.

Markets Committee:

- The markets group assisted with the development and presentation of the Paper Chase recycling roundtable and other related certification courses.
- They toured the Plastics Manufacturing training and technology center at the Pennsylvania College of Technology in Williamsport, PA.
- Provided comments to the PROP membership on the proposed disposal/landfill bans on selected items.

Media Committee

- This committee develops themes and content for the production of *The Pennsylvania Recycler* magazine and offers input for PROP's other newsletters.

Membership Committee

- The committee developed and helped conduct a Membership Survey.
- They also researched and developed a new Membership Fee Structure that incorporated sponsorship and advertising options.

Organics Committee

- The committee began strategic planning efforts to enhance membership.
- Input was provided to DEP on the General Permit for composting facilities and on compost use in erosion/sedimentation control and stormwater management.
- The quarterly meetings included facility tours, relevant technical presentations and extensive networking among the members.

Committees & Chairs

By-Laws - Charles Raudenbush, Waste Management
College & University - Richard Laudenslager, Villanova University
Data Management/Waste Audit - Sharon Svitek, PA. Department of Environmental Protection
Education - Barbara Giovagnoli, Lackawanna County/ Amy Schirf, Centre County Solid Waste Authority
Executive/Personnel - Lori Robson, Gannett Fleming
Fundraising - Walt Davenport, MSW Consulting
Government Liaison - Tanya McCoy-Caretti, L. Robert Kimball & Associates
Household Hazardous Waste - Art Feltes, Montgomery County
Markets - John Yingling, Lycoming County
Membership - Michele Nestor, Nestor Resources
Media - Amy Farkas, Harris Township/Kris Howdysshell, Cambria County Solid Waste Authority
NRC Recycling Organizational Council - Joanne Shafer, Centre County Solid Waste Authority
Nominations/Board Development - Charles Raudenbush, Waste Management
Organics - Bob Bylone, PA. Recycling Markets Center
Professional Certification - Joanne Shafer, Centre County Solid Waste Authority
Strategic Planning - Art Feltes, Montgomery County



*Organizational
Information*

PROP was incorporated in 1991 as a 501(c) (3) non-profit corporation. Public sector recycling coordinators saw a need for a professional organization following the passage of Act 101 and secured funding from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to hire our first executive director. Their first conference was held in July 1991 at Millersville State University. Private sector recycling professionals were welcomed into the organization as full-fledged members in 2001. PROP now boasts over 600 members from the public and private sectors as well as the composting community.

*Professional Recyclers of Pennsylvania
FY 06/07 Audited Financial Statements
As of June 30, 2007*

Current Assets:

Cash	\$250,794
Accounts Receivable	111,126
Inventory	7,945
Prepaid Expenses	4,985
Office Equipment	14,322

Total Assets \$389,172

Liabilities:

Payroll Taxes Payable	
Deferred Revenue	
Note Payable	4,972

Total Liabilities \$ 74,972
Unrestricted Net Assets \$314,200

Total Liabilities and Net Assets \$389,172

Revenue:

Conference Registrations	\$103,231
Projects/Certification	625,594
Memberships	61,285
Other Revenue	7,778
Interest	8,161

Total Revenue \$806,049

Expenses:

Conference	\$ 60,930
Projects/Certification	153,217
Office Expenses	92,514
Wages/Benefits	272,432
Other Expenses	72,996

Total Expenses \$652,089

NET ASSETS \$314,200



Major PROP Members



The Department of Environmental Protection
Harrisburg, PA



Waste Management
Morrisville, PA



Cleveland Brothers Equipment Company
Harrisburg, PA



Steel Recycling Institute

Steel Recycling Institute
Pittsburgh, PA

Supporting Members

“Responsibility to continuously offer our members solid educational opportunities takes precedence at PROP. Our Supporting Sponsors share that outlook and are instrumental in delivering on that principle.”

John Frederick
Executive Director
PROP

Corporate Members

“PROP’s staff work closely with our Corporate Sponsors throughout the year on various projects. These professionals are an invaluable asset to us in being the premiere recycling and composting organization that PROP members expect.”

John Frederick
Executive Director
PROP



Abitibi Paper Retrievers
Houston, TX



AMANDI Services, Inc.
Hallstead, PA

americanchemistry

AmericanChemistry Council
Arlington, VA



Apex Companies, LLC
Malvern, PA



Charles Chrin Companies
Easton, PA



Blue Mountain Recycling
Philadelphia, PA



Bucks Fabricating
Hadley, PA



Casella Waste Systems, Inc.
Rutland, VT



Gannett Fleming
Harrisburg, PA



G-S Products
Somerset, PA



Greenstar N.A.
Northampton, PA



Haul All
Alberta, Canada



Hy-Tech Mushroom Compost, Inc.
West Grove, PA



Just Born Inc.
Bethlehem, PA



Newman & Co.
Philadelphia, PA



Norseman Plastics
Toronto, Canada



PSEG
Gibbstown, NJ



RecycleNet Corp.
Salt Lake City, UT



Stancills Inc.
Maryland



VQuip USA
Camp Hill, PA



Board of Directors



PROP 2007-08 Board of Directors

Front row (l-r): Kris Howdyshell, Lori Robson - President, Peter Previte, Chuck Raudenbush - Executive Committee, Brenda Schmidt - Secretary. Back row (l-r): Mike Crist, Michele Nestor, Tanya McCoy-Caretti, Amy Mazzella di Bosco, Michael Hnatin (Proxy), Tom Adams (Proxy), Joanne Shafer - Treasurer, Barbara Giovagnoli (Proxy). Not Pictured: Art Feltes - Vice President, Lorin Meeder, Bob Bylone, Walt Davenport, Patti Hinkle, Sue Mancino, John Yingling.

The logo for PROP (Post Recycled Paper) features the letters 'PROP' in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. The letter 'O' is replaced by a stylized recycling symbol consisting of three chasing arrows forming a triangle.

www.proprecycles.org

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