



**Andrew J. Spano**  
County Executive

Department of Environmental Facilities

Thomas J. Lauro, P.E.  
Commissioner

March 11, 2009

Re: Upcoming Seminar – **Westchester County Recycling Rules for Multi-Tenant Facilities**  
**Tuesday, March 31, 2009**

Dear Residential and Commercial Building Owners & Managers:

I am writing to invite you to attend one of two seminars on Westchester County's Recycling Rules for Commercial and Residential Multi-Tenant Facilities to be held at the Westchester County Material Recovery Facility ("MRF") on Tuesday, March 31, 2009 at 10:30 a.m., and again at 2:00 p.m.

Proper recycling and solid waste disposal practices directly benefit the health, safety and welfare of all Westchester County residents, as well as the environment. As the official planning unit for the County's New York State mandated Solid Waste Management Plan (the "SWMP"), it is the responsibility of the County to coordinate and analyze the recycling efforts of all waste generators within its borders, including residential and commercial facilities, to ensure compliance with the SWMP. The County takes this responsibility very seriously and has endeavored to increase recycling efforts throughout the County from year to year. To that end, the County Source Separation Law (Chapter 825 of the Laws of Westchester County) was enacted in 1992 to provide the County with the tools necessary to achieve its recycling goals. For your review and reference, the County Source Separation Law can be found online at: <http://www.westchestergov.com/envfacil/pdf/SepL.pdf>.

The Source Separation Law requires, among other things, that each waste generator actively source separate recyclables and trash. Specifically, all waste generators are required to source separate recyclables, including, but not limited to, office paper, newsprint, cardboard, aluminum (cans and clean foil), metal cans, glass bottles and jars, and plastics (coded #1 and #2).

Since the beginning of 2008, the County has placed an added emphasis on both its recycling education and enforcement efforts. County inspectors now regularly inspect loads of garbage and recyclables dumped at transfer stations throughout the County, and review the recycling

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practices of waste generators, including commercial and residential multi-tenant buildings. The Department of Environmental Facilities issues violations against waste generators that fail to comply with the provisions of the Source Separation Law. These violations result in fines of up to \$100 for first-time violators, and can go much higher for repeated violations.

The County is aware that recycling at multi-tenant facilities may pose unique logistical issues for property owners and managers, and that the Source Separation Law imposes reporting obligations on owners of multi-tenant facilities that may not apply to other waste generators. To that end, the County is offering an instructional seminar (to be held twice on the same day) to specifically address recycling at both commercial and residential multi-tenant facilities in an attempt to assist you in understanding your obligations under the law as well as to provide an opportunity for an exchange of information regarding recycling strategies and challenges.

**Seating is limited**, so please RSVP by Friday, March 27, 2009 by calling Anastasia Barron at (914) 813-5442 or by e-mail to [acb2@westchestergov.com](mailto:acb2@westchestergov.com). Please specify which of the two seminars you plan to attend, along with the number of persons that will be attending. Upon request we will forward an agenda and directions to the MRF in Yonkers.

Very truly yours,



Thomas J. Lauro, P.E.  
Commissioner

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TJL:LJV:MSP/pc