Swing into the ACUA Earth Day Festival on Sunday, April 28th! Details inside.

ATLANTIC COUNTY RECYCLES





DUMPSTER DIVE

Professional Trash Sorters Analyze Atlantic County's Trash

Atlantic County Utilities Authority (ACUA) recently recruited the help of professional trash sorters to determine what is thrown away in a typical trash can. This project, also known as a waste characterization study, is a valuable tool in developing future solid waste management plans.

How it Works

The waste categorization study is performed by knowledgeable sorters with an eye for detail. The team is trained to take a statistically representative sample and record their findings.

At ACUA, 55 samples of trash, officially known as municipal solid waste (MSW), were collected. The samples came from both residential and commercial sources throughout Atlantic County. The commercial trash was broken down again into casino and non-casino generated trash.



...continued inside

ATLANTIC COUNTY RECYCLES



PAPER <<p>CARDBOARD





GLASS



PLASTICS

#1, 2, 5 Bottles, Jugs, Containers

Please remove food or liquids.
Place material loose in your bin.



NEVER MISS ANOTHER RECYCLING DAY! SCAN TO SIGN UP FOR A TEXT OR EMAIL REMINDER.





ACUA

Atlantic County Utilities Authority
www.acua.com | 609.272.6950



Our Mission

The Atlantic County Utilities Authority (ACUA) is responsible for enhancing the quality of life through the protection of waters and lands from pollution by providing responsible waste management services. The Authority is an environmental leader and will continue to use new technologies, innovations and employee ideas to provide the highest quality and most cost effective environmental services.

ACUA Officers

Matthew DeNafo, President

Linda Bazemore, Vice President of Administration and Finance/CFO

Gary Conover, Vice President of Solid Waste

Tom Ganard, Chief Engineer

Joseph Pantalone, Vice President of Wastewater

James Rocco, Vice President of Centralized Maintenance and Asset Management

Board of Commissioners

Marvin Embry, Chairman Fred Akers, Vice Chairman Laura Pfrommer, Treasurer Maria K. Mento, Assistant Treasurer Andrew G. Berenato III Frank D. Formica

Judy M. Ward
Dennis Levinson, County Executive

Contact Us

609.272.6950

www.acua.com

P.O. Box 996

Pleasantville, NJ 08232-0996

DUMPSTER DIVE (continued from front)

The team safely sorted through the samples and separated the items discovered into 48 categories. These included 11 types of plastic, 10 different types of paper, seven types of construction and demolition debris, five types of metals, three types of organics or food waste, three types of hazardous waste, two types of glass, electronics, and a variety of "other" items like textiles or bulky waste.

The initial study was conducted in February, and another study will be performed again during peak trash season in July.

After the hands-on analysis is completed, the team will compile and present the data showing the composition by weight and by percentage of the total waste analyzed.

Why It's Helpful

National and state statistics showcase the big picture of waste disposal. ACUA also captures its own data each time a vehicle passes through its transfer station as items are categorized and paid for by type. While these data sets are helpful in providing



overall statistics, they do not capture the details of what is placed in a typical trash can.

"The waste categorization study helps us get to the nitty gritty of what's really being put into trash cans across Atlantic County," said ACUA Vice President of Solid Waste Gary Conover.

The study will show which items are being improperly thrown away as trash, such as recyclable items

or construction debris. Through this activity, ACUA will further understand how much valuable product is being lost to the trash. It will also provide insight into which items the community may need additional education on.

"If we learn, for example, that recyclable plastics are being commonly thrown away in the trash, then we can refocus our education efforts," said Conover.

The study will also provide meaningful information regarding the potential energy output of our current waste makeup. This will be particularly useful as ACUA evaluates technologies that can turn waste

into energy.

"Understanding our unique, local waste stream makes ACUA and Atlantic County better positioned to plan for solid waste disposal for the future," said Conover.

ENVIRONMENTAL EVENTS



APRIL 20

ACUA Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off 8 AM to 1 PM

ACUA Environmental Park 6700 Delilah Road, Egg Harbor Township

Egg Harbor Township Clean Communities Day 8:30 AM

EHT Public Works Yard 6120 Mill Road, Egg Harbor Township

4H Electronic Recycling Collection 8 AM to 12 PM

David C. Wood 4H Center 3210 Route 50, Mays Landing, NJ ac4hfair.org/electronic-recycling

APRIL 22

Garden Talk: Companion Planting 5:30 PM

ACUA Community Garden 6700 Delilah Road, Egg Harbor Township acua.com/garden

APRIL 27

Stockton Community Cleanup Day 8:30 AM to 12 PM

City-wide street and beach cleanup throughout Atlantic City. See stockton.edu/ac

APRIL 27

Ventnor Shred and Textile Recycling Event 10 AM to 12 PM

Newport Avenue and the Beach, Ventnor ventnorcity.org

APRIL 28

ACUA Earth Day Festival 10 AM to 4 PM

ACUA Environmental Park 6700 Delilah Road, Egg Harbor Township, NJ See details on page 6. acua.com/earthday

MAY 4

Hamilton Township Cleanup and Green Fair 8 to 10 AM | 10 AM to 2 PM

Cleanup is at 32nd Street and Atlantic Avenue. Please call (609) 625-6311 to pre-register. Green Fair is at Oakcrest High School.

MAY 11

Brigantine Beach Cleanup 9 AM to 12 PM

Meet at 16th St parking lot to clear litter from Brigantine beaches.

MAY 18

4H Electronic Recycling Collection 8 AM to 12 PM

David C. Wood 4H Center 3210 Route 50, Mays Landing, NJ ac4hfair.org/electronic-recycling

MAY 20

Garden Talk: Living Fences 5:30 PM

ACUA Community Garden 6700 Delilah Road, Egg Harbor Township acua.com/garden

For a full list of ACUA and other environmental events in the community, visit acua.com.

Dates are subject to change.

INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATES

Landfill Gas and Odor Control Improvement Projects Ongoing

The Atlantic County Utilities Authority (ACUA) is actively working to expand its landfill gas collection system. The system is responsible for capturing gases, like methane or hydrogen sulfide, that can be created as waste breaks down.

More than 120 wells collect this gas and a pipeline transports it to a central endpoint. Here, a treatment system removes sulfur gas, and the remaining gases are safely burned off using an enclosed flare.

At the beginning of 2024, ACUA invested \$340,000 in 19 new gas collection wells. These wells were installed on the most recently filled areas of the landfill where waste is now beginning to decompose.

In February, a header pipe was expanded to increase gas collection capacity, and in early March, a new sump was installed to more efficiently drain water.

ACUA expects to continue further investments in its system. By the end of the year, an automated dewatering system to remove liquids that accumulate near gas wells will be installed. A permanent cap will also be applied over 16 acres of the landfill.

Construction is also underway on the renewable natural gas project with South Jersey Gas (SJG) and OPAL Fuels. The project will reduce up to 95% of the landfill gas emissions previously sent to the enclosed flare. The gas will be cleaned to remove impurities and be input into the South Jersey Gas natural gas pipeline.

These projects will greatly decrease the potential for odors to migrate offsite and reduce emissions from the landfill.

Visit acua.com/landfillgas for continual updates on landfill projects.



19 wells were installed into areas where waste is beginning to decompose and create gas.



A larger header pipe was installed to increase landfill gas collection from existing wells.

Pursuit of Solid Waste Conversion Project Continues



ACUA is moving closer towards its goal of implementing a viable solid waste conversion project at its Environmental Park in Egg Harbor Township, NJ.

Waste-to-energy or solid waste conversion technologies provide an alternative to landfilling and have the potential to create energy from trash.

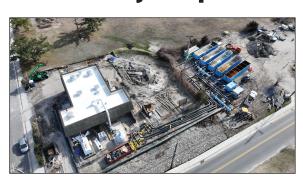
Three vendors with the qualifications to develop such a project were selected in December 2023 to submit formal proposals. An RFP will be released in the summer to the three pre-qualified candidates.

"The vendors were selected for their ability to develop a project that is achievable and works well with our waste stream here in Atlantic County," said ACUA President Matthew DeNafo.

In addition to narrowing down potential projects, ACUA will also receive strategic advice from national experts that will aid in the process. The Authority was named one of 17 recipients to participate in the 2023 Waste-to-Energy (WTE) Technical Assistance for Local Governments Program from the U.S. Department of Energy Bioenergy Technologies Office and National Renewable Energy Laboratory. The program provides data and technical expertise to local governments pursuing waste-to-energy projects.

"ACUA has always prioritized alternative solutions for managing solid waste and has been actively pursuing a viable project since 2008. Technology has advanced since our initial search, and the need to divert waste streams has only increased," said DeNafo. "We are excited to move forward with the formal proposal process and informing the community along the way."

Notable Project Updates



Ventnor Pump Station Upgrade | \$4.4 Million

The structure, originally built in 1970s, is undergoing repairs and modifications to its structural, electrical, and mechanical features, including the expansion of the pump station's wet well system, concrete flooring replacement, permanent bypass system, and electrical panels. Construction will continue through the end of 2024.

Landfill Wall - Phase 3 \$18 Million

A landfill wall, or mechanically stabilized earthen berm, is currently being built around the northern end of the landfill. The wall allows all areas of the existing permitted landfill space to be used for burying Atlantic County's waste.



Atlantic County Shines at New Jersey Clean Communities Awards







New Jersey Clean Communities Board Members present Brigantine artist Eduardo Jiménez wtih the Excellence in Education Award. Photos show examples of Eduardo's artwork.

Atlantic County citizens were recognized for their litter removal and education efforts during the annual New Jersey Clean Communities Awards held in March.

The Greater Egg Harbor Watershed Association (GEWHA), led by Atlantic County resident and Atlantic County Utilities Authority (ACUA) board member Fred Akers, was recognized with the Marine Debris Cleanup Award.

The award recognized the association's efforts to remove abandoned boats, submerged docks, ghost crab traps and other large debris from local waterways. GEWHA worked with Stockton University intern Brooke Handley to locate debris

and create an online map showing the locations and images of items. The map was then shared with members and volunteers that later removed the debris.

Eduardo Jiménez, Brigantine resident, was awarded the Excellence in Education award for his litter removal efforts and incredible artwork that brings attention to the dangers of ocean litter. Eduardo creates art from items he removes during regular walks and cleanups along Brigantine beach. His artwork is regularly displayed at local art shows and can be viewed on his Instagram account, @eduardoj9.



New Jersey Clean Communities Board Members present Brooke Handley and Fred Akers of the Greater Eaa Harbor Watershed Association (GEHWA) the Marine Debris Cleanup Award.

JOIN OUR TEAM

Now Hiring CDL Drivers + Laborers





EXCELLENT BENEFITS + ADVANCEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Excellent Health, Dental, Vision and Prescription Plans Public Employees Retirement System Membership (Pension)

Paid Vacation, Holidays and Sick Leave

On-Site CDL License Training!

ACUA offers many training and advancement opportunities. Positions also available in Administration, Maintenance, Wastewater Treatment, and more!



Sunday, April 28, 2024 10 AM to 4 PM · Rain or Shine 6700 Delilah Road • Egg Harbor Twp.

Join us for South Jersey's largest and longest-running Earth Day Festival! ACUA's 32nd celebration is a fun-filled day of learning and entertainment for the entire family.





Free Admission + Parking!

In addition to parking at ACUA, parking and shuttle service will be available from the business park lot located at 6550 Delilah Road.

2024 Platinum Sponsors:







acua.com/earthday



Games and Activities

🌎 🏻 Wastewater/Wind Farm Tours 🥞

■ Touch-a-Truck

Landfill Hayrides

Meet Supercan

Atlantic County 4H Club Petting Zoo

Playground

Composting Demonstration

Bouncies and Games

Scheduled Entertainment

Middle Earth Studios Interactive Performance 10:30 AM | 12 PM | 1:30 PM | 3 PM Kids can join in to act out this magical performance

Reading of "Litter Busters" Book

11 AM | 2:30 PM

Read by The Authority of Cumberland County

Dinosuars Rock

11:30 AM | 1 PM

Kids can perform a fossil dig at this interactive dinosaur exhibit

Eyes of the Wild

12 PM | 2 PM

Fun, comedy and education collide in this program, featuring up close and personal encounters with some of our planet's most fascinating creatures

Valerie Vaughn

1 PM | 3 PM

Interactive stories and songs for the environment

Steve Kuzma

All Day

Live music





Free Workshops

Sound Bowl Sessions

Zen Landing Wellness Studio 12 PM | 2 PM

Sour Dough Starter Demonstration *Fluffy Farms*

11 AM

Animals and Recycling

Farm Friends 12 PM

How to Build a Rain Barrel

Americorps Watershed Ambassador 1 PM

Houseplants 101

Atlantic County Master Gardeners

Recycled Tides Art Workshop

Eduardo Jiménez

3 PM

Free Seedlings

Visitors can receive a free seedling for Sweetbay Magnolia or Common Purple Lilac as well as Radish and Zinnia seed packets while supplies last.



150+ Vendors & Exhibitors

Plants and Flowers * Handmade Jewelry * Candles

Bath and Body Products * Solar Information * Handcrafted Decor

Local Honey 🌞 Health and Nutrition Products 🌞 Fair-Trade Items

Repurposed and Recycled Items 🌞 Local Food Vendors

Environmental Groups 🌞 Local Utilities, Organizations and Nonprofits

FUTURE WASTE **LEADERS**

Keeping the environment clean is a hefty job that requires the input and commitment of all generations. To ensure our world stays clean for years to come, it's important that our kids are educated in the essential practices that keep our lands and water clean.

In partnership with the New Jersey Water Environment Association (NJWEA), ACUA's Wastewater team recently visited 7th and 8th grade students from the William Davies Middle School in Hamilton Township and the Assumption School in Galloway Township to explain the wastewater treatment process and its important role in ensuring clean waterways and a healthy environment.

The presentation was an interactive and informative way to introduce students to important infrastructure that serves our community. Students will also participate in an accompanying essay contest through the NJWEA.

ACUA staff also met with students and faculty from the Jordan Road Elementary School in Somers Point to identify ways to improve recycling and perform a waste audit.

The waste audit included a walkthrough assessment of the school's recycling containers and a hands-on sorting activity with students. Students emptied a selected sample of waste from the school's lunch period to search for recycling items mistakenly thrown away as trash. The hands-on activity provides a direct learning experience that they can turn into meaningful action at their school.

Jordan Road followed up the activity with an assembly to reinstate the importance of recycling.

ACUA provides tours, presentations and school visits throughout the year. Contact our Authority Relations team to learn how you can incorporate wastewater and recycling education into your classroom.









ACUA **SAFE PAINT DISPOSAL**

LATEX PAINT

NOT HAZARDOUS!

If it cannot be used or donated, leftover latex paint should be dried up using kitty litter and placed in your regular trash.

> **Mixing Directions:** www.acua.com/paint

OIL-BASED PAINT

HAZARDOUS!

Oil-based paint is considered hazardous **Household Hazardous Waste Collection**

www.acua.com/hhw

NJ Manure Link Connects Farmers with Compost

NJ Manure Link is a new website that connects manure generators like livestock farms with farmers seeking compost for fertilizer.

The New Jersey Department of Agriculture (NJDA) has partnered with Rutgers University, Office of Research Analytics, and the New Jersey Compost Council (NJCC) on this project.

The website lists manure and compost availability by location throughout the state of New Jersey. Interested users can sign up for notifications on when manure or compost is available in their area.

Visit njmanurelink.rutgers.edu for details.



Help Keep ACUA Crews Safe: Move Over and Slow Down to Get Around

The Atlantic County Utilities Authority (ACUA) is bringing attention to the significant safety risks faced by waste and recycling workers while performing collections on the road. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, trash and recycling collection is the 6th most dangerous job in the United States. Distracted driving and speeding can lead to severe or fatal injuries.

Every individual plays a role in ensuring the safety of collections employees. ACUA reminds drivers of New Jersey's Move Over Law. The law is aimed at protecting emergency responders and service workers operating along roadways.





Under the Move Over Law, drivers are required to move over one lane when approaching stationary emergency vehicles or service trucks, such as those operated by ACUA. When passing a service vehicle with flashing lights on the side of the road, drivers should always slow down below the posted speed limit. Violations of this law may result in fines up to \$500.

"By following the Move Over Law and slowing down when approaching a trash or recycling service truck, drivers can actively participate in making sure our crews return safely to their families each night," said ACUA President Matthew DeNafo.

ACUA calls on the community to do their part in creating safer road conditions for trash and recycling collection crews. Move over and slow down to get around – a small gesture that can make a significant impact on the safety and well-being of those working to keep our communities clean.

2024 Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Dates Announced



Residents can dispose of household hazardous items safely at ACUA on the following Saturdays in 2024: April 20, June 22, July 13, October 5, and November 9.

Drop-offs are held from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the ACUA Environmental Park, located at 6700 Delilah Road in Egg Harbor Township.

Most Atlantic County residents have hazardous waste in their cabinets, basements, or garages. Cleaning products, motor oils, insecticides, oilbased paints, and rechargeable lithium-ion batteries are just a few hazardous items that cannot be disposed of in regular curbside trash cans. Hazardous waste can pollute waterways and the environment. It can also endanger sanitation workers and cause truck fires.

The drop-off is convenient – residents do not even need to exit their vehicle! Residents will need to provide proof of Atlantic County residency such as a driver's license or a tax bill. Participants may bring materials from more than one Atlantic County household, so residents can help a family member or neighbor to save travel time and gas.

Residents are encouraged to visit www.acua.com/ hhw for a comprehensive list of accepted items. Items should be placed in a recyclable or disposable container, such as a cardboard box, that can be safely removed from the vehicle and discarded. Containers will not be returned. To safely package and transport household hazardous waste, please keep all products in original containers or other container if not possible; wrap leaking containers in newspaper and place in plastic bag or garbage container; place items securely in a box for transport; keep chemicals which could react with one another separated; and do not leave materials in hot, unventilated areas for long periods of time.

The maximum amount of household hazardous material allowed for disposal is 20 gallons and/or 200 pounds (dry weight) per household.

SAVE THE DATES:

April 20 June 22 July 13 October 5 November 9

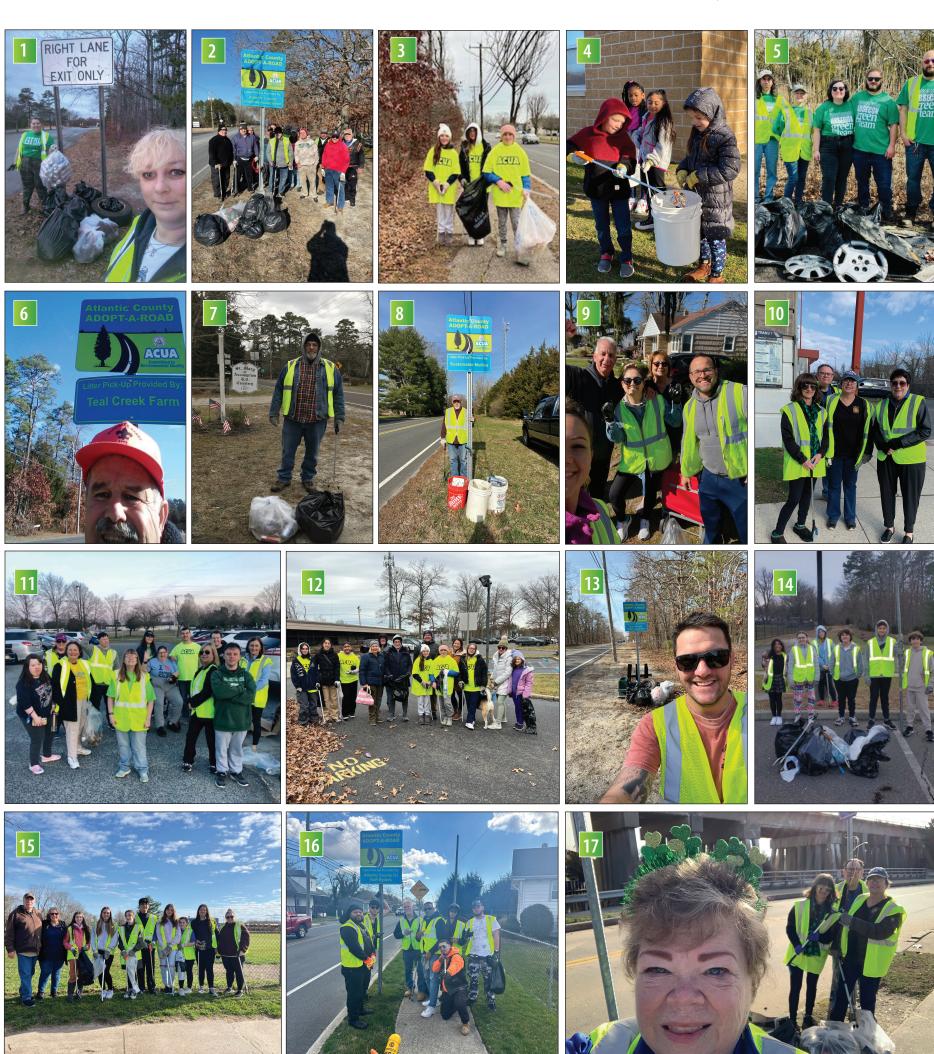


Scan for details

Atlantic County Clean Communities Program

Local community groups, organizations, families and schools adopt county roads, school yards and parks to help keep our community clean. Join the effort! You can safely remove litter from roadsides, parks or school yards with our assistance. Visit: acua.com/adoptaroad to learn more.

Girl Scout Troop 11439
 Atlantic County Umpires Association
 Absecon Community Affairs
 Mullica Township School
 Absecon Green Team
 Teal Creek Farm
 Nescochague Neighbors
 Sustainable Mullica
 In Memory of Steve Rooney
 Absecon VFW Post 9462 Auxiliary
 Aktion Club
 Absecon Community Affairs
 Team Reustle, In Memory of Slim
 Egg Harbor City Community School
 Hammonton Lions Club
 Atlantic County NJ Ruff Ryders
 Absecon VFW Post 9462 Auxiliary



CONTAINERS AND BAGS

96- Gallon Recycling or Trash Cart Carts are approx. 45 inches high, 28 inches wide and 33 inches deep	\$80 includes delivery
20-Gallon Recycling Bucket* *Many residents are eligible to receive one free bucket every four calendar years. Call 609.272.6950 to order.	\$15
Recycling Bucket Lid	\$7
Asbestos Bags	\$2 per bag or \$100/75 bags
Yard Waste Bags	\$4/5 bags

Items can be purchased at the ACUA GEO Admin Building Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Carts can be ordered online at acua.com/store or by calling 609.272.6950





ECOSOIL AND MULCH

EcoSoil EcoSoil is 100% natural, screened compost made at ACUA from leaves, grass and brush	\$4/ 40 lb. bag (includes tax) \$20/cy \$11/cy for 100+ cubic yards
EcoMulch Premium Hardwood Mulch	\$23/cy
Colored Mulches Red, Black or Brown	\$28/cy \$23/cy for 100+ cubic yards
EcoRoot Mulch Premium Root Mulch	\$28/cy
Playground Mulch Made from tree parts typically ground to lengths of 2" or less	\$24/cy

Loose EcoSoil and Mulch must be purchased at the ACUA Scalehouse Monday - Friday 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday 7 a.m. to 12 p.m. EcoSoil Bags can be purchased at the ACUA GEO Admin Building Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

RECYCLED PLASTIC FURNITURE



4' Park Bench	\$450
6' Park Bench	\$600
8' Picnic Table	\$1550
6' Picnic Table	\$1400
6' Wheelchair Accessible Table	\$1900
6' Hex Table	\$980

- Made from 100% post-consumer plastic • Maintenance-free and graffiti-resistant
- Never needs painting, staining or sealing
- Endures sun, moisture, cold and salt air

Please call 609.272.6950 or email store@acua.com to place an order. Prices do not include tax or freight. Pricing is subject to change.

HOME COMPOSTING

ACUA now offers backyard composters for sale for \$60 each. The composter can be purchased at the ACUA Environmental Park GEO Administrative Building located at 6700 $Delilah\ Road\ in\ Egg\ Harbor\ Township\ Monday\ through\ Friday\ from\ 8:30\ a.m.\ to\ 4:30\ p.m.$



- Made of 100% recycled plastic
- 128-gallon capacity
- Wide opening at the top for easy management
- Door slides open at the bottom to provide easy access to finished compost
- A tight, well-vented lid with latch deters pests

IN YOUR COMMUNITY

ACUA offers in-person and virtual tours for all ages! Please visit www.acua.com/tours for information.

































1. EHT PAL STEM Expo
 2. New Jersey AmeriCorps Watershed Ambassadors
 3. Princeton University
 4. Gateway HeadStart
 5. Garden Talk on composting with worms
 6. Woodstown High School
 7. 2024 Atlantic County Master Composter Class
 8. ACUA hosts American Red Cross Blood Drive
 9. Ocean City Intermediate School
 10. Pinelands Regional High School
 11. Girl Scouts Clean Energy Journey
 12. Thomas Edison Smart Energy Charter School
 13. Atlantic City Gateway HeadStart
 14. Dawes Avenue School STEM night
 15. Lines on the Pines at Stockton University