

ATLANTIC COUNTY RECYCLES



THE POWER OF TRASH

How Atlantic County is Turning Waste into a Resource



A look inside the new RNG facility at ACUA's landfill in Egg Harbor Twp.

Trash is being transformed into energy right here in Atlantic County thanks to a new facility operated by OPAL Fuels and South Jersey Industries at the Atlantic County Utilities Authority (ACUA) landfill in Egg Harbor Township.

How it Works

As waste breaks down in the landfill, gases like methane and carbon dioxide are created. Wells and pipes are installed throughout the landfill to capture these gases and transport them to the new renewable natural gas facility.

At the facility, the gas undergoes various processes to remove impurities like hydrogen sulfide, carbon dioxide and nitrogen. The final product, renewable natural gas, is injected into the South Jersey Gas pipeline, where it can be delivered to homes, businesses, and compressed natural gas stations like the one that fuels ACUA's collection vehicles.

The facility is expected to produce more than 650,000 MMBtu, which is equivalent to nearly 4.6 million gallons of gas per year of RNG.

"This project sets a new standard for how landfill gases will be managed in the future," said ACUA President Matthew DeNafo. "Because of our continued commitment to innovation, Atlantic County is among the first to host this technology."

The project became operational in early October.



RNG will be used as fuel in ACUA's fleet of collection trucks.

...CONTINUED INSIDE



FOOD DRIVE

DECEMBER 1-12

Place a clearly marked bag of canned goods out on your recycling day between December 1 and 12, and ACUA crews will deliver your donations to the Community FoodBank of NJ in Egg Harbor Township.



Donate on your recycling day!

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|
| ABSECON | December 8-12 (same day as recycling) |
| BRIGANTINE | December 8-12 (same day as recycling) |
| BUENA BOROUGH | Friday, December 5 |
| BUENA VISTA TWP. | December 2-5 (same day as recycling) |
| CORBIN CITY | Thursday, December 4 |
| EGG HARBOR CITY | Wednesday, December 10 |
| EGG HARBOR TWP. | December 1-5 (same day as recycling) |
| ESTELL MANOR | Tuesday, December 9 |
| FOLSOM | Monday, December 8 |
| HAMILTON TOWNSHIP | December 8-12 (same day as recycling) |
| HAMMONTON | December 8-12 (same day as recycling) |
| LINWOOD | December 8-12 (same day as recycling) |
| LONGPORT | Monday, December 1 |
| MARGATE | December 8-11 (same day as recycling) |
| MULLICA TOWNSHIP | December 8-11 (same day as recycling) |
| NORTHFIELD | December 1-5 (same day as recycling) |
| PLEASANTVILLE | December 1-5 (same day as recycling) |
| SOMERS POINT | Friday, December 12 |
| VENTNOR | December 8-12 (same day as recycling) |
| WEYMOUTH TWP | Thursday, December 11 |

Donations will also be accepted at the ACUA GEO Administrative Building located at 6700 Delilah Road in Egg Harbor Twp. M-F 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM.

MOST NEEDED ITEMS: Canned tuna, salmon, chicken, ham, soups, fruit, and vegetables, shelf-stable milk, peanut butter, pasta, boxed potatoes, rice, cereal, macaroni and cheese, diapers, and feminine hygiene products.

No glass, frozen items, cellophane, bottled water, or baby food!



Scan for details



RNG (CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE)

It is the first operational RNG project at a public landfill in New Jersey and the first to deliver RNG into the pipeline system of South Jersey Gas.

RNG Benefits

Prior to the project, collected landfill gases like methane were sent to an enclosed flare where they were safely burned. The new facility converts this gas into RNG, reducing the methane sent to the flare and preventing more than 346,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide (CO₂) per year.

When used as fuel, RNG can significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions as compared to diesel, which benefits the many communities ACUA vehicles drive through each day.

346,000 Metric Tons
of CO₂ emissions will be
prevented annually from
the RNG project

Beyond RNG

In addition to the RNG facility, the ACUA is formally exploring waste conversion technologies that could further transform waste into energy.

ACUA will issue a request for proposal to three pre-selected vendors to develop technology at its Egg Harbor Township facility by the end of November. The projects, which could include pyrolysis with anaerobic digestion, plasma gasification, or mechanical separation, would substantially limit the amount of waste sent to a landfill.

"These advancements bring us closer to a closed-loop waste management system," said DeNafo. "We're creating a future where we can derive value from our trash."

TAKE A TOUR

Tour our Environmental Park in Egg Harbor Township to learn more about the landfill, recycling and the process of managing Atlantic County's waste. Visit acua.com/tours to schedule.



A grand opening event was attended by local officials on October 23.



Equipment at the RNG facility that removes carbon dioxide from landfill gas.



Pipeline that carries landfill gas into the new RNG facility.

'TIS THE SEASON *for waste*

Did you know? U.S. households create a whopping 25 percent more waste between Thanksgiving and New Year's! Consider these ideas to reduce your impact on the environment this holiday season.

Give the Gift of Fun

Give an adventure or experience instead of a physical gift. Parents and kids alike appreciate gifts like museum, movie theater, or amusement park passes. The memories will last longer than a piece of clothing or toy.

Skip Single-Use Items

Skip the paper or plastic and recruit help with washing real utensils, plates and cups after dinner. Opt for an e-card instead of sending physical cards in the mail.

Reuse Packaging

Paper envelopes, bubble wrap and cardboard boxes can be reused to wrap other items or protect those "fra-gi-le" decorations when they come down.



Wrap Wisely

Give gifts in reusable baskets, bags, or containers or wrap in fabric, newspaper, or kids coloring pages. Brown kraft paper is a great option that can be recycled after use.

Get Crafty

Homemade gifts are unique and special for loved ones and often involve less waste. For example, bath scrubs can be made using salt, sugar, coffee grounds, oil and repurposed glass jars. Decorations can be made from bottle caps, corks, and even burnt-out light bulbs.



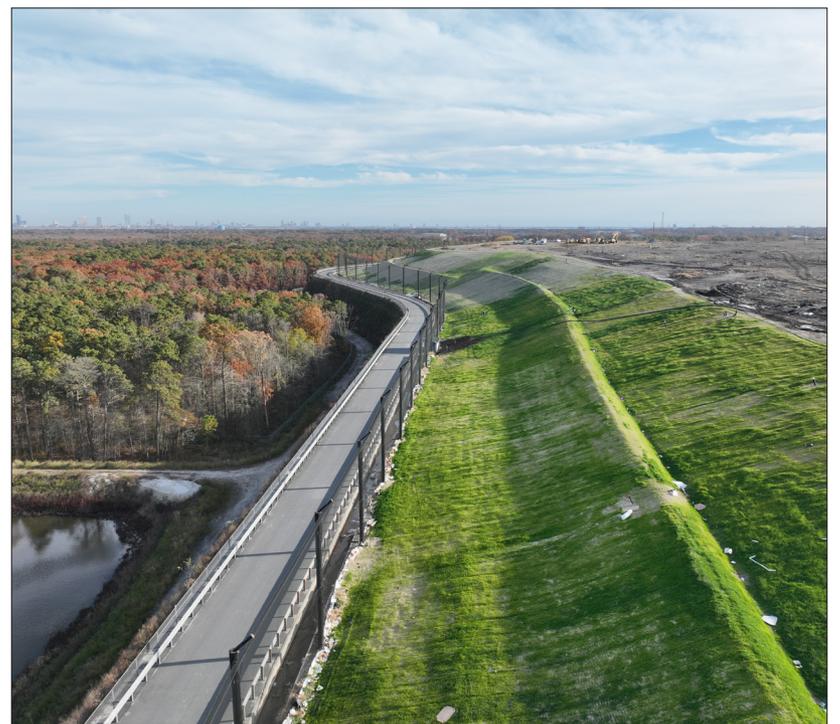
LANDFILL UPDATES

Permanent Cap Project Nearing Completion

The permanent cap over 16 acres of the landfill that began installation in spring 2025 will be completed in early December. Grass is beginning to grow over its final layer. This \$7 million project was completed ahead of schedule thanks to federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) fund appropriations approved by the Atlantic County Executive and Board of Commissioners. The cap will prevent the creation of leachate and improve landfill gas collection efficiency.

Collection System Upgrades

ACUA will expand its landfill gas collection system in the winter months by installing 10 new or redrilled wells. It will also install 800 ft. of gas collection pipeline on the northern side of the landfill. Once the wells are complete, ACUA will cover four acres of this area with temporary capping to further reduce stormwater infiltration and increase gas collection efficiency.



A close-up look at grass growing over the permanent cap.

Visit [acua.com/landfillgas](https://www.acua.com/landfillgas) for continual updates on landfill projects

20 years of WIND



For the last 20 years, the Jersey-Atlantic Wind Farm has helped to power the critical wastewater treatment services that keep our waterways clean. The project, which became operational in December 2005, supplies nearly 60 percent of the energy needed to treat wastewater from 14 municipalities in Atlantic County at ACUA's treatment plant annually.



The project has become an iconic sight along the drive to Atlantic City and attracts thousands of visitors each year for informational tours. But this clean and renewable energy is more than just a stand-out feature in our community. The project has reduced harmful greenhouse gas emissions and saved ACUA and its rate-payers millions in electricity costs.

WIND FARM FACTS

- The project consists of five turbines capable of producing a combined 7.5 megawatts of renewable power.
- When the wind is blowing more than 12 miles per hour, each wind turbine can produce 1.5 megawatts of electricity.
- Each wind turbine is 262 feet high. The blades are 120 feet long.
- Depending on wind conditions, the blades turn at rates between 10 and 20 revolutions per minute.
- Together, the turbines can create enough energy to power 2,500 homes.
- The project is the first commercial wind farm in New Jersey.

\$7.7 Million Savings

in electricity costs since operations began in December 2005

82,987 Metric Tons

of CO2 emissions prevented



TAKE A TOUR

Help us celebrate the 20-year anniversary by taking a free tour of the wind farm and wastewater treatment facility. Join the thousands of other student groups, families, community organizations, scouts, and curious individuals who have stopped in for a visit.

Visit [acua.com/tours](https://www.acua.com/tours) for details.

Improve Your Community: Become a Certified Environmental Steward

The Rutgers Environmental Steward program is designed to introduce non-scientists to the science behind important environmental issues and the impacts of climate change affecting NJ. Stewards then give back to their communities by tackling local environmental problems. If you have a passion for the environment, a desire to learn, and a willingness to volunteer, then this program is for you!

Classes meet weekly on Tuesdays from 5:30 to 8 p.m. starting January 20 and ending May 12, 2026. Most classes are held online and approximately five will be held in-person.

Each week will focus on a different environmental topic from a regional expert. Classes also include a regional breakout session to provide small group discussion on local issues.

To become a Certified Environmental Steward, class participants must complete a 60-hour project of their choosing after the course ends. The community-based project exposes the Stewards to real-world environmental issues in their communities. Past projects include planting pollinator gardens, improving accessibility to birding and nature, performing recycling audits, and more.

The class fee is \$325. There are a limited number of discounts available to those in need. ACUA is a coordinating partner in the program. To learn more or to register, visit acua.com/stewards



ENVIRONMENTAL EVENTS

NOVEMBER

NOV 22

Absecon Community Shredding Day and Neighborhood Cleanup

9 AM to 12 PM

Absecon Municipal Complex

500 Mill Road

Absecon, NJ

Contact Absecon Recycling Coordinator to volunteer at 609.641.0663 ext. 105.

DECEMBER

DEC 1-12

ACUA Holiday Food Drive

ACUA Geo Administrative Building

6700 Delilah Road, Egg Harbor Township

acua.com/fooddrive

DEC 15

Garden Talk: End of Year Garden Party

5:30 PM

ACUA Geo Administrative Building

6700 Delilah Road, Egg Harbor Township

acua.com/garden

DEC 20

4H Electronic Recycling Collection

8 AM to 12 PM

David C. Wood 4H Center

3210 Route 50, Mays Landing

ac4hfair.org/electronic-recycling

Event dates are subject to change.

ACUA HOLIDAY NOTICE

ACUA will not perform curbside collections on Thanksgiving, Christmas or New Year's Day.

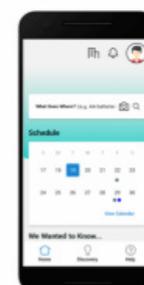
ACUA's Environmental Park, including the transfer station, recycling center, and composting area will also be closed on these holidays.

Visit acua.com for details



DOWNLOAD RECYCLECOACH

Download the RecycleCoach app to view your collection schedule, find recycling information, learn community cleanup dates and more!



- ✓ Get pick-up reminders
- ✓ Emergency alerts about weather-related collection delays
- ✓ "What Goes Where" search tool
- ✓ Blogs, quizzes, polls & more!



KEEPING THINGS TIDY

As part of the Atlantic County Clean Communities Program, the following groups recently performed cleanups in our neighborhoods:



1. Cub Scout Pack 94 2. Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. 3. Team Reustle, In Memory of Slim 4. Hammonton Lions Club 5. Sustainable Mullica 6. Atlantic County Ruff Ryders

Volunteers Remove 203 Bags of Litter During Fall Litter Challenge



The Atlantic County Clean Communities Program, administered by the Atlantic County Utilities Authority (ACUA), announced the winners of its 2025 Fall Litter Challenge. The challenge, held from October 6 to 24, encouraged teams to collect as much litter as possible over the two-week period.

First Place was awarded to resident Patricia Fottrell for removing 87 bags of litter; Second Place to Our Lady Star of the Sea School for removing 37 bags of litter; and Third Place was a tie between Able Acres Farm and Creative Gardeners for removing 30 bags of litter each.

The top teams received mini-grants of \$500, \$300, and \$100 in recognition of their dedication and hard work.

Nearly 70 volunteers completed a total of 19 cleanups and removed 203 bags of litter during the challenge.

A \$100 award was presented for the "Strangest Find," which went to Patricia Fottrell for discovering doll heads.



To learn more about the Atlantic County Clean Communities Program, visit acua.com/adoptaroad.

Microplastics Removal Ongoing at ACUA



For the last year, a microplastic removal project has been operating at ACUA's wastewater treatment plant in Atlantic City through a partnership with the startup PolyGone.

The pilot project uses a filtration system to capture microplastics from treated wastewater before it is released into the ocean. It is the first project of its kind in the country.

Throughout its initial pilot phase, the project has shown promising results. The system has captured nearly 670,000 microplastic particles per wash.

The team is now working to improve the initial design to streamline and automate the retrieval and cleaning of the filters. To aid in this effort, ACUA has worked alongside PolyGone to apply for an Emerging Contaminant Grant through the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP). The grant would help the team perfect its system so it can be replicated at other treatment plants across the country. Learn more at acua.com/microplastics.

JOIN THE EFFORT:

Community groups, families, businesses and schools can adopt county roads, school yards and parks to help keep our community clean. ACUA will provide supplies and safety gear.

acua.com/adoptaroad

Reduce Waste:

COMPOST AT HOME

ACUA now sells home composters

\$60

Purchase at our GEO Admin Building at 6700 Delilah Rd. in Egg Harbor Township M-F 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM



acua.com/homecompost

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE



2026 DROP-OFF DATES

March 14
May 30
July 11
September 12
November 14

HOURS

8 AM to 1 PM

LOCATION

ACUA Environmental Park
6700 Delilah Road
Egg Harbor Township, NJ

acua.com/hhw



RECYCLE THESE ITEMS

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



PLASTICS

Recycle Plastics #1, 2, 5
Bottles, Jugs and Containers



GLASS

Glass Bottles
and Jars, All Colors



METALS

Aluminum, Tin
or Steel Cans



PAPER CARDBOARD



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.

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LINDA BAZEMORE
Senior Vice President of Administration and Finance/CFO

GARY CONOVER
Vice President of Solid Waste

TOM GANARD
Chief Engineer

JOSEPH PANTALONE
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