



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **MCIA's Recycling Program Converts to Single Stream**

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY** – As of March 30, the Middlesex County Improvement Authority will be transitioning its recycling program to single-stream collection.

For the MCIA's 14 participating municipalities, this eliminates the need for separating recyclables prior to curbside pick-ups.

This change will make recycling that much more convenient for the residents of Middlesex County, according to MCIA Executive Director Richard Pucci.

“This frees up more time for the consumer,” said Recycling Manager Ed Windas. “Residents no longer have to place recyclables in specified containers. We're recycling the same items; only now, they dispose of them collectively.”

Items accepted include newspaper and mixed paper, cardboard, cans, bottles and plastics.

Once collected, these recyclables are taken to an in-County processing facility, where sensors and state-of-the-art equipment are used for sorting of materials.

“This is more than just a growing trend,” said MCIA Liaison and Middlesex County Freeholder Deputy Director Carol Barrett Bellante. “This is the future of the industry, and we are elated to usher in this new era of recycling.”

Current participating communities in the MCIA Recycling Program include: Cranbury, Dunellen, Helmetta, Jamesburg, Middlesex, Monroe, New Brunswick, Old Bridge, Piscataway, Plainsboro, Sayreville, South Amboy, South River and Spotswood.

“The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection ranked Middlesex County number one in recycling this year,” Bellante said. “Thanks to the MCIA's Program and our diligent residents, we recycled 65 percent of our total waste stream. Since 1995, this is the fifth time Middlesex County has received this distinction and the 16<sup>th</sup> time it's surpassed the State's 60-percent annual recycling goal.”

For further details on the Recycling Program, log onto the MCIA's website at [www.mciauth.com](http://www.mciauth.com) or call the Recycling Division at 1-800-488-6242 (MCIA).

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