



MIDDLESEX COUNTY IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Book Recycling Program Recruiting Participants

MIDDLESEX COUNTY – While summer is in full swing, some schools may be taking the opportunity to do a little off-season cleaning.

With that in mind, Middlesex County’s Recycling Division is taking its cue to announce openings for its School Book Recycling Program.

Presently, the Middlesex County Improvement Authority, which oversees the division, is actively recruiting participants to fill in the program’s remaining slates for 2015.

Simply stated, interested schools must contact the MCIA’s recycling office, book a date, designate a space on their grounds for a Dumpster© and begin disposing of old and unwanted hard-and-soft-cover books, files and mixed paper.

“After some stockpiling of these recyclables and a period of time, which can range from one-to-three months, we pick-up the materials,” said MCIA Recycling Manager Ed Windas. “In turn, the school will receive compensation, depending on what they’ve accrued.”

Typically, these materials are recycled into anything from tissues to newer books.

The County first kicked-off its Book Recycling Program at Grant Elementary School in South Plainfield in 2006.

“Schools were calling about outdated books and back then, this was our best solution,” Windas said. “In some cases, they tried to donate them overseas or to poorer school districts, but outside interest waned very quickly.”

In that first year, this pilot program limited its sights solely to hard cover books.

By 2007, more than 16 tons of recyclable goods had poured in and the program expanded its scope of acceptable collection items.

As of 2014, the School Book Recycling Program is credited with more than 130 tons of recyclables.

Adding a new chapter to the process, the recycling collector no longer requires covers to be stripped from books.

Currently, the book Dumpster© remains at Middlesex Borough’s Von E. Mauger Middle School.

For more information on the MCIA’s School Book Recycling Program, interested parties may contact 1-800-488-6242.

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