

Town Board and Green Stream Recycling Celebrate Start Up of New Single Stream Recycling System

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Pictured left to right are Green Stream Recycling President Will Flower, Supervisor Ed Romaine, Green Stream Recycling Partner and Co-Owner Joe Winters and Plant Manager Kenny Bloom.

Town recycling rate increases nearly 25% since Single Stream launch in January resulting in over \$287,000 savings for taxpayers

Farmingville, NY - Brookhaven Town Supervisor Ed Romaine and the Town Board joined Green Stream Recycling and over 150 guests at the ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the start-up of the new Single Stream recycling system that quadruples the amount of recyclables that can be processed at the Town's Material Recovery Facility (MRF). The new recycling system -- dubbed the "Green Stream Machine" - has the capacity to process up to 48 tons of recyclables per hour. The old system, which was replaced within a 75 day construction period, had the capacity to process about 12 to 14 tons of recyclables per hour. Green Stream Recycling has invested almost \$5.2 million in the Brookhaven project and is planning additional improvements to recycle even more material in the future.



The Supervisor also announced that the Town's recycling rate has jumped by 24.6% since the introduction of Single Stream Recycling in January of this year. As a result, Brookhaven residents have realized a savings of over \$287,000.

"At no cost to the taxpayer, the Town has become the leader in recycling technology on Long Island thanks to our partnership with Green Stream Recycling," said Supervisor Romaine. "The new Single Stream program has made it easier for residents to recycle and the results speak for themselves with a tremendous environmental and economic benefit to the Town. I expect the recycling rates to continue rising as we move into the summer months and I look forward to bringing other municipalities, school districts, hospitals and more on board to participate in the program."

In October 2013, the Town Board unanimously approved a resolution sponsored by Councilman Tim Mazzei to go forward with a conversion to single stream recycling. Single stream recycling has been implemented in several

communities throughout New York State and the country, however, Brookhaven is the first town on Long Island to successfully implement a Single Stream program. In addition to the environmental benefits that recycling provides, recycling in the Town of Brookhaven has economic benefits. For every additional ton of material recycled, the Town is expected to save in excess of \$125 through the sale of the material and the avoided disposal cost. The Town is working to further increase revenue by accepting recyclables from other municipalities on Long Island which want to improve their recycling efforts.

"I am proud of the residents of Brookhaven who have embraced the new program," said Councilman Mazzei, Town Board Liaison the Department of Waste Management. "However, there is still more work to be done and we want to see more people recycle. Children are the key to a successful program, now and in the future, so we are testing new recycling programs at schools and also working to develop programs that allow residents living in apartments and multi-family complexes to also take advantage of Single Stream Recycling."



"This was a great day for recycling and the environment. Approximately 1 billion trees worth of paper are thrown away every year in the U.S. Each ton (2000 pounds) of recycled paper can save 17 trees. Our new "Green Machine" combined with single stream recycling makes it easier for residents to recycle and help protect the environment," stated Councilwoman Connie Kepert. "Today, Brookhaven has the most advanced recycling program on Long Island," said Will Flower, President of Green Stream Recycling, the operator of the recycling center for the Town of Brookhaven. "I am very pleased with the results and want to see recycling rates increase all over Long Island. We are going to fundamentally change residential recycling on Long Island. For starters we needed to make recycling easy for residents. We also need more education and strong markets for the material we process. Green Stream is investing in the future of recycling because we see the environmental and economic benefits that recycling provides to the residents of Brookhaven and all of Long Island."

Joe Winters, partner/co-owner of Green Stream Recycling said, "Recycling on Long Island needed a boost and the Town of Brookhaven provided the opportunity to build a new recycling plant that was critical in the growth of recycling on Long Island. This new design represents the most innovative single stream recycling technology on Long Island. The best thing about our 'Green Stream Machine' is that it makes it easier for residents to recycle. And when recycling is easier, our environment benefits and we are all the better for it."



Anthony Core, also a co-owner of Green Stream Recycling praised the Town of Brookhaven saying, "There was a need for someone with vision and leadership to step up and champion for the environment. Supervisor Romaine and the Town Council were willing to take a risk on single stream recycling. We applaud the Town for their actions to improve recycling and also thank the residents who have embraced recycling which is good for the environment and the taxpayers as well."

The new Green Stream Machine utilizes a variety of processing technologies to sort, separate, segregate and clean residential recyclables which come from homes throughout the Town of Brookhaven and other parts of Long Island. Material traveling through the system goes on a journey where it is subject to mechanical, physical and automated sorting. The system uses articulating screens, electromagnet fields, eddy currents, optical sorters, manual labor, trammels and crushers to separate and clean recyclables. Once sorted, the various materials are baled and shipped to manufactures where they are used as raw material to make new items for consumers.

Additionally, the new recycling capabilities at the Brookhaven Material Recovery Facility provides additional infrastructure which can help increase recycling rates on Long Island. Brookhaven is offering to help other Towns and

Villages with their recycling efforts by allowing municipalities to utilize the Town's Material Recovery Facility. About Green Stream Recycling Green Stream Recycling is a new company on Long Island that is advancing recycling. The company is focused on processing recyclable material and assisting communities who are interested in improving their recycling programs. In Brookhaven, the company planned, designed and constructed the new recycling system at the Town of Brookhaven Material Recycling Facility. The new facility now employs 45 full-time workers.

For more information about recycling in the Town of Brookhaven, go to www.brookhaven.org.

Division of Public Information * Office of the Supervisor

One Independence Hill • Farmingville • NY 11738 • Phone (631) 451-6595 • Fax (631) 451-6258