

2024 Executive Director Report:

Authority Organization and Structural Changes in 2024:

The Rockland County Solid Waste Management Act, as set forth under Titled 13-M of the Public Authorities Law of the State of New York authorizes RCSWMA d/b/a Rockland Green to operate, acquire, hold, own, lease, establish, construct, effectuate, operate, maintain, renovate, improve, extend or repair any of its facilities.

In 2022, the Act was amended pursuant to Chapter 553 of the Laws of 2022 to allow Rockland Green or a wholly-owned subsidiary to operate an animal shelter and perform animal management services on behalf of one or more municipalities located in Rockland County. On September 29, 2022, Rockland Green passed Resolution No. 83 of 2022 approving the formation of a wholly-owned subsidiary, Rockland Green Center for Animal Rescue and Education Services (the "Subsidiary"), for the purpose of operating an animal shelter and providing animal management services on behalf of one or more municipalities located in Rockland County. It was then determined that the Subsidiary was not necessary for the provision of animal management services and on November 22, 2024, the Act was amended pursuant to Chapter 496 of the Laws of 2024 to eliminate the need for a wholly-owned subsidiary to perform animal management services. This amendment to the law also declared that the Rockland County Solid Waste Management Authority shall also be known as Rockland Green and/or RG Cares.

In accordance with its act, Rockland Green owns and/or manages thirteen facilities across Rockland County for use by residents and businesses. Each facility is continuously maintained to ensure optimal productivity and safety.

1. The property of 427 Beach Road in the Town of Haverstraw, was purchased for the building of a new state-of-the-art animal shelter. BDA Architects (Building Design for Animals) has been retained for the design services for a new Animal Shelter at this location. O'Connor Company of N.C., Inc. was awarded the contract for the build-out of the Animal Shelter.
2. Rockland Green is embarking on the design and construction of a new Immersive Theater and Educational Exhibits, to be located within the Administration Building at 172 Main Street, Nanuet. The contract for the creation and installation of these exhibits has been awarded to Whirlwind Creative Inc.. The RFP for the retrofit/build-out, will be awarded in 2025.
3. Rockland Green operates parts of its Yard Waste Composting Facility and Concrete and Asphalt Crushing Facility in Clarkstown, New York, on property owned by Eklecco II LLC. This authorization is based on two easements acquired during the 2009 acquisition of the Clarkstown Solid Waste Facilities. These easements cover portions of parcels 65.6-1-55, 65.6-1-51, 65.10-1-2, and the entire parcel 65.10-1-3. Eklecco II LLC is interested in selling these parcels. Rockland Green notified the Rockland County Legislature of its intent to purchase these parcels.

Materials Recovery Facility (MRF)

Rockland Green accepted the plant for the Materials Recovery Facility on April 10th, 2024, marking final completion of the project. The Rockland Green Residential Recycling Program reimbursed the Rockland County Municipalities \$704,050.90 for recycling 20,116 tons of recyclables at a rate of \$35.00 per ton.

Animal Management

In January of 2024, Rockland Green issued \$10 million in Bond Anticipation Notes (BAN) for the purchase and construction of 427 Beach Road (referenced above) to house a new animal shelter. In December 2024, Rockland Green issued \$18 million (par amount) in Bonds for the same purpose, with a portion of the Bonds issued used to pay off the BAN. The project is currently estimated to cost approximately \$18.5 million including the purchase of the building.

Agreements negotiated, re/negotiated, assigned, and updated in 2024:

1. Village of Wesley Hills, 5- year Garbage Collection Agreement with Donato Marangi/IWS.
2. Stony Point, 5-year Recyclables Collection Agreement with Capasso.
3. River Front Villages, 5- year Recyclable Collection Agreement with Capasso.
4. Landfill Disposal Services, 5- year Agreement with New England Waste Services of N.Y., Inc

2024 Grants:

Grant payments received in 2024

Recycling Coordinator Grant 2022	\$200,505.15
ASPCA Grant	\$4,000.00

Grants applied for in 2024 (Accrued Amounts)

Recycling Coordinator Grant 2024	\$248,028.20
HHW 2024	\$251,425.99
USEPA Food Scraps Collection & Processing & School Outreach & Education	\$4,992,993.00
NYSDEC Food Scraps Collection & Processing	\$199,983.00

Authority Initiatives 2024:

- Continue to develop Alternative Waste Processing Technologies including biosolid recovery and source separated organics projects.
- Continued review of expanding the Bio-Solids Co-composting Facility.
- Participate in monthly Hudson Valley Regional Council Materials Management Working Group related to regional solid waste concerns.
- Instituted the Town of Haverstraw and Orangetown food scrap recycling initiative for Town residents.
- Continued 'Feet on The Street' program to increase the quality and quantity of acceptable curbside recyclable materials.
- Distributed Bins & Bags and administered Paper Shredding and Medication Takeback events.
- Updated the Rockland Green Website to include an Events Calendar and Animal Shelter page.

- Created and distributed brochures regarding the Household Hazardous Waste Program and At-A-Glance to enhance Resident participation.
- Participated in the Municipal Consortium in Support of Reasonable Water Rates in connection with Veolia Water New York Rate Case.
- Participated in an Apprenticeship Training Program / Project Labor Agreement Requirements - the promotion of apprenticeship training programs will expand the pool of skilled workers in the County of Rockland by providing many residents the means to earn a decent living thereby fostering the local and regional economies.