

## REPORT

A REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT





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## J. P. MASCARO & SONS' COMMITMENT TO "SUSTAINABILITY"

April 24, 2017

Dear Current and Future Customers:

As the President of J. P. Mascaro & Sons, I would like to talk a bit about the concept of "Sustainability" as it relates to the solid waste industry.

Today, the term "Sustainability" is thrown around often in our society. You hear it all the time in marketing campaigns: "Live more sustainably," or "Our company has developed a sustainability plan to save the environment!" But what does this really mean and how do we actually work toward achieving it?

Sustainability is considered to be the healthy and productive maintenance of something; the capacity to endure indefinitely. Applied to the solid waste industry, "Sustainability" means the implementation and management of a customer waste service system that now and for future generations is economically viable and socially and environmentally progressive, and that conserves natural resources without damaging the environment.

Most people don't even realize the natural resource depletion and environmental harm caused by seemingly everyday innocent actions, like disposing of that plastic water bottle after a workout or tossing out all of the paper products that come with a take-out lunch. Part of "Sustainability" is the elimination of such wasteful tendencies.

Advertising has helped bring environmental consciousness and the concept of "Sustainability" to our attention. This is a good thing. However, there are companies in our industry that just preach about having a Sustainable Waste Service System, and then there are those, like J. P. Mascaro & Sons, that actually implement such a system. Authentic sustainability is not sophisticated marketing and advertising campaigns that tout green goals, but that do not actually take the steps needed to make a Sustainable Waste Service System a reality.

A "Sustainable Waste Service System" is one that maintains and sustains itself over time by taking into account and balancing the three vital "Sustainability" concepts of economic growth, social progress and environmental protection, without doing damage to the



environment. Having a "Sustainable Waste Service System" is a desirable and achievable goal, and it is one that J. P. Mascaro & Sons has achieved, while others in our industry have not.

Mascaro is 100% committed to "Sustainability" in all of our business operations and facilities. We understand that "Sustainability" must be at the foundation of any bona fide entity engaged in the solid waste industry in order to provide excellent service. We are proud to report that we have invested over \$100 million in the development and implementation of a customer waste service system that is both SUSTAINABLE and REAL, not merely a catchy advertising jingle.

Since we went into business over 50 years ago with merely one truck, our corporate mission has been about exceptional customer service, employee relations and community participation. Staying true to this concept enabled us to be a leader in the solid waste industry and, as a leader, I feel it is imperative for our customers and future business partners to understand how we truly accomplish sustainability, how integral it is to our business and how it benefits your own business endeavors.

The two integral aspects of the solid waste industry equation that impact sustainability are waste disposal and waste transportation. While we at J. P. Mascaro & Sons attempt to recycle and reuse as much as possible, there still remains waste material that must be disposed of at an end use facility. There are two primary end use options – landfilling and incineration (sometimes referred to as "landfill-free"). Mascaro has access to both of these options; however, we primarily recommend and rely on landfilling as part of our "Sustainable Waste Service System," for we have found it more economically and environmentally sound. Others must agree, because our research demonstrates that the vast majority of today's waste stream, about 54%, is landfilled, while only 12% is incinerated. About 34% is recycled/reused.

Landfilling is the engineered land-based disposal of waste at strictly regulated facilities that have advanced environmental protection and control systems. Incineration, a more recent technology, is the mass burning of the combustible portion of the waste stream.

In terms of sustainability, today's "Best Practice Landfills," such as those operated by Mascaro, are not only strictly designed and regulated to protect the environment, but also are economically viable and affordable without any taxpayer or governmental subsidization from an operational and disposal point of view.

Without being overly critical of incineration, there are some serious issues in relation to this



option. While landfilling is 100% self-sustaining, incineration is dependent on landfills for the disposal of the noncombustible portion of the waste stream and the concentrated ash resulting from the process itself, thus disproving the claim that incineration is a "landfillfree" end disposal method. Incineration also results in the emission of pollutants into the atmosphere and, unlike landfills, almost all incinerator projects have to be subsidized by taxpayer or governmental dollars to be developmentally and operationally viable. For a further comparison of incineration and landfilling, click here.

Now I will address the transportation aspect of the solid waste industry equation. The transportation of waste is heavily regulated at the local, state and federal levels. The regulations are precise, and the monitoring and enforcement regulations are in-depth and consistent. Sustainability opportunities resulting from waste transportation regulations are present in the areas of vehicle efficiency, alternate fuels, reduced emissions, lessening the vehicle carbon footprint and high efficiency power units. Rigid regulatory enactments in the area of waste transportation make governmental agencies the principal stimulus and advocate to ensure sustainability in this aspect of the solid waste industry equation.

I now turn to the specifics of the "Sustainable Customer Waste Service System" developed and implemented by Mascaro. At J. P. Mascaro & Sons, the fundamental core components that govern our company's successful "Sustainable Waste Service System" are waste reduction, waste recycling, waste reuse and end disposal that meets the highest environmental standards and produces Green Energy.

In the management of our "Sustainable Waste Service System," we first encourage basic waste reduction at the customer level by creating customized plans for each of our clients and offering education programs to create success. We also prioritize waste recycling and reuse through our collection services and at our modern single stream recycling facility and our one-of-a-kind beneficial use composting facility. Lastly, we landfill the remaining materials at one of our company-owned facilities that have in place comprehensive environmental protection and control systems and produce Green Energy.

The three key environmental facilities in Mascaro's "Sustainable Waste Service System" are TotalRecycle, A&M Composting and Pioneer Crossing Landfill.

TotalRecycle, located in Berks County, Pennsylvania, is our cutting-edge 85,000 sq. ft. single stream automated recycling facility, also referred to as an MRF (Material Recovery Facility). This operation uses the most advanced and innovative sorting equipment available and has the capacity to process 700 tons of recyclables daily. TotalRecycle receives, processes and markets almost all products capable of being recycled.



A&M Composting, located in Lancaster County, is the largest indoor composting facility in Pennsylvania. This 445,500 sq. ft. DEP-permitted beneficial use facility is where municipal sludge and food waste are processed into Class A exceptional quality compost for use by landscapers, nurseries and topsoil blenders, among others.

The Pioneer Crossing Landfill, situated next door to TotalRecycle in Exeter Township, is our primary, modern, DEP-permitted landfill that provides necessary long-term end use disposal capacity for unrecyclable waste. It has the unique ability to generate Green Energy from its onsite gas to electric plant.

The combination of TotalRecycle, A&M Composting and Pioneer Crossing Landfill enable Mascaro's "Sustainable Waste Service System" to meet the three-prong test of true "Sustainability" – economic growth, social progress and environmental protection. As to economic growth, all of our facilities provide necessary waste services that are financially and operationally viable and affordable, with none of them requiring monetary subsidization for survival, which is common with other technologies. All of the facilities are socially progressive, with TotalRecycle and A&M Composting recycling and reusing materials that would otherwise be disposed of, and with Pioneer Crossing generating green electrical energy. Lastly, all of these facilities operate under strict governmental and regulatory standards to ensure the utmost protection of our environment.

In closing, I wish for all of J. P. Mascaro & Sons' valued customers to recognize that our company has developed, invested in and implemented an Integrated Customer Waste Service System that currently is, and will continue to be for future generations, economically, socially and environmentally sustainable. We have researched and implemented the best practices available for the benefit of our customers and the environment. Ours is a real "Sustainability Commitment" and not merely an advertising jingle.

Sincerely,

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Pat Mascaro