



## **NJCCC Hosts Clean Communities Workshop at the League of Municipalities**

New Jersey Clean Communities Council (NJCCC) held an informative panel discussion, "How Clean Communities Funding Can Help Strained Municipal Budgets."

The panel took place November 17, at the Atlantic City Convention Center, as part of the League of Municipalities conference.



"Grant funds can be used to offset municipal budget deficits," said NJCCC Executive Director Sandy Huber. "This panel examines ways to expand environmental education programs in the face of school cutbacks, as well as explore alternative sources of funding that can leverage Clean Communities funds."

Featured panelists included Paterson Mayor Jose "Joey" Torres, Buena Vista Mayor Chuck Chiarello, Old Bridge Mayor Owen Henry (*pictured above*), former Middlesex County Director of Solid Waste Rich Hills and former Atlantic City Director of Public Works Paul Jerkins.

Coordinators, who have completed Clean Communities Basic Training, earned two CCCC credits by attending the workshop. CCCC certificates were presented immediately following the workshop.

## Brigantine's Joseph Campitelli: Helping the Community Realize Its Full Potential



Joseph Campitelli, coordinator of the Brigantine Green Team since 2005, is well known and involved in his town. Bringing important community stakeholders together to solve problems is second nature.

As president of the Brigantine Sons of Italy and state chairman for the Elks National Drug Awareness Program, Campitelli leverages his deep ties to the Brigantine community to work toward a cleaner community.

It's a three-fold attack on litter: **Cleanup. Enforcement. Education.**

"I took over as Clean Communities coordinator in 2005, replacing my father, who passed away that year," Campitelli said. "He and I had worked together in many capacities, so it was a wonderful opportunity to honor his legacy and continue to do good work for the town."

At the time, Campitelli (*pictured above at right*) served as chair of the Brigantine Alliance for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol, focusing on education and enforcement, as well as providing alternative activities for those struggling with addiction.

"It made sense to combine the work of the two organizations wherever possible, so we launched the 'Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs' initiative," Campitelli said.

And this was just the start of this long-serving volunteer's efforts to cross silos for the sake of clean communities.

"We've done a lot with VFW and the Elks on our Brigantine Bay Cleanups, we've partnered with the schools, we've partnered with the Farmers' Market. We have a table and hand out literature and we've even partnered with Sustainable Jersey's Green Team on environmental awareness initiatives," Campitelli said.

"Whenever there is an opportunity to partner with someone, we take it," he added.

Among the most effective cleanup campaigns, Campitelli said, are where his team fuses general interest initiatives with clean-up efforts. "We partnered with a local restaurant owner who provided free egg sandwiches on the beach, to make sure our volunteers are well fed while they remove trash off the sand," he said.

Another memorable effort, Campitelli said, was a partnership with the Brigantine Department of Public Works to provide a free paper shredding event, drawing hundreds of volunteers.

"When you have city government behind you and partner with good groups, it helps us with numbers and it gets people to buy in to the program," he said.

No matter the effort, Campitelli said he always reminds his volunteers that they can make their community a better place: "Our operations rely on great volunteers. We all light up the sky together!"

### **Clean Communities Welcomes PSEG's Mark Scorsolini to Board of Directors**

Mark Scorsolini is no stranger to making the world a cleaner place. When he was appointed to a seat on the New Jersey Clean Communities Council's Board of Directors in October, it was a natural fit.



**PSEG**

An energy trader at Public Service Enterprise Group (PSEG), Scorsolini manages a \$300 million portfolio of renewable energy and emissions allowance obligations.

"I'm looking to first learn about the Council's work and history and understand its challenges," Scorsolini said. "But in the short- and long-term, I'm hoping to join this team to promote environmental stewardship, sustainability and the overall betterment of our communities.

"Those are key priorities for me and for PSEG and the communities we serve," he added.

The work of NJCCC and PSEG's initiatives are "very well aligned," Scorsolini said. "Having PSEG maintain a presence here along with all of the other corporate partners represented on the board is a testament to the commitment that New Jersey businesses have in ensuring that our communities are clean," he said.

Scorsolini pointed to his professional past as the path that led him toward his current post. For more than seven years, starting in 1999, he worked for the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. He first served as a program assistant and then was elevated to senior environmental specialist and, finally, principal environmental specialist.

Since 2005, Scorsolini has also served as an adjunct at the New Jersey Institute for Technology in Newark, teaching graduate-level courses on regulation, policy, and politics.

"It's funny, you could say I've been immersed in the work of the Council long before I got here," Scorsolini said, recalling a recent "Slam Dunk the Junk" event in Lincoln Park in Newark, where he lives. "But since I've arrived on the council, it's been so uplifting to see countless students, volunteers, public and private sector workers all coming together to roll up their sleeves and help one block at a time. I'm so excited to join them."

**Got Litter? The NJCCC Can Help!**



The NJCCC was featured in New Jersey Municipalities magazine for the November issue, which is released to coincide with the annual League of Municipalities conference in Atlantic City. The article, written by NJCCC Executive Director Sandy Huber, focuses on the many services the organization offers to municipalities, as well as suggestions for ways in which local leaders can access additional grants to make their communities even

cleaner.

[Read the article here.](#)