



# NEWSLETTER

Municipal Review Committee | PO Box 317 | Brewer, ME 04412 | [www.MRCMaine.org](http://www.MRCMaine.org)

ISSUE 14.1 | July 2019

## Welcome! New MRC Executive Director Michael Carroll

On Monday, July 1, the MRC welcomed Michael Carroll as its new Executive Director. To help introduce him to the MRC membership, we are sharing a recent Q&A with Michael. He will be making arrangements to visit all members in the near future. In the meantime, enjoy!

*1. This is an exciting time in the solid waste industry. How do you feel about joining the MRC during this transitional time?*

Very excited! What a way to start my new role with a state-of-the-art facility opening that takes recycling and waste diversion to a whole new level.

*2. Have you worked with municipalities before?*

Yes, I worked across Maine for over 17 years in the records storage and shredding industries. I worked closely with cities, towns, municipalities and Maine Municipal Association. I attended the MMA annual trade show for many years. Recycling of paper and cardboard was very important to the municipalities but it had to be properly destroyed and certified. This was a major priority for most municipalities so we were in constant contact. Over the last two years, I worked with municipalities in Canada from Saint Stephen NB to Sussex NB on residential waste services including recycling as well as education and assistance on waste disposal regulations in their areas.

*3. Tell us about yourself.*

I have spent most of my life in Maine and it's great to be back. I've been married to a wonderful woman for 23 years now who works as an RN. We have two children and the youngest just graduated high school this year. My passion is fishing and just getting out seeing and talking with people. I have worked in the record storage and shredding industries for over 17 years. We were the largest paper shredding provider in our market which meant we could negotiate our own fiber contracts directly with recycling mills. For the past couple of years, I worked for the largest waste hauler in Atlantic

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### UPCOMING MEETINGS

**July 24, 2019**

**Finance Committee Meeting: 9 AM**

**Regular Board Meeting: 10 AM**

Machias Savings Bank  
Community Room—2nd Floor  
581 Wilson Street, Brewer

**August 28, 2019—TENATIVE**

**Special Board Meeting: 1 PM**

Machias Savings Bank  
Community Room—2nd Floor  
581 Wilson Street, Brewer

### ABOUT THE MRC

The Municipal Review Committee (MRC) is a non-profit association of Maine communities led by an elected, volunteer board of directors. 115 members have joined together to ensure the affordable, environmentally sound disposal of MSW in the long-term and will send their MSW to the Coastal Resources facility in Hampden for processing.

Visit [www.mrcmaine.org](http://www.mrcmaine.org) or contact Mike Carroll at 207-664-1700 or [execdirector@mrcmaine.org](mailto:execdirector@mrcmaine.org) to learn more about the Municipal Review Committee and to add your name to our email contact list.

**ARE YOU ON SOCIAL MEDIA?**



MRC regularly sends updates and announcements by email to those who have signed up for our alerts. We also have active Facebook and Twitter accounts where we share articles and post about events and interact with members. Make sure to "like" or follow us through your town's accounts too!



*New Executive Director Michael Carroll*

opportunities in Maine are ready to grow. Coastal is taking the concept of waste diversion to a whole new level by creating resellable materials from the waste stream. I look forward to working with them to expand recycling opportunities.

*6. What are your priorities in the near term?*

Number one is getting out to see all the MRC members and learn about their concerns first hand. I will be available to them on regular basis. Of equal importance is working with Coastal to help get them up and running to full capacity.

*7. What else would you like MRC members to know about you?*

I am here for the members. I may not have all the answers initially but I will do my best to respond as quickly as possible. So please don't hesitate to call on me and I look forward to meeting all the members. I would also like to thank the board for this amazing opportunity I have been given as Executive Director and will do everything I can to make this a successful adventure.

Canada. I was the branch manager in Saint John NB for solid and liquid waste services. I was responsible for the day to day management of 80 employees and a fleet of 50 trucks. My service area was from Saint Stephen NB to Sussex NB servicing and managing all aspects of commercial and residential solid waste, recycling and liquid waste.

*4. What programs worked in Canada that you think could work for our region too?*

Well, don't plan on coming in and reinventing the wheel. I need to work closely with the MRC Board and members, Coastal and the haulers to see how things currently work. Then with my experience, I can suggest improvements and better practices to the board.

*5. What opportunities do you see for the future?*

Less going to landfill.

We all know the impact of losing the China recycle export market and now we are seeing those companies that relied on that market invest millions of dollars in the states. I hope recycling



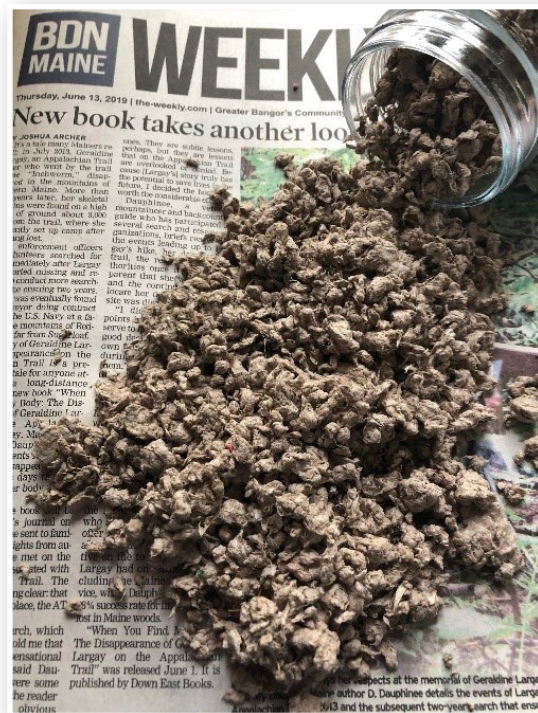
# Coastal Resources Ramps Up to Commercial Operation

Coastal Resources is advancing toward commercial operation, when the facility will accept all of the MSW that Joining Members can deliver on an ongoing basis. To date, Coastal has achieved the following milestones:

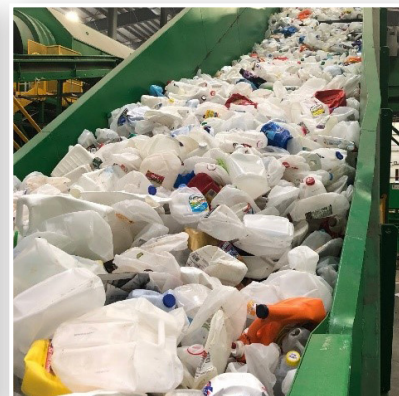
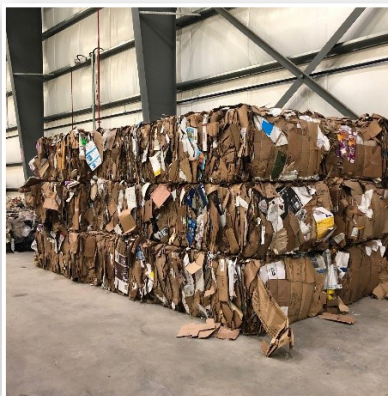
- Accepted and processed over 1200 tons of mixed MSW from Joining Members.
- Produced and sold its first bales of cardboard, HDPE (#2), polypropylene (#5) and mixed plastics (#3 through #7) recovered from incoming mixed waste.
- Undertook a detailed testing protocol of the cellulose pulp by staff of the University of Maine Forest Bioproducts Research Institute and to satisfy buyers in accordance with Maine DEP requirements.
- Began production of high-quality cellulose pulp from processed mixed paper and cardboard, and of fuel briquettes from plastic film.

As expected, the start-up phase of the \$80-million facility has included challenges. As Coastal Resources tests its equipment, the facility is processing waste on a stop-start basis. At times, after plant equipment outages, haulers have been asked to divert loads from the facility to the back-up landfill, or vice versa, on short notice. Towns accustomed to mixing tires and bulky items with household trash are revisiting management of these items. Coastal is interrupting operations to reprogram and optimize process equipment functions, make process modifications and replace motors and conveyor parts as needed. The MRC appreciates your patience and cooperation during the transition as the new systems are tested and the bugs are worked out.

Installation of the last components of Coastal's system for processing glass, grit and other fine materials is complete. Once that system has been fine-tuned, Coastal will begin operating the facility's wet processing system on a 24/7 basis. Coastal is working with product purchasers and the Maine DEP to finalize arrangements for use of the pulp and briquette products.



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Joining Members can anticipate that stop-start operation will ramp up to full continuous operation by the end of the month. By August, Coastal expects to be accepting all MRC member MSW, and would bypass MSW only by exception.

The final stage of start-up, commercial operation, will occur only after the Coastal facility passes a rigorous performance test of its capacity to process 400 tons per day of waste on a continuous basis while diverting at least 50 percent to products shown to be marketable.

The MRC looks forward to conducting the test and to achieving commercial operation in August.

We continue to be very excited about the future of the Hampden project and the benefits it will bring MRC members through processing of MSW into high-value products and materials. And we continue to be grateful for your support during the delays and extended transition period as we move together into the next generation of waste management.

## Reminder!

Please submit your request for transportation reimbursement for bridge waste in a timely manner. During June's Special Board Meeting, the MRC established a cut-off date of 60 days after Coastal Resources' Commercial Operations Date (tbd) by which all claims must be submitted. The MRC will not consider claims that it is no longer legally obligated to pay. The MRC will notify members of the COD and remind them of the bridge waste reimbursement date when it is established.

# MRC

## Fiberight Corner



Top row: Pulp leaving Coastal Resources on Friday, July 12



Left: New Executive Director Mike Carroll at Bangor Drinkworks