

# Grand Central Team Member Recognized

By Adrienne Fors

SLATE BELT - Grand Central Hauling Fleet Manager Bruce Archer II has been recognized as a "Patriotic Employer" for going above and beyond in the support of a member of his team who is an Army reservist.

A representative of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) recently visited Grand Central's shop to present Bruce with a plaque thanking him for his support of Army reservist and site Technician David Hartranft.

ESGR is an office within the U.S. Department of Defense and for more than 50 years has been working to promote cooperation and understanding between reservists and their civilian employers. David, a sergeant, is deployed in the Middle East. David nominated Bruce for the award in November.



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**Did you know that landfills in Pennsylvania are required to provide at least \$1 a ton to a Host Community?**  
In 2005, through the Host Municipality Agreement, Grand Central agreed to pay \$3.10 per ton to Plainfield Township.

**Here's how that money supported Plainfield Township in 2023:**

- \$1 per ton (approx. \$700,000) was included in the 2023 General Fund Budget
- \$1.65 per ton (approx. \$1.2 million) was included in the Host Retro/Capital Improvements Budget
  - Engler Road improvements
  - Getz Road improvements
  - Grand Central Road Bridge project - in part with matching grant funds
  - Plainfield Township Salt Shed project
- \$0.45 per ton (approx. \$318,000) was transferred to the Municipal Trust Fund
- In total, Plainfield Township received \$2,185,437 from the operation of the landfill in 2023
- From these host fees, Plainfield Township Volunteer Fire Company received \$1.5 million to purchase a new fire truck

Because WM recognizes Pen Argyl and Wind Gap as close neighbors, GCSL entered into agreements with both communities dating back to 2004 and 2005, respectively, to provide monetary and in-kind benefits to the Borough residents.

\$148,583 voluntarily contributed to Northampton County Recycling & Sustainability fund to offset the costs for electronic recycling and household hazardous waste event

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**Here's how the operation of Grand Central Landfill made living in Wind Gap Borough and Pen Argyl Borough more affordable in 2023:**

- In 2023, the Neighboring Municipality Agreement provided Wind Gap Borough with \$848,700 (\$1.20 per ton) of which approximately \$530,000 was used for stormwater improvements on Constitution Avenue. The balance of the funds supported other improvement projects within the Borough
- Wind Gap Borough received free trash and recycling collection and disposal worth an estimated value of \$475,000 (1,221 households\*)
  - These benefits help save Wind Gap Borough households an average of \$1,084 a year
- In 2023, the Facility Cooperation Agreement provided Pen Argyl Borough with \$915,892 (\$1.30 per ton). These funds were used for community improvements and to match grants that helped fund street improvements
- Pen Argyl Borough received free trash and recycling collection and disposal worth an estimated value of \$648,000 (1,321 households\*)
  - These benefits help save Pen Argyl Borough households an average of \$1,026 a year

\*based on 2020 census data

**Community Contributions At-A-Glance**

- \$95K Slate Belt Regional Police K-9
- \$65K Weona Park Pool Revitalization Project
- \$100K Slate Belt Rising (6-year commitment = \$300k)
- \$80K Pen Argyl School District
- \$90K Volunteer Fire Companies
- \$100K Other Donations
- \$580,000 Charitable Donations Since 2022

**Upcoming Events**

April 17, 2024   4:30PM	Sustainability Discussion & Landfill Tour
May 20, 2024   5:00PM	World Bee Day Celebration
July 13, 2024   8:00AM	Summer Bird Walk
September 12, 2024   4:30PM	Monarch Tagging
September 28, 2024   11:00AM - 2:00PM	Annual Chili Cook-Off
November 2, 2024   9:00AM - Noon	Wind Gap & Pen Argyl E-Waste Collection

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