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## SENATOR ROSEMARY BROWN

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## Senate Passes Bill Benefitting Career and Technical Schools

By Senator Rosemary Brown

Career and technical education prepare students for rewarding, family-sustaining careers, often at a significantly reduced cost compared to attending college. Pennsylvania is in great need of people with this training, and there are many job openings waiting to be filled.

To ensure people have the training needed for these jobs, the Senate unanimously passed Senate Bill 315. The legislation would provide more certainty regarding grant funding for career and technical education equipment by making funding calculations before the school year in which the allocation occurs.

Currently, schools are reimbursed after they have made purchases based on calculations made near the end of the school year. Read more about career and technical education opportunities in the commonwealth.



## Congratulations to Eagle Scout Michael Onorato!

By Senator Rosemary Brown

Please join me in congratulating Michael Onorato on achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

I've had the privilege of knowing Michael for many years, and he truly is an exceptional young man. His dedication, leadership, and commitment to excellence make him a shining example of what Scouting is all about.

Wishing Michael continued success and a bright future ahead!



## Celebrating Wawa's Grand Opening & A Big Win for Route 209

By Senator Rosemary Brown

I had a great time celebrating the grand opening of the new Wawa in Smithfield Township this week. Lots of smiles – and free coffee for the next three days!

During the event, I was proud to announce a \$3 million grant I secured to complete much-needed improvements to Route 209—a critical and heavily traveled road that so many in our community rely on every day. This funding will help ensure safer and more efficient travel for residents, visitors, and local businesses.

Wawa is a proud, Pennsylvania-based company, and we're excited to welcome them to our community. Pennsylvania certainly knows a thing or two about great convenience stores!

A big thank-you to Smithfield Township, the Pennsylvania State Police, Marshalls Creek Fire Company, and all the community members who came out to celebrate. Your support made the day even more special!



## How Funds Support Plainfield Township

Host Community Spotlight 2024

Funding from the host agreement provides the municipality opportunities to support special projects, capital projects, and more.

In 2024, WM's tipping fees provided the following:

**\$1/ton = \$693,756**

Infused into the General Fund in 2024

**\$1.65/ton = \$1,150,664**

Infused into the Host/Capital Improvement Budget

**\$0.45/ton = \$313,817**

Transferred into the Municipal Trust Fund

Total Received From  
Landfill Operations in 2024 **\$2,158,238**

### Did you know?

Landfills in Pennsylvania are required to provide at least \$1<sup>000</sup> to a Host Community

Since 2005, Host Municipality Benefits have totaled \$32,336,987.95 to Plainfield Township. These benefits are the sum of \$3.10 per ton of waste disposed at Grand Central.



Want to Learn More? Check out our new video →

### Grand Central Landfill Community Investment

A look back at 2024 and the investments made to help the State Belt thrive:

- In 2024, the Facility Cooperation Agreement provided Pen Argyl Borough with \$903,204.95 (\$1.30 per ton).

These funds were used for community improvements and to match grants that help fund street improvements.

- Pen Argyl Borough residents received free trash and recycling collection and disposal worth an estimated value of \$713,340 (1,321 households<sup>1</sup>).

- In 2024, the Neighboring Municipality Agreement provided Wind Gap Borough with \$836,846.47 (\$1.20 per ton).

A portion of this funding supported the paving of Constitution Avenue and Oak Street.

- Wind Gap Borough residents received free trash and recycling collection and disposal worth an estimated value of \$659,340 (1,221 households<sup>1</sup>).



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### Contributions At a Glance

Local Non-Profit  
Charitable Donations in 2024 **\$102,585**

- Since 2020 WM provided \$510,185 in charitable donations to local non-profits.

- \$146,464.48 voluntarily contributed to Northampton County Recycling and Sustainability fund to offset the costs for electronic recycling and household hazardous waste event.

### Calendar of Events

RSVP for Tours: [afors1@wm.com](mailto:afors1@wm.com)

<b>APR 16</b>	Sustainability Tour 5:00pm	<b>MAY 07</b>	Bird Walk 11:30am   Ed. Center
<b>JUN 16</b>	Talking Trash Tour 5:00pm	<b>AUG 18</b>	Count The Butterflies Walk 5:00pm   Ed. Center
<b>SEPT 27</b>	Chili Cookoff + Tours 11:00am-2:00pm	<b>OCT 11</b>	Migration Walk 11:30am-12:30pm   Ed. Center
<b>NOV 01</b>	E-Waste Collection 9:00am   Main Office Lot 2	<b>NOV 13</b>	Sustainability Tour 5:00pm