



## The Ocean County Utilities Authority

Helping to preserve the water resources of Ocean and Southern Monmouth County NJ

### 6/18/2007--OCUA'S OCEANGRO™ FEATURED ON 'MODERN MARVELS' ALSO CITED BY ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

**BERKELEY TOWNSHIP** – To all the naysayers that did not believe it would work, the Ocean County Utilities Authority has proven them wrong.



And, come this Wednesday even the History Channel will feature on “Modern Marvels” a segment on the production of the OCUA’s award winning fertilizer OCEANGRO™.

“In the last several decades the Ocean County Utilities Authority has done an incredible amount of work to improve the water quality of Barnegat Bay and to improve our overall environment,” said Freeholder John C. Bartlett Jr., who serves as liaison to the OCUA. “We are very proud of its accomplishments.”

Just coming off the heels of receiving the 2007 Exemplary Biosolids Management Award in the public acceptance category from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region II, the OCUA’s organic fertilizer production was then picked for a segment on “Modern Marvels” which is scheduled to air Wednesday (June 20) on the History Channel.

According to the show’s website, Modern Marvels celebrates ingenuity, invention and imagination brought to life on a grand scale.

“Highlighting the work we do at the OCUA helps to educate the public and raise awareness of the importance of protecting the environment,” said Richard Warren, OCUA executive director. “From the OCUA commissioners to the staff, everyone works toward a common goal of taking care of our waterways and our lands.”

The EPA award, which now moves on for consideration at the federal level, recognized the OCUA for its exceptional biosolids management program.

“Innovative and widely applicable biosolids techniques are vital to the nation’s efforts to protect and improve our soil and water resources,” stated the EPA “This award centers attention on the critical need to develop and implement management practices that use wastewater biosolids beneficially.”

Since 1997, the OCUA has successfully manufactured the organic fertilizer called OCEANGRO™. A decade later, more than 90,000 tons has been produced and beneficially used.

OCEANGRO™ is non-burning, slow released, runoff resistant and is rich in iron and calcium. It is an economic bulk delivered alternative for golf courses and athletic fields as a maintenance application. Registered with the New Jersey Department of Agriculture, it is manufactured to fertilizer specifications from biosolids, which exceeds Environmental Protection

Agency Exceptional Quality Standards. OCEANGRO™ is used by over 60 golf courses in New Jersey and is available in many retail locations throughout the state.

“When the OCUA began to develop this product, many did not believe it would work,” said Freeholder Director John P. Kelly. “Now this fertilizer continues to grow in popularity, the result of a unique program that comes with numerous environmental benefits.”

David J. Ertle, director of Fertilizer Manufacturing at the OCUA, noted that the OCUA’s biosolids program was chosen to be featured on Modern Marvels because the authority’s program is the only one in the state that treats its wastewater and produces and markets fertilizer from its sludge.

“We do it all,” Ertle said. “From wastewater treatment to sales and distribution of an exceptional quality Class A Biosolids Fertilizer, meeting all the fertilizer industry quality standards.”