

On the Job

Since its inception in 1985, the Kearny UEZ has generated more than 3,800 full-time jobs and private investment of more than \$229 million. Here, we highlight some of the businesses and people earning their livelihood in the Kearny UEZ.

Continuity in South Kearny

The businesses in Kearny's Urban Enterprise Zone offer hundreds of employment opportunities to area residents with a variety of interests, skills and backgrounds.

One such establishment is **Spectraserv Inc.**, a third-generation pollution control company that has operated in South Kearny since 1969. Services offered include wastewater and residuals treatment; transportation, processing, disposal, and reuse of waste materials; construction and installation of treatment systems; and tank, lagoon, and pond cleaning. About 95 percent of Spectraserv's business consists of municipal and government contracts.

Senior Vice President of Technical Services Frank Senske estimates that between 25 and 27 of Spectraserv's

100 full-time employees are Kearny residents. "We offer good, rewarding jobs for skilled construction workers, truck drivers, mechanics, pollution control technicians and operators, laborers, engineers, scientists and administrative professionals," he said. "Spectraserv has longevity as a company and so does our workforce. Our employees think this is a great place, and they stay forever; we hold onto our core group of people. The continuity serves us, and our clients, very well."

Senske says Spectraserv's employees are satisfied and loyal due to the company's supportive, close-knit atmosphere. "We treat our workforce like family here," he noted. "This is hard work, and there are times when we need people to stay late. Our workers know that sometimes a job takes 12 or 14 hours instead of eight. We ask

people to be flexible with their schedules." In return, he says, "the company is flexible as well. If you need time off — if something comes up in your life — we try to accommodate that. We have the ability to meet the specific personal needs of our workforce."

Satisfied employees often recommend Spectraserv to relatives and friends, including their high school or college-aged sons and daughters in search of valuable professional experience during the summer. "We have a lot of family connections among our workforce," Senske said. "It's a good indication of what people think about the kinds of opportunities available here."

Senske himself has worked for Spectraserv for 19 years. "Of all the organizations I've worked at," he comments, "I would definitely rank this one as the best."



Spectraserv has operated in South Kearny since 1969 and several of the company's employees reside in Kearny.