

Annual Report Recycling & Solid Waste Committee

Transfer Station Hours of Operation:
Wednesday Evening – 6 PM to 8 PM
Saturdays – 7 AM to 2 PM
Tel. Contact: Richard Czarnec: (603) 365-8245

As always, we dedicate this report to the residents of Chester committed to protecting our environment and reducing property taxes by recycling.

2018 Recycling Center & Solid Waste Transfer Station Summary

In 2018, the facility's waste stream totaled 931.2 tons, of which 287.0 tons were recycled. Of these 287.0 tons, 217.0 tons were kitchen* (household) recyclables (see list below). This year, the average **net profit** made on recycling these kitchen recyclables was \$2.01 per ton, versus a **net cost** of \$112.21 per ton for disposal via the solid waste compactor. As a result, **the 2018 recycling program resulted in a net savings of at least \$24,350**. This is a significant cost savings, considering the total disposal cost of the 644.2 tons of compacted solid waste was \$72,285.

Overall, **30.8% percent of the Transfer Station's waste stream was recycled**. Unfortunately, this percentage is again the lowest rate of recycling we have ever seen, and it falls well short of the 40% minimum standard recommended by the US EPA.

From observing the general waste disposed of in the trash compactor, there are still two obvious areas for improvement. The first is more diligent sorting out of mixed paper, cardboard and other recyclables. The second is encouraging home (backyard) composting of specific kitchen and other organic wastes. Conscientious attention to these items will reduce the waste stream by another 10% to 20%.

Summary of Recycling Tonnages:

Newspaper & Mag.*	21.6 tons
Mixed Paper*	64.5 tons
Cardboard*	44.0 tons
Scrap Metal	62.1 tons
Co-mingled Cans*	6.4 tons
Aluminum Cans*	4.0 tons
#1 - #7 Plastics*	21.8 tons
Glass*	54.7 tons
Tires	2.5 tons
Car Batteries	0.3 tons
TVs & Computers	1.0 tons
Used Motor Oil	4.3 tons
Total:	287.0 tons

(*kitchen / household recyclables)

Important Requests

We reiterate our appeal to residents to please be more diligent about crushing your plastics and cans. Please do this as well as the sorting prior to arriving at the Transfer Station! It only takes a minute or two each day to do this as you accumulate your recyclables. Our load hauling is scheduled on a volume basis, and it costs a great deal of money to haul loads that are mostly air!

Also, we request that more folks try backyard composting of some of their food waste. It is amazing how much this can reduce the weight and volume of solid waste hauled to the landfill. There are many resources available online for advice and ideas on how to do this.

Lastly, a reminder that we recycle batteries of all types. Please drop off all batteries such as AA, AAA, C, D, 9V and rechargeable batteries with our attendants in the main building. Car batteries are still dropped off by the storage units.

Facility Improvements

New aluminum dock floor-plates have been added to the trailers, and new lighting has also been installed in the trailers, thereby improving the safety of accessing all three of the paper trailers. Many other minor improvements have been made to improve safety and efficiency and reduce costs.

Change of Wednesday Night Winter Hours

The winter hours on Wednesday nights have been changed from 6:00-8:00 pm to 5:30-7:30 pm. We are told this change was favorably received by residents.

Our usual ending ☺...

More residents are utilizing the Transfer Station than ever before. We encourage those of you who are still not using the Transfer Station to come and visit the facility and try it out. The facility is open on Wednesday evenings from 6:00 to 8:00 pm, and on Saturdays from 7:00 am to 2:00 pm. We look forward to seeing you there.

Our staff, Rich, Roger, Russ, Leona, Richard and Darrell would like to express their appreciation for the enthusiasm and support by our residents for the recycling program and facility in general.

In closing, we would like to encourage any citizens with constructive ideas for to please talk to one of our Transfer Station attendants or contact the Board of Selectmen's Office at 887-3636 Ext. 105 about their ideas.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Hadik, Planning Coordinator

Richard Czarneck, Transfer Station Attendant
Cass Buckley, Selectman