



Serving the towns of Abington Cohasset Duxbury Hanover Hanson Hingham Hull Kingston Marshfield Norwell Plymouth Rockland Scituate Weymouth and Whitman since 1998

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Second Earth Day Celebration reaches hundreds

We did it again, but bigger and better. The SSRC Earth Day Celebration at the **Hanover Mall** rocked, thanks to dedicated Board and local volunteers, sponsors, vendors, entertainers and of course the Hanover Mall.

Outdoor recyclers **EOMS**, **Bay State Textile**, **Got Books and Shred King** collected 7 tons of electronics, clothing, books, and sensitive documents, double last years cache. Dozens of residents pledged to recycle, and recyclers entered to win dinner certificates donated by Covanta SEMASS and US Savings Bonds donated by **South Coastal Savings Bank**, **Rockland Trust** and **Rockland FCU**. (Winners are still posted on ssrc.info).

Rising teen star **MacKenzie Rae** gave two fabulous high energy performances heard throughout the Mall, and **Lisa and Friends** got the younger crowd dancing with life size puppets, with a finale about the fun of recycling.

The **South Shore Natural Science Center** drew crowds with local wildlife demonstrations, and provided one of several local environmental exhibits. **Sustainable South Shore** provided both volunteers and advice on reducing our carbon footprint.

Special thanks go to our Volunteers:

Merle Brown, Doug Buitenhuys, Rudy Childs, Victoria Diebel and John, Charles and Jo Dirk, Diane Edge, Bob Griffin, Paul Sullivan and Norm Thoms.

Lots of other people and organizations made this fun event possible, too many to name here, but they're still on ssrc.info,

go to "Earth Day".



So much news, so little time!

In the interest of cranking this out before The Move (see below), this newsletter isn't as pretty as usual, and has not been proofread by others. If you note any errors, please notify me, and I will send out a correction when the office reopens.

SSRC Office is moving to Westwood

The SSRC office will be **closed from June 21 through July 10**.

The address after July 1 will be:

29 Youngs Rd., Westwood, MA 02090.
The new phone numbers will be **781-269-5314; fax 781-269-5325**. Email will stay the same, ssrcclaire@comcast.net

MEETING NOTES

April: Brian Johnson, principal of **Doc Shredding Corp**; described the company's commercial and residential shredding services. DS also manages electronic waste carefully, sending it to GreenTech in RI, and Electronic Recyclers International in Gardner. He noted that proper processing costs more.

Paper recycling is good but not secure; sensitive documents need to be shredded and handled through a secure chain of custody. The paper does get recycled.

DS offers 2 types of shredding services: 1. Off site - DSC picks up slotted, locked containers and brings to certified shredders, including Northeast Data Destruction in Plainville, Hannah Paper Prods, in Mansfield, and 2. On site (more expensive) -DSC brings a truck that shreds inside vehicle. Material is baled off site, and sent to paper mill. DSC carries \$2M umbrella insurance against ID theft,

Sharon uses DSC regularly. Norwood, Lexington, Arlington, hire them for purges. DSC also services 35 BI/Deaconess facilities, Caritas, and many residential customers. The fee is \$62/pickup for up to 10 boxes.

Contact Brian at 866-560-4555; www.docshreddingcorp.com.

MEETING NOTES (cont'd)

May: Tony Pusateri, principal of **Spiegel South Shore Scrap Metal** in Brockton, updated the Board on market conditions and services. Pricing and demand are creeping back after a bad fall and winter. The future is unpredictable. China had been buying 95% of our scrap; they had stockpiled, and cut back on buying after the Olympics. Turkey and Korea are big buyers too, and stopped buying due to global economy. China is loosening up now, but is not stockpiling. Price dropped 60% from Sept. to Dec. Smaller companies had trouble selling this winter, and some closed.

The market has turned the corner recently, and SSSS is still seeking municipal accounts. They pay if the money is there based on markets, load density and distance. If not compacted, only 2 tons/load, but it's possible (and desirable) to compact to 5-6 tons/load. There has been no market for tin cans since fall. SSSS has been in business for 13 years.

SSSS accepts fire extinguishers if empty, with the heads taken off.

Ms. Dirk noted that Rindge Energy in NH also takes fire extinguishers, but is now charging. There are instructions on the SSRC website, go to Other Stuff, Oddball Waste.

SSSS serves Kingston, Hanover, Norwell, Rockland, Scituate, Hull, and Marshfield.

Mr. Pusateri recommends against bundling e-waste collection with scrap, as they are very different waste streams. He sends what he collects to CRTRecycling. He advised against long term contracts with a fixed price, as the market is unpredictable.

Tony can be reached at 508-897-0008, or 781-858-0692, and offered to host a tour.

A new home for used latex paint

The Paint Exchange in North Scituate accepts good, usable interior latex paint for recycling (hallelujah!). Three artists who specialize in faux finishing noticed how much leftover paint they generated, and learned that most homeowners have the same problem. Rather than "dry it up and throw it out", they saw potential for reducing paint waste and creating a new product.

They strain and re-mix high quality paint. Standard colors sell for \$14.99/gallon, custom colors are \$19.99, about half the cost of retail. They do not have the space to manage non-usable or low quality paint, but this provides a great alternative for the hundreds of residents who still bring latex paint to our HHP collections (though fewer do each year).

The Executive Director bought 8 gallons for her new house. The only way this enterprise can work is if demand equals supply.

The store is open Wed-Fri, 9-3, Sat. 9:30-3:30. 767 Country Way, North Scituate 781-545-1272.

June: Terry Grady, **Electronic Recyclers International, Inc.**, Municipal Services Manager, Gardner, MA.

Worked 30 years for Allied Waste. Career change last year to electronics recycling was a rude awakening; The Ewaste business is still poorly regulated, and the regulations are poorly enforced. "Welcome to the wild west".

Described recent sting in Pittsburgh of EarthCycle. The Oklahoma co. did a special event for Humane Society, website declared they don't export anything. Nine cargo boxes were followed to China and Africa. The EPA is investigating.

Do our managers base decision on cost? Most; Do they care where it goes? Yes. CRT export to developing countries is illegal, but due diligence showed that most ewaste from the US ends up in China. Chinese gov't is watching cargo containers now, EPA is increasing enforcement.

Lowest cost vendor has little impact on us personally, but it hurts the people in developing countries. Only 30-35% of exported CRTs are reusable. Those that aren't are making parts of China the most polluted area on earth. We may be on the hook to pay for cleanups in the future.

Anyone can print a Certificate of Destruction. Do the due diligence, visit unannounced. Ask for downstream vendors, bills of lading. What happens to leaded glass now? Few companies deal with. ERIs goes to a State of the Art, TDM Co. facility in Mexicali, MX, The glass is cleaned and reused by Samsung for new CRTs, which is still a viable industry in most of world. Working CRTs are good to export, but must be sorted.

Basel Action Network (Seattle) has developed a certification program for the safe handling, processing and disposal of e-waste involving a year of audits, post closure bond. No export of haz e-waste to developing countries, no prison labor (not subject to OSHA). Must sign the "Pledge of true stewardship". ERI is certified.

ERI nearly zero waste, 99/7% of material is reused, recycled, or used to fuel paper mills. It audits all downstream vendors.

EPA has developed R2 standards, but many loopholes for export. BAN withdrew from discussions.

Separately, ERI is developing a national searchable recycling website, **1800recycling.com** will be up in Sept., will link to towns' websites.

Excel Recycling brings ewaste to ERI. Open for tours any time. Advocating for H833, Smizik.

Contact Terry at 877.829.6209, cell: 603.997.9444, tgrady@electronicrecyclers.com.

LOCAL

Abington goes Single stream

Starting July 1, Abington residents can put all their paper, cardboard, bottles, cans and rigid plastics in one container for recycling, as their Weymouth neighbors have done for the past year. Curbside contractor Waste Solutions will collect all the recyclables in a packer truck and bring it to Waste Management Avon for processing. The Abington BOH will save on collection costs with this system, and residents are expected to recycle more material due to the added convenience.

Rather than toters, the Town will provide Recycle stickers so residents can re-purpose a trash can.

Weymouth recycling up a year after SS

11 months into Weymouth, Quincy and Braintree's (Tri-Town) collaboration on curbside collection, the towns have seen improvements in disposal, recycling and cost. The new contract included single stream recycling, which was implemented without the use of toters.

All 3 communities purchased identical Single Stream Stickers, as most folks on the South Shore constantly drive through the 3 communities. As a result, they see a repetition of the Single Stream message on residents' trash barrels frequently.

Weymouth realized a \$150,000 cost savings over their old contract. Since the rates are tied into the CPI, there will be no increase the second year of the contract. \$1.3 million dollars in savings is anticipated over the 9 year life of the contract. Weymouth has also seen an increase in their recycling revenue, which was locked in before the market crash, and has been honored by Waste Management.

Hull Board rep Kramer honored

In April, the Hull Nantasket Chamber of Commerce announced that 10 residents were nominated for the organization's 2009 **Community Champion Award**. The award recognizes citizens who have made positive contributions to life in Hull during the past year(s). This year, all nominees were selected as winners, including **Nancy Kramer**, Hull Rep. to SSRC. They were honored at a breakfast at the Clarion Nantasket Beach Hotel and Conference Center.

Hull Recycling Center to close

As a result of reductions in the DPW and Landfill budgets, the Hull Recycling Area will close on June 30, 2009 after 14 years of service to residents. An RFP prepared by the South Shore Recycling Cooperative on behalf of the Town was issued earlier this year for a private vendor to take over the operation. Unfortunately, there were no respondents.

The SSRC is working with Hull and a neighboring town to negotiate a partnership that would allow Hull residents access to the Transfer Station.

Licensed haulers in Hull are required to offer recycling service to their customers. Since this may be offered separately from trash collection, though, this service is fairly expensive for residents.

Plymouth "Sticker-less Sticker Program" marks 1 year

Since it implemented of the Automatic License Plate Reader by Secure-a-lot.com, Plymouth has eliminated stickers, cut staffing costs associated with their distribution and inspection, and has cited over 1000 unauthorized users of the three transfer stations. Many violators were nonresidents who had learned that the enforcement was lax in Plymouth. The Secure-A-Lot Automatic Vehicle

Access Control System includes video cameras, computers, and software that enables the computer to watch the video, recognize permitted vehicles, capture car photos and read the license plate numbers into a database.

The Town now sells permits to access the Solid Waste Transfer Stations online, and electronically monitors the license plates of authorized cars using the facilities – so, no sticker is required. The cameras work with moving traffic and a zoom lens to read the license plate numbers of cars entering the town's three transfer stations. The supplied review program automatically flags violators.

"With our "Stickerless" Sticker Program, we stopped paying overtime for several weekends of sticker inspection, and now have full time automated inspection and enforcement with over 700 citations written," said Arthur Douylliez, Facilities Manager, Plymouth DPW, who sends citations to the unauthorized users. No control gates slow up traffic and no trenching for cables and power needed to be cut.

The system eliminates the need for gate attendants, saving 80 man-hours/week, and sticker sales done online reduce labor at Town Hall. More stickers have been sold, and fewer unauthorized vehicles visit the drop-off sites.

Violators who fail to pay their fines receive a court summons. If they don't show up, the Registry of Motor Vehicles is notified, and they cannot renew their registration until they have settled up.

Next on Arthur's wish list is a searchable database of all vehicles that access the facilities, to monitor frequency of use and identify repeat violators.

For more information about the Secure-A-Lot system, contact Bruce Schulman, 800-585-2577.

www.secure-a-lot.com

Town collaborates with Sustainable Scituate

Sustainable Scituate is a group of concerned Scituate residents who are working with state and local agencies to create a sustainable environment. When they realized how many residents, including themselves, use plastic bottles for water, sports drinks and soda in public spaces, and have seen the trash barrels overflowing with plastic, the group collected donations to purchase recycle bins for the beaches, athletic fields and playgrounds in Scituate.

They met with Al Bangert, the Scituate DPW Director, who agreed to have DPW staff collect the recyclables and bring them to the recycle center at the Town's Transfer Station.

In May, Lisa Thomas presented the town with a check for \$3,000. The bins were purchased from MassCor. Each bin costs \$200 and the Town offered to split the cost. Donors will be acknowledged with a "Donated by" decal on the bin, along with the Town of Scituate.

REGION-STATE

Cut out the Hg middleman-YOU!

Complete Recycling Services will pick up mercury bearing waste (including fluorescent tubes) at municipalities that contract with SEMASS for disposal, and send the bill directly to SEMASS. CRS was the only company that met SEMASS' reporting requirements to enable them to do this. 866-277-9797, jpimental@crsrecycle.com.

CRS is also a State Contract vendor for electronics recycling.

Use funds by Nov. or lose 'em

For the past several years, municipalities received matching funds through the Mass. Technology Collaborative (MTC) when their residents participated in the **Clean Energy Choice** program. As of Sept. 2008, SSRC towns had a total of **\$89,147** available for renewable energy equipment and educational materials. **Cohasset, Duxbury, Scituate and Weymouth** had accounts with 5 figures www.masstech.org/CleanEnergyOrg

As a result of the 2008 Green Communities Act (GCA), MassDOER's Green Communities Division will now administer green energy programs. Therefore, the MTC will be discontinuing the award of new grant match funds on June 30. **Municipalities will have until November 30, 2009, to access the balance of all Clean Energy Choice funds that it has accrued through the June 30 program end date.** The Trust will post total municipal account balances by August 1, 2009. Municipalities can access funds for local clean energy initiatives by submitting a Final Matching Grant Application after August 1 and before November 30. The Trust will mail hard copies of the Matching Grant Application to the Mayor or Select board of each community in August 2009.

WTE RECs = Recycling \$ for munis

The GCA (see previous) also established a fund for municipal recycling programs. Half of the Tier 2 Renewable Energy Credits that energy from waste facilities could qualify for under the new statute, is to be set aside for municipal recycling programs. MassDEP and MassDOER promulgated regs at an astonishing pace in May and June detailing how the funds would be earned and disbursed through the **Sustainable Material Recovery Program**.

It is estimated that this fund would accrue **\$4.2-8.5M/year**, starting in early 2010. All Mass. towns are eligible, but will have to meet criteria to qualify. The grant process will be competitive.

Energy from Waste facilities will also have to meet criteria to qualify, including enhanced waste ban enforcement.

The program is on the agenda for DEP's **June 25 SWAC meeting** at 1:30, 1 Winter St. Boston.

Munis, orgs rally to update Bottle Bill

Kingston, Hanson and Hull have joined a long list of supporters calling for the State legislature to add noncarbonated drink containers to the State's deposit system. Governor Patrick included it in his FY10 Budget Proposal, and MassRecycle, Mass. Sierra Club, MassPIRG, Environmental League of Mass., MassDEP and the Boys Scouts are all advocating for this and other long overdue changes to the State's 27 year old Bottle redemption law.

Last month, MassRecycle and the SSRC asked municipal Chief Elected Officials to sign a **resolution in support of updating the Bottle Bill (UBB)**, specifically H3515, although there are other good bills proposed as well. Many towns have signed on, hoping to get those who profit from their sale to take responsibility for the tons of lightweight material that winds up on their roadsides, and in their trash and recycling, all which now carry a cost. It is estimated that deposit containers are recovered at three times the rate, or 757%, than their non-deposit counterparts.

The goal is to have municipalities let their legislators know that this is a waste stream they would rather not manage in time for the hearing by the Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy Committee sometime in the fall. The executive director will be advocating for the UBB on behalf of the SSRC's member towns.

For more information, go to www.massrecycle.org/bottlebill/index.html.

Ewaste Bill hearing draws a crowd

The Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture Committee held a hearing in May on bills that would require electronics producers to take financial responsibility for proper disposal of their products. Seventeen states already have E-waste Producer Responsibility laws in place, and the recent switch to digital TV makes it more urgent, as the flood of obsolete cathode-ray tube TVs is expected to grow.

Last session the bill was reported favorably from the Environment Committee, but was stalled at the last minute in Ways and Means when an industry representative cast some doubt on it. It was too close to the end of the session for them to investigate the validity of the concern, so now it's back to square one.

The SSRC submitted written testimony in favor of lifting responsibility for managing this difficult and hazardous waste stream from municipalities to producers. According to a report from an associate who attended the hearing, thirteen people testified, twelve in favor and one opposed. Proponents included Rep. Frank Smizik, who sponsored one of the bills, Senator Eldridge, Jim Colman and Greg Cooper, both from MassDEP.

Mass Recycles Paper is riding the Red Line

Thanks to a grant from an ever-shrinking pot at MassDEP, the Mass Recycles Paper campaign has ads up in all the red Line trains from June through August, reminding residents to "Curb Your Paper". A press release is about to be posted, which will include an update on market conditions.

Paper values are inching up, and cardboard is rebounding healthily. It is more cost effective to recycle rather than dispose of paper products, and helps the mass. economy.

To learn more about the campaign, go to www.massrecyclespaper.org.



Philadelphia to install 500 BigBelly trash compactors

In April, the City of Philadelphia Streets Department announced the installation of 500 BigBelly solar-powered compactors for trash & recycling in Center City.

"Yesterday we unveiled Greenworks Philadelphia, a comprehensive sustainability framework that sets us on the path to becoming America's number one green city," said Mayor Nutter. "Today we are proud to announce the largest deployment of solar powered litter baskets anywhere in America. This technology will save taxpayers money, introduce sidewalk recycling and keep our streets clean."

The city estimates that it can save more than **\$800,000** in the first year by replacing 700 traditional litter baskets with the 500 solar-powered compactors in Center City. The savings will add up to more than \$12 million over the useful life of the compactors.



As one of several measures to support the City's vision for efficient and innovative services, solar-powered compactors will reduce overflow, decrease the number of collection trips and cut related fuel use and greenhouse gas emissions by 80%. The BigBelly has the capacity to hold 200 gallons of trash (normal city trash cans hold 55 gallons).

Recycling bins will be connected to 210 of the solar-powered litter compactors, making recycling kiosks in which pedestrians can place their recyclables in as they walk by.

Installation will start in May and will be completed by July 2009

Free Disaster Recovery Guide Available

Severe storms and other natural disasters generate large amounts of solid waste debris. Impacted communities, residents, and business owners face difficult clean-up and recovery decisions. The Northeast Recycling Council, Inc. (NERC) developed a resource guide to assist town officials, residents, and small business owners in recovery efforts. It provides specific information for recovery after flooding, storm, and fire disasters, including water damage and mold removal. "[After the Disaster: A Guide for Residents and Small Businesses About Managing Debris Waste](http://www.nerc.org/documents/debris_management_guide.pdf)" is available as a free download from NERC's Website—http://www.nerc.org/documents/debris_management_guide.pdf.

The resource guide provides information on "pre-disaster" preparedness, restoration, recycling, and proper disposal. Information is presented in an easy-to-use format, providing a general overview of clean-up and recovery, as well as specific information on restoration and recycling or disposal of building components and personal belongings.

The guide was developed under a contract from EPA. For more information or to receive a customizable copy of the guide, contact Athena Lee Bradley at athena@nerc.org.

Plastic Export Market Watch

Resource Recycling 6/5/2009

The volume of plastic scrap exported in March, at 417 million lbs, increased from the February tally by a healthy 34.8%. And, when compared to March 2008's position, the volume of exports rose by an even higher 35.7%.

Through March, at 976 million lbs, the volume of recovered plastics exported increased 14.8% over its 2008 figure. However, at 16.7¢/lb, the average price through March was down 32.3% from 2008's year-to-date standing.

As for other exported materials, recovered paper exports through March 2009 experienced a 14% year-over-year (YOY) decrease, to 4.49 million metric tons. At \$126 per metric ton, the weighted average price of exported recovered paper was also down 21.2% from 2008's figure.

In regards to ferrous scrap, the 4.99 million metric tons exported through March 2009 resulted in a 12.4% YOY increase from 2008's standing. However, at \$320 per metric ton, the weighted average price of exported ferrous scrap decreased 25.6%.

Lastly, for aluminum scrap exports, the 666 million pounds exported through March 2009 equated to 40.4% YOY decline when compared to 2008's tally.

Additionally, at 52¢/lb, the average price of exported aluminum scrap experienced a 31.2% decrease when compared to 2008's year-to-date standing.

To learn more about the proposal click here www.mass.gov/bb/h1/fy10h1/exec10/hbudbrief27.htm.

EVENTS

- * **MassRecycle Green Office Workshop** Tues., June 23, 8-2:30, UMass Boston Campus Center www.massrecycle.org/greenoffice/
- ** **SEMASS MSP5 Stakeholder meetings**, Wed, June 24, 9-11, Mass. Audubon Visual Arts Center, Estate House, 963 Washington St., Canton; Mon., June 29, 9-11, MassDEP Southeast Regional Office, 20 Riverside Rd., Lakeville
- * **MassDEP Solid waste Advisory Committee**, Thurs, June 25, 1:30-3:30, 1 Winter St., second floor, Boston
- ** **SWANA Mass. Chapter Technical Session and Banquet**, Thurs., July 23, 9:30-1:30, Ballymeade Country Club, Falmouth. Stephen Parker Memorial Scholarship Golf Tournament follows. Contact morgan.harriman@state.ma.us, 617-654-6580

Stop treating us like garbage.





**SOUTH SHORE RECYCLING
COOPERATIVE**

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Westwood. MA 02090