

Talkin' Trash in October 2008

A Community Newsletter from the Waste Disposal Commission

Welcome to the Fall issue of Talkin' Trash. There's been a lot of great things happening since the last newsletter. Where to start? How about with a great big THANK YOU FRANCESTOWN RESIDENTS!!!! In this newsletter you will read how we are saving tax dollars, adding money to the general fund and reducing our environmental impact. It is important that we recognize it takes us all, as a community, to make it work for us. And it is working, like a well oiled Super C Farmall or John Deere tractor!

☺ See You at 'The Station' ☺

The Numbers are in.....

.....for the first full year of data collection and Frankestown residents are doing GREAT! Our recycling goal in the three year plan was 40%. We have well exceeded that number. We are at 45% recycling. Exactly what does that mean you ask? It means the Frankestown Transfer Station handled 779.76 tons of waste materials. Of that we recycled 350.29 tons of materials.....or 45% of the material that went through the Station was recycled out of the waste stream. This is happening because we care and we want to do the right thing for all the right reasons for all of us, now and in the future. This helps in many ways. First and foremost we are saving tax dollars, both in the number of hauls (fewer hauls) and the total tonnage charges (less tonnage). We are also gaining in revenues on paper and co-mingled items. We have earned approximately \$12,500 by proper recycling habits of paper, plastic, aluminum cans and metals. The second most important effect we have is on our carbon foot print. Our positive effect on waste reduction will help protect our lands for our children and grandchildren and help them to develop a reverence for our environment. It is a win, win situation for our town. In August I attended a Selectmen's meeting and reported these numbers to them. They congratulated me on a nice job. I feel it is a combination of all of us, the residents, the attendants and the WDC members who are making a difference. We have every reason to be proud of ourselves as a community, as a family and as individuals. Keep up the GREAT WORK!

~Important News Flash~

The Frankestown Transfer Station is now accepting ALL PLASTICS 1 thru 7. Bonnie Bethune of the Northeast Resource Recovery Association has announced that they have found a vendor to purchase all plastics, not just the 1 and 2's. Going forward all kitchen plastics can go into the co-mingle bin. All those deli and bakery containers can now be recycled. Any food plastics rinsed clean. Beginning in March 2008 a new vendor was procured and we began receiving \$20 per ton of co-mingled recycled materials. In 6 months we have received \$____ for our plastics & tin recycling efforts. With the inclusion of the 3thru 7 rated plastics a number of positive things happen. We can earn more money. Less material is going into the compactor which means less tonnage to pay for. It will lengthen the time between hauls creating less haul charges. Finally, less material is going into the landfills. Share this news with your family, neighbors and friends who utilize the Frankestown Transfer Station. Recycling plastics 1 thru 7 is a win, win situation for our town.

EDUCATION is KEY for a Successful Recycling Program

By Sandi Ellis Source: NHDES

Great News About Batteries.....Get the Word Out

Americans purchase nearly 3 billion dry-cell batteries every year to power radios, toys, cellular phones, watches, laptop computers, and portable power tools.

Batteries currently contain one or more of the following eight metals: cadmium, lead, zinc, manganese, nickel, silver, mercury and lithium. When disposed of in an unlined landfill, a battery can leach its toxic constituents and contaminate groundwater, resulting in possible exposure to humans. Mercury and cadmium pose a special threat in incinerators because they are volatilized by the incinerator process. Once volatilized, they can be released into the environment as breathable emissions or as leachable elements in ash.

Disposal/Recycling Options

- * Alkaline batteries sold after May 13, 1996 have no mercury added and may be placed in the regular trash. These may be identified by seeing a green stripe, green tree, "Hg free" label, or an expiration date later than 1998. Older batteries may contain mercury, and you should take them to the collection location at the Transfer Station or save them for the municipal household hazardous waste collection.
- * Zinc carbon and zinc chloride batteries are non-hazardous and can be placed in the trash.
- * Lithium batteries are considered a hazardous waste and are potentially reactive if not completely discharged. You can bring these batteries to the collection center at the Transfer Station or save them for the municipal hazardous waste collection.
- * Button cell batteries may contain mercury or other hazardous substances, such as silver. They can be brought to the collection location at the Transfer Station or the municipal hazardous waste collection.

Common types of recyclable batteries are Nickel-Cadmium (Ni-Cd), Nickel Metal Hydride (Ni-MH), Lithium Ion (Li-Ion), and Small Sealed Lead-Acid (Pb) that are less than 2 lbs in weight. Reclaimed materials are used to make new products. For example, cadmium is used in the production of new batteries while nickel and iron are used to make stainless steel products.

If you have any questions on which battery is which and where do they go just ask your transfer station attendant. They will be happy to help.

We are now online at the new town web site, Go to <http://francestown-nh.gov>

Construction & Demolition Debris.....What is it? Who pays for it?

Definition of Construction and Demolition Debris: anything that is used to construct a building. This would include wallboard, insulation, wood, siding, windows, doors, concrete, ceiling tiles, rugs, flooring, tile, linoleum, trim, shingles, asphalt paper, decking, etc.

Definition of Bulky Waste: Furniture, mattresses, box springs, pressure treated wood, painted wood, etc.

All of the different types of waste mentioned above go into our C/D container at the Transfer Station. It is then hauled out by Shaw, Inc. He takes it to a facility in Massachusetts that then recycles the items in the container. This leaves a very small percentage of actual un-recyclable waste.

Unfortunately, the construction demolition container is a big expense to the town and its residents. The C/D container is a **USER FEE** service. It is only fair for the residents that make use of the container, pay for it. The difference between the C/D container and the compactor is this: Everyone has trash to go into the compactor. Not everyone is remodeling their kitchen or redoing the roof or tearing down that old painted fence or replacing carpet, etc. Another way to look at is: those that use the toll road, pay.....those that don't use the toll road, don't pay.

In the absence of a scale to weigh the debris on, we estimate. We estimate on the side of caution to the resident. For the first seven months of the year we had 5 hauls of the C/D container. Each haul costs \$150 for a total of \$750 (just to have the container taken to the recycling facility). We took in a total of 34.38 tons of construction/demolition debris and bulky waste. We are charged \$90 per ton for a total of \$3092.20. We have to pay a monthly rental fee of \$50 for a total of \$350. When we add the 3 together the total spent on CD and Bulky waste is \$4194.20. Thru fees charged to the users of this service we took in \$3045. This leaves a difference of \$1149.20, which the town pays thru taxes raised.

Due to State of NH RSA's we have to raise the money in our budget to pay the vendors. The money taken in for the CD & Bulky waste is placed in the general fund which is used to off set the tax rate and pay for other various town needs as voted on at Town Meeting. Please see the Fee Schedule posted on the attendants shed or go on line to the town's new web site (<http://francestown-nh.gov>) to view the Fee Schedule.

Open House in June a Big Success...Thanks to All

We would like to say **Thank you** to everyone who helped make our Open House a success. As the lead organizer, Sara Cox really brought it together. Nice Job Sara! She invited all of our vendors but only one was available to come that day, Bonnie Bethune of the Northeast Resource Recovery Association. Bonnie brought some samples of crushed glass, used for aggregate, along with other information. She also came with the good news of we can now accept plastics #1 - #7. Cathy Gombas, who heads the FES Recycling Club organized a Recycled Art Exhibit with the children in the club. They used all recycled items to make their creations. All of the children where presented with a Certificate of Participation. Tabitha Momonee assisted with the children's exhibit. Baked goods were provided by Sandi Ellis, Cathy Gombas, June Mills, Sara Cox, Connie Varnum, Helene Harbage and Becky Moul. We were blessed with a nice hot day. Terry Tranchemontange provided us with some much appreciated shade.....an easy up canopy tent. We would like to say an extra special Thank you to the Francestown Garden Club for sponsoring the Green Recycling Bin campaign. We held a free raffle and gave away a composter and 2 green recycling bins.

Green Recycle Bins for Sale \$6.50 see any Attendant

Mark your calendars for the First Public Hearing on Physical Changes at the Station

The Waste Disposal Commission is presently working on some physical changes at the Transfer Station. There are several steps we need to take prior to getting these changes done. Public opinion is one of them and it is very important to us. There will be a Public Hearing held at the Town Offices meeting room on December 9th at 7pm. Bring your ideas on how you think we can make our transfer station more efficient.

Talkin' Trash October '08
Waste Disposal Commission
Francestown, NH 03043

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