



SOUTH SHORE RECYCLING COOPERATIVE NEWS

Fall 2006

Serving the Communities of Abington, Cohasset, Duxbury, Hanover, Hingham, Holbrook, Hull, Kingston, Marshfield, Norwell, Plymouth, Rockland, Scituate, Weymouth and Whitman



SSRC to host Statewide Paper Campaign grant

The numbers are in, and it looks like we succeeded in getting South Shore residents to **Recycle More Paper**. That was the slogan of our FY06 DEP grant project (see Summer issue, page 1). All our member towns reported tonnages for the month of June in '05 and in '06. MSW disposal was 2.4%, or 225 tons less in '06, and paper recovery showed a 6.8%, or 95 ton in-crease. Synergy with the placement of 22 Abitibi Paper Retriever containers since November contributed to the outreach campaign's success, account-ting for about a third of the increased paper recovery. The six June shredding events netted an additional 10.5 tons of paper.

Building on the success and experience from our FY06 grant, the SSRC submitted an application to MassDEP last month to fund and support a statewide Paper Recovery Campaign on behalf of **MassRecycle**. DEP pledged up to \$25,000 in matching funds to enhance private sponsorships of up to \$50,000 in value. MassRecycle is gathering both private and municipal support, and the project is picking up steam.

PAYT > doubles paper recovery

How do paper recovery rates for our 3 **PAYT towns** compare to the eleven trash for "free" or flat fee towns?

Cohasset, Holbrook and Scituate, which charge by the bag for trash,



recovered 75% of the estimated paper in the residential waste stream. **The rest** of our towns with municipal service **only recovered 33%**.

Got books? CDs? tapes?... GotBooks pays

At our September board meeting, our managers learned about the wide ranging services of **Got Books?**, a 6 year old company based in North Reading. Founder **Bob Ticehurst** and **Fernando Morales** described how In that time, it has outgrown Ticehurst's parents' basement, now occupying 40,000 SF with 40 employees, including special needs students who help with sorting. After focusing on nonprofits, sports teams, and others seeking fundraising opportunities, they are now tapping the municipal market.

Got Books provides free 8' to 40' containers with slots to schools, libraries, and transfer stations for the collection of undamaged used CDs, DVDs, tapes, records, sports cards and comic books, and **pay up to \$100/ton** or \$35/gaylord if certain criteria are met. They are insured, promise a 1-2 day response time, and provide tonnage data. The company offers the flexibility to customize programs, and will do one day events, They also have 4 trucks that pick up from 60-90 homes/day at no charge. Abington, Kingston, Needham, and Wellesley are just a few towns that are working with them.

GotBooks is aggressively making itself known, advertising by direct mail, in 90 local and regional newspapers and on the web, including Earth911. A portion of materials are sold online, and most at their weekly charity book sales (from which they split the profits with the nonprofit groups they serve). 20-25 boxes/ week go overseas to our troops. They recycle 1 trailer/day of unusable stuff through Office Paper Recovery, 230 tons in July.

GotBooks? can be reached at **978-664-6555** or on the web at www.GotBooks.com.

Recall SDS– offer shredding at HHP collections

Sales Executive **Neil Kirdahy** told the Board about **Recall Secure Destruction Services'** arrival in our area at the October meeting. Kirdahy had helped to efficiently coordinate Recall's pro bono services at our six paper shredding events last June, to show that shredded and many other types of paper can be recycled safely.

With 270 locations in the US, Recall services accounts from Fortune 500 companies to municipal police and fire departments. They take the legal requirements of document destruction very seriously; the fine for losing personal data is \$1,000 /record. Last year Recall took over a large warehouse in Milford, where shredded paper is baled for recycling into tissue. Recall is paid for the material.

Recall offers both off site and on-site (mobile) shredding. Clients can put sensitive documents in locked 64 gallon bins. Recall picks them up, shreds at the warehouse, and provides a Certificate of Destruction. Our events featured their mobile shredder, equipped with a video camera that shows the paper being shredded. It can process up to 2 tons/hour, with a capacity of 4.5 tons. He offered the service at cost (for promotional consideration) for one day municipal events, such as HHP and tire collections. Residents would likely be willing to pay a nominal fee, and can bring materials in boxes, barrels, or loose. Paper clips, staples and window envelopes are okay.

Contact Neil at **781-864-9572**, or neil.kirdahy@recall.com.

Exec Director presents paper project at Conference

SWANA Mass. Chapter put on another good Solid Waste Conference on Oct. 16-17, this time in idyllic Sturbridge. Nobody got caught falling asleep at the mid-afternoon Power Point Presentation on the SSRC's pilot paper project (see page 1). With DEP SERO's **Edith DeMello** moderating, Claire Sullivan, SSRC's Executive Director, followed Newton Recycling Coordinator **Elaine Gentile**, whose local campaign to Recycle More Paper inspired the South Shore project.

Sullivan, who is also President of Mass-Recycle, used the opportunity to announce the **Statewide campaign** being planned as a result of the pilot's success to the forty folks in attendance. The presentation piqued the interest of EPA Region 1 Project Engineer **Christine Beling**, who recognized the momentum building behind this effort.

For a copy of the 17 slide presentation, contact the Executive Director.

Nolan flying south for the winter, and beyond

MassDEP's Municipal Assistance Coordinator **Rosemary Nolan** is bucking the trend and moving to Mexico this winter. Quincy's former Assistant DPW Director has served metro Boston and the South Shore well over the past 2-plus years, and plans to run a catering business from her hammock in Cancun.



Best wishes to Rosemary! We will miss you.

RMG Enterprise recycles electronics

Adam Sheehan introduced **RMG Enterprise** to the SSRC Board at our August meeting. The Londonderry, NH based company is an electronics recycler that is now offering its services to municipalities. With the addition of a new warehouse in Norwood, their service area now includes the south shore. If requested, RMG will provide a Pod for the storage of TVs and electronics. Sheehan offered a free initial container drop to SSRC member towns. Their rates are:

Container Rental	\$150/month
Transportation	\$100/hr (est. \$75/pickup)
Handling	\$0.15/lb

Contact Adam at **866-9-EWASTE**, or go to www.rmgenderprise.com.

SEMASS offers mercury workshops

Covanta of SEMASS will be sponsoring two mercury handling training sessions as part of the Material Separation Plan (MSP). One session will be held on **Tues, Oct. 31st** at the Quincy Parks & Recreation Dept., 1 Merrymount Pkwy, the other on **Tues., Nov. 7th** at SEMASS, 141 Cranberry Hwy, Rochester. Both run from 8:30 am-noon, and include continental breakfast and lunch. A tour of the SEMASS Resource Recovery Facility will follow the 11/7 workshop.

HAZMATEAM, Inc. of Hudson, NH will conduct the (identical) trainings. If you plan to attend, contact Lynne Kuczewski at 508-291-4413, or LKuczewski@CovantaEnergy.com.

MSP4 unveiled for comments

Covanta of SEMASS released its fourth **Material Separation Plan (MSP4)**, covering Jan.'07-Dec.'08, for comment last month. The highlights include:

- New campaign theme, Statewide radio ads, brochures, posters, website improvements, video update
- municipal thermostat replacement program, including installation and non-mercury digital thermostats (budget 15 buildings/year, avg 20 units/bldg)
- reclamation of municipal water treatment plant water meters (budget 10 locations/year)
- school cleanouts – removal, some replacement (10 schools/year)
- Universal Waste Sheds (budget 2/year);
- replacement signage, spill kits by request for existing sheds
- mercury handling and awareness training (see above)
- continuation of thermometer exchange program, reimbursement for mercury reclamation
- continued funding for outreach materials such as our HHP flyers, sandwich boards, and print ads (by written request)
- targeting animal hospitals, community health centers, tanning salons, HVAC contractors, marinas (bilge pumps), and other qualified businesses (50% of cost up to \$500/business)
- discontinuation of mercury switch recycling from white goods
- budget for direct municipal services \$364K; total \$730K.

Underlined items are of particular interest to our municipalities. Once this Plan is approved, don't let the opportunity to take advantage of these programs to eliminate the mercury in your buildings pass you by!

New SEMASS MSP Coordinator **Patti O'Hara** met with the SSRC Executive Board and Director to deliver a reimbursement check for our HHP flyers, and discuss our comments before we submitted them to MassDEP.

If you'd like to see the SSRC's comments, please contact the Executive Director at 508-785-8318 or ssrcclaire@comcast.net.

The MSP4 is available at www.mass.gov/dep/recycle/solid/semamp4.doc.

Hanover RTF to go glossy

Electronics recycler **CRT-Recycling** will be the subject of a story in a winter edition of the too-good-to-recycle **National Geographic Magazine**. CRTR, headed by **Peter Kopcych**, has provided efficient service to most of our member towns since the ban on CRTs became the rule in 2000. Asked which of the dozens of facilities from which he collects would be the most photogenic, Kopcych pointed the publication to SSRC member town Hanover's Transfer Station, of which SSRC Vice Chairman **Steve Herrmann** is the foreman, and DPW Director **Victor Diniak** manages. NG will follow some discarded electronics from there to CRTRecycling's Brockton facility, and on to some of the destinations of both intact and dismantled equipment, even to JN Philips leaded glass recycling plant in Brazil and beyond.

After publication, maybe Hanover will be able to charge admission to recycle at a landmark!

Weymouth adds recycling dropoff

Residents who live in apartments, or can't wait till pickup day, can bring their recyclables to the Weymouth DPW any time now.

In September, Waste Management set up 2- 6 CY dumpsters, one for paper, one for cardboard, plus some wheeled carts for bottles and cans, outside the gate at the Winter St. DPW yard. The full containers are emptied once or twice a week.

LOCAL

Marshfield Wins Award

MassRecycle selected the Town of Marshfield from among several nominees to receive this year's **Municipal Recycling Award** at its Annual Event on October 25. (Although she's also the President of MR, the Executive Director was not involved with the award committee's decision.)

Marshfield has taken bold steps in the past two years to improve its municipal waste program, and proves it with 10.0% less trash in June '06 than in June of '05, and a 12.3% more paper recovery in the same time frame.

A cooperative effort has resulted in a steadily increasing recycling rate. DPW Director **Jeb Deloach** has aggressively pursued reining in trash costs and tonnage in many ways, notably by creating a recycling coordinator position, filled by the capable **Deb Sullivan**, which was recently bumped up from half to full time, and by hosting the region's DEP Municipal Assistance Coordinator, **Rosemary Nolan**.

Deloach's initiatives are supported by Marshfield's elected **Board of Public Works**, which also created a **Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC)** to evaluate the town's curbside collection program and transfer station operation in consultation with Nolan. The SWAC's recommendations to increase the minimum charge for resident access from \$25/visit to \$100, and a tip fee increase for private haulers to \$150/ton were implemented in July. The BPW is still considering other proposed changes to limit disposal at the transfer station and at the curb.

Deb has attacked waste from all sides, taking advantage of resources available through Nolan, the **Green Team** and the SSRC. She's a fixture at the schools, where she has coordinated the administration, faculty, custodial staff, students and Waste Management to set up, track and supervise the successful recycling of paper, bottles and cans. She writes weekly articles for the Marshfield Mariner, and is a regular guest on the local radio and cable stations. She also worked with the SSRC on its paper outreach grant, making sure signs and a banner were placed in visible locations, and putting the recycling message on the High School's marquis.

Marshfield leaders and public servants are working together effectively to reduce waste. This award is well deserved recognition for their good work. Congratulations!

No more free C&D in Duxbury

Duxbury DPW Director **Tom Daley** reports that since they began charging for all C&D last summer, tonnage and hauling **costs have dropped 30%**, and they've been making about \$800 a week in revenue. This equates to about **\$100k/year net gain** for the Town.

Previously, permitted residents were allowed to dispose up to 4 barrels a day at no charge, only charging for truckloads.

Weymouth, Marshfield pit school vs. school



Weymouth started it; Marshfield thought it was a great idea and replicated it. Both towns will seize the opportunity to capture last year's phone books when the new ones are delivered next. Working with schools, Waste Management, a local cable station, Rosemary Nolan and the SSRC, they are planning to hold **phone book recycling contests** among the several elementary schools in each town. Marshfield's will happen in November, Weymouth's in January.

The Executive Director designed flyers for each town's students to bring home, with a lesson for their parents too ([click here](#)). The exercise inspired her to propose and design **matching bill stuffers**. She will customize it and arrange printing for any member town that requests it. So far, **Abington, Duxbury, Hingham, Kingston and Plymouth** have taken her up on that offer.

Anyone else?

Marshfield Fair composts too

Composting at an aggie fair? Radical! This year MassDEP's Compost Queen, **Ann McGovern**, got the ball rolling to do on-site composting at the Marshfield Fair. During the 10-day fair, over 700 lbs of fruit and vegetable waste was deposited in 3 New Age Compost Bins donated by the Town of Marshfield. The final product will be used in display gardens at the Fairgrounds next spring. An equivalent amount of produce left over from the Agricultural exhibit area is also being composted with the animal manure, which was always managed on site.

With Ann at the lead and with help from the SSRC, the Fair wrapped up its third successful year of recycling cardboard, bottles and cans. **Chairman Merle Brown, Secretary Bob Griffin, Claire Sullivan, and Board reps Rudy (and Cynda) Childs, Helga Jorgenson, Nancy Kramer, Arthur Lehr and Debbie Sullivan** were among the 22 volunteers who helped keep 60 cubic yards of cardboard and 30,000 bottles and cans from being wasted. Fair Grounds staff collected the recycling daily, and 45 vendors got ribbons for great recycling. **Integrated Paper Recyclers**, Marshfield's recycling contractor, donated the use and hauling of two 30-yard roll-off containers, which filled up three times.

The **Mass. State Lottery** began the **Instant Re-play** program's third year, trading new tickets for 24 tons of losing scratch tickets. To date, Instant Replay has recycled 225 tons of tickets!

The recycling and composting efforts resulted in an 18% drop in trash disposed at the Fair, or about 9 tons.

Scoglio leaving Whitman post

Board rep **Al Scoglio**, who has served as Whitman's Health Inspector since 2003, will leave the part time position in December to make the leap to full time entrepreneurship. Al founded his food safety consulting business, **ALSCO Food Check Group** in 2002 after 3 years with a private firm, and 22 years as a Mass. DPH Food Inspector and Supervisor. He teaches the Food Manager Certification class to Food Establishment owners and managers, and does consulting for the food industry. He also writes HACCP Plans and performs Plan Reviews for food establishments. More information about his services is available at www.alscofoodcheck.com.

The Whitman Board of Health is in the process of filling the position. The vacancy is posted on MHOA website (www.mhoa.com) as a 24 hours per week position.

Al has served Whitman well as a representative to the SSRC. We wish him the best in his new endeavors!

State Surplus, SSRC help Hull Police

This email chain worked. MassDEP's **John Crisley** regularly notifies several public entities, including the SSRC's Executive Director, of the availability of State Surplus Property. If she sees items that might be useful to member towns, she forwards the list to the Board. Hull Board Rep. **Nancy Kramer** passed along this gem, showing that the system worked:

"Hull Board of Selectmen Minutes April 4, 2006

Correspondence: A notification of Public Disclosure was given to the Board dated 3/14/06 from Police Chief Billings of a donation of the cost of moving office furniture from the State Surplus Property Division to the Hull Police Station. Billings had been notified of the surplus furniture from Nancy Kramer and Billings said he checked with the State Ethics Commission."

STATE

Candidate Patrick passes recycling quiz

Since March, the Executive Director polled all six gubernatorial candidates as MassRecycle President on their positions on the role of State government in waste reduction and recovery of recyclables. She provided them with a one-pager, "The State of Waste in Massachusetts", via both mail and email, and met Democrats **Deval Patrick** and **Chris Gabrieli**, Independent **Christy Mihos** and Green Rainbow candidate **Grace Ross** in person.

Since the last newsletter went to press with Mr. Gabrieli's reply, Ms. Ross called with several questions, and Mr. Patrick sent a detailed response, **excerpted** here:

1. "My administration will lead by example, requiring increased recycling levels in the state's purchases and

reducing the amount of waste in the state's own disposal practices.

2. To increase recycling, I will order my DEP to do an updated survey of best practices, and implement and publicize the most cost-effective best practices in partnership with business and environmental organizations. For example, ... "pay as you throw" programs encourage recycling by charging less for waste disposal if you generate less.

3. I will promote composting for institutions, restaurants, office parks, and residences.

4. I support expanding the bottle bill deposit law to include bottled water, juice, and sports drinks. ...small businesses should get a fair increase in the handling fee, which should be evaluated periodically.

5. To address the increasing burden electronic waste puts on municipalities, I will ... support national legislation with consistent requirements for electronics producers, and adopt state procurement policies to encourage "Producer Take Back" strategies.

6. My administration will work with business and academia to develop technologies that more effectively collect and sort recyclable materials and that turn these materials into new products. We would then market both these... linking economic development to better environmental practices.

I also recycle at home. Look at my position on energy and the environment on my web page at devalpatrick.com/issues_environment.cfm.

For the full text, go to massrecycle.org.

MassDPH, DEP to set Sharps disposal policy

A new law passed in September, **AN ACT RELATIVE TO HIV AND HEPATITIS C PREVENTION**, allows residents to purchase needles and syringes without a prescription (www.mass.gov/legis/laws/seslaw06/sl060172.htm). It states:

"The dep't of public health, in consultation with the dep't of environmental protection, shall adopt regulations to ensure the safe, secure and **accessible collection and disposal** of hypodermic needles and lancets, and shall provide recommendations for ... punishments and fines for the ... unlawful disposal of the hypodermic needles and lancets.

"Sharps disposal programs may include, but are not limited to:

- (i) a program for safe, secure home sharp disposal;
- (ii) ... sharps collection centers in medical facilities and pharmacies;
- (iii) ... sharps collection centers in municipal facilities, including, ... fire stations, police stations and public health offices; provided that sharps collection centers may be located at senior centers only for the purpose of disposing of medically necessary hypodermic needles; and
- (iv) medical waste mail-back programs approved by the U.S. Postal Service."

The law does not specify who would be financially responsible, or provide funding for such collections, nor does it specifically prohibit the disposal of sharps in the trash. However, MassDPH was required to design an informational insert that is given to everyone buying sharps, and to instruct residents about their proper disposal. DPH offers the following guidance:

"Proper Use and Disposal of Needles and Syringes" :

"Needles, syringes and sharps containers **may not be thrown in household trash or recycling bins**. These items must be disposed of at a drop off site or through a medical mail back service", followed by a list of do's, don'ts, and resources. (<http://www.mass.gov/dph/>)

Waste Management estimates that 3% of its workers experience accidental needle sticks each year. Mass. DPH is concerned about worker exposure to sharps in the recycling and waste streams, and is considering regulating them as medical waste, banning them from MSW disposal and recycling.

The **Franklin County Solid Waste Mgmt District** has offered sharps collection to its 48K residents for 4 or 5 years now. Since providing mail back containers became too costly, the District now purchases quart and gallon sharps boxes at about \$2 and \$4 respectively, and provides them free to residents. FCSWMD has 10 distribution and collection sites (municipal offices and physicians' offices) and uses the state contract with Stericycle for collection of the full sharps boxes. The program is funded through their budget, and costs are approaching \$5000/year.

Roy Petre of the DPH made a presentation to the MassDEP Solid Waste Advisory Committee Oct. 26th. Several potential sponsors of sharps collection were identified to help fund this potentially huge waste stream, including sharps manufacturers, pharmacies, HIV clinics, VNAs, hospitals, ambulance services, municipal health offices and waste haulers. The Executive Director pointed out that municipal facilities are not the most appropriate collection points, recommending that medical facilities are better suited. In NY, medical facilities are required to accept sharps for proper disposal from the public.

Municipalities that are willing to provide sharps drop off for their residents may use a state contract offered by Mass. OSD for sharps collection boxes, pick-up services, etc (FAC36). The contractors are:

Medical Waste Disposal Company (Natick, MA), Marc Selman
508-651-0892; mselman@mwdconline.com

Stericycle, Inc. (Louisville, KY), Nora Krakowski
847-943-6629; NKrakowski@Stericycle.com

Recycled paper \$= Virgin

At [Staples](#), the virgin and 30% post consumer multiuse paper are now the **same price!** All of our member towns have a buy recycled policy.

The Stickers are coming!



(and check out the new logo)

MassRecycle, which has a new logo (above!), is taking over the distribution of recycling stickers from MassDEP. These brightly colored 18" x 4" labels can be put on totes, set-out bins, dumpsters, etc. They're great for use in schools, single- or multifamily homes, businesses, public spaces, special events, or any-where trash should be sorted. MassDEP is liquidating the supply at no charge, and MassRecycle is only charging a nominal administrative fee of \$7/ pack of 250 for municipalities, \$15 for non-public entities. MassRecycle can break out the packs, at a higher cost.

The first round of ordering will close on Dec. 27. Stickers will be distributed at regional meetings between Nov. 1 and Jan. 8, and won't be available again until Mid-April. (Jess, MassRecycle's Executive Director will be on maternity leave!)

Those who are unable to pick up stickers at a specified event (including some SSRC meetings!) may have them mailed at cost. Go to www.massrecycle.org for ordering information.



How does Newton do it?

The City of Newton runs HHW collections twice a week, from mid-May through mid-October, at a cost of only \$12,000/year. **Elaine Gentile** will do a presentation to explain how Newton is able to pull this off. It starts at 10AM sharp and ends at 11:30, Thurs., Nov. 9, at the Quincy Park Dept., 1 Merrymount Pkwy. There will be time for questions and answers.

Get your America Recycles Day supplies

November 15th is America Recycles Day, a campaign to raise recycling awareness. Those who pledge to increase their recycling efforts and buy more recycled-content products can win prizes, like an Alaskan cruise or a Trek 24-speed bicycle.

MassDEP encourages you, your community, school or organization to **sponsor an America Recycles Day event** between now and Nov. 15, 2006. It's easy - any recycling-related event can become an America Recycles Day event by providing information and pledge cards to attendees or encouraging people to pledge on-line. For free promotional posters and to post your event on the America Recycles Day web site, contact **Regan Clover** at regancllover@state.ma.us.

You can find **pledge cards** to distribute at the website to the right →→

To Publicize your Event on the ARD Web Site, send the following information to Regan (see above): Date, start time, end time, title, address, contact name, telephone, email, web site (if there is one) and a brief description of the event.

EVENTS

- ** "Permanent" HHP collection presentation, Elaine Gentile. Newton accepts HHP 2x/wk May-Oct for \$12K/yr. Thurs., Nov. 9, 10-11:30, Quincy Park Dept., 1 Merrymount Pkwy
- ** SSRC MSW Manager Meeting, Thurs., November 16, 9 am, Rockland Town Hall, Lower Level;
Thursday, December 14, 9 am, location TBA
- * Mercury Outreach Training, Tues, Nov. 7, 8:30 -noon, SEMASS, 141 Cranberry Hwy., W. Wareham (Facility tour follows). Sponsored by SEMASS through the MSP, conducted by HAZMATEAM. RSVP Lynne Kuczewski, 508-291-4413, LKuczewski@CovantaEnergy.com
- ** [America Recycles Day](#), November 15, everywhere; download pledge cards at www.mass.gov/dep/recycle/reduce/ard2006.htm
- ** MassRecycle Municipal Recyclers' Workshop, Mon., Jan 8, 8:30-4, Doyle Conservation Center, Leominster. massrecycle.org/event_pay_reg.html

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