

# **Town of Cape Elizabeth**

**Recycling Workshop  
September 11, 2007**





## Workshop Agenda

- What Cape Elizabeth Recycles
- The Cost of Waste Handling
- Comparison with Other Communities
- Opportunities to Increase Reuse, Reduce Waste and Increase Recycling
- Discussion and Next Steps



## What We Recycle

- Newspaper and Magazines (334 tons)
- Cardboard (340 tons)
- Mixed Paper (24 tons)
- Glass (3 tons)
- Tin Cans (16 tons)
- Plastics (21 tons)
- Universal wastes (9 tons)



## What We Recycle

- Leaves and Yard Wastes (1500 tons)
- Reused Materials- Swap Shop (40 tons)
- Metals (194 tons)
- Demo Debris (283 tons)
- Diverted Demolition Debris and Wood (1590 tons)
- Bottle Shed



## Recycling Summary

- Recyclables through Silver Bullets (795 Tons)
- Bulky Items (3,566 Tons)
- Base Recycling Rate 52.71%
- Returned Bottle/Can Credit 5%
- Compost Credit 10%
- 2006 Adjusted Recycling Rate 67.71%

All Recycling Data from Maine State Planning Office



## Cost of Waste Handling

- ecomaine charges us \$158 per ton for MSW
- Estimated \$578,280 annually
- We pay only transportation costs for recyclables
- Transportation Cost is \$39,420
- Bulky Wastes Removal \$64,850
- Hazardous Materials \$24,000
- Total Costs \$833,043 or about \$92.00 per capita



## Cost of Waste Handling

- Recyclables through the silver bullets saves \$125,610 in disposal fees but costs \$39,420 to transport. Net is \$86,190 plus system revenues
- Diverting leaves and yard wastes saves \$237,000 in disposal fees and materials are handled at no cost to us by the William Jordan Farm.
- Waste oil is disposed of at no cost and we anticipate that effective January 1, clean wood grinding costs of \$19,500 will be significantly reduced.



# Comparisons

Community	Total Annual Residential Waste Tons		
	2005-2006	2006-2007	over/(under)
Cape Elizabeth	3,755	3,621	(134)
Cumberland	2,321	2,124	(197)
Falmouth	2,933	2,721	(212)
Freeport	2,221	2,154	(67)
Gorham	2,311	2,335	24
Gray	2,734	2,695	(39)
Portland	12,177	11,639	(538)
Scarborough	7,491	7,060	(431)
South Portland	7,741	7,838	97
Standish	3,236	3,217	(19)
Windham	2,442	2,431	(11)
Yarmouth	3,296	3,112	(184)
	52,659	50,946	(1,713)





# Comparisons

Community	Total Annual Recycled Tons		
	Year to date		over/(under)
	2005-2006	2006-2007	
Cape Elizabeth	761	708	(53)
Cumberland	1,030	1,029	(1)
Falmouth	1,473	1,362	(111)
Freeport	432	399	(33)
Gorham	1,419	1,392	(27)
Gray	0	0	0
Portland	5,735	5,649	(86)
Scarborough	2,206	2,048	(158)
South Portland	1,995	1,846	(149)
Standish	594	546	(49)
Windham	1,445	1,331	(114)
Yarmouth	671	626	(44)
	17,762	16,936	(826)



# Comparisons

Community	Total Annual Commercial Tons		
	Year to date		over/(under)
	2005-2006	2006-2007	
Cape Elizabeth	18	9	(10)
Cumberland	57	102	45
Falmouth	1,561	1,302	(259)
Freeport	2,609	2,549	(60)
Gorham	2,723	2,335	(388)
Gray	257	280	23
Portland	52,707	52,476	(231)
Scarborough	3,166	3,310	144
South Portland	9,665	9,579	(87)
Standish	188	582	394
Windham	5,607	4,958	(650)
Yarmouth	466	671	205
	79,026	78,151	(874)



# Cost of Waste Handling

Brunswick	800,394		\$ 36.75
Cape Elizabeth	801,933		\$ 89.18
Cumberland	984,498		\$ 130.36
Freeport	444,709		\$ 55.39
Gorham	850,150		\$ 56.13
Scarborough	1,621,533		\$ 86.46
South Portland	1,909,179		\$ 81.20
Windham	971,986		\$ 59.97



## Opportunities and Issues

- Cape Elizabeth handles most of its commercial waste as residential waste
- Cape Elizabeth could have much of its bulky waste go to the Riverside facility in Portland
- Silver bullet containers are sometimes filled
- Universal wastes-long lines
- Public education could involve recycling containers, shredding opportunities, and other ideas
- Is the swap shop effective?



## Opportunities and Issues

- Is the local government including schools in the forefront in their own recycling?
- Does the Town buy “green” materials?
- Pay Per Bag and Other Incentives
- Continuing Public Education



# Further Discussion and Next Steps

