



2013 CONCORD ANNUAL TOWN REPORT

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PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works Commission

Cemetery CommitteeCPW AdministrationEngineering DivisionHighway & GroundsRecycling & WasteWater & Sewer

RECYCLING AND WASTE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Rod Robison, Environmental Services Program Administrator

Curbside Collection, Disposal, and Processing

The municipal curbside collection program provided trash and recycling services to 3,514 households at the program's highest point during 2013. Subscribers to the municipal curbside collection program set out 1,144 tons of mixed paper, 590 tons of commingled containers, and 2,513 tons of trash for collection. The average subscriber on the Town's curbside program recycled 0.49 tons of materials and threw away 0.71 tons of trash.

Year	Number of Subscribers	Subscribers (as of June 30)		Recycling Rate
		Recyclables collected(tons)	Trash collected (tons)	
FY98	2,518	1,264	2,351	35%
FY07	3,184	1,982	2,559	44%
FY08	3,305	2,025	2,467	45%
FY09	3,323	1,864	2,387	44%
FY10	3,407	1,810	2,426	43%
FY11	3,468	1,780	2,483	42%
FY12	3,488	1,794	2,484	42%
FY13	3,514	1,734	2,513	41%

(FY = July 1 through June 30)

Curbside Recycling Rate

Residents using Concord's municipal curbside collection program recycled 41% of the materials they set at the curb. This figure does not include yard waste, which residents manage at home or drop off at the Composting Site on Saturdays, April through November. It also does not include the tons of materials collected for recycling at the semi-annual DropOff & SwapOff days nor does it include information on the more than 1,000 households that contract with

private haulers for the collection of their trash and recyclable materials.

Recycling Savings Exceed \$1.9M

The curbside program received revenue of \$4,981 for paper and avoided \$86,868 in disposal costs by not disposing of paper as trash. Since 1998, when the Town began receiving revenue for recycled paper, recycled paper revenue has totaled \$488,108 and avoided disposal costs have totaled \$1,485,703 for an overall savings of \$1,973,811. The Municipal Collection Program received an average of \$4.35 per ton for recycled paper collected at the curb.

Year	Disposal cost	Paper revenue	Avoided disposal cost
FY98	\$110,564	(\$8,061)	\$38,798
FY07	\$195,783	\$35,302	\$119,898
FY08	\$194,254	\$58,188	\$116,818
FY09	\$194,254	\$25,833	\$93,282
FY10	\$186,786	\$20,220	\$93,247
FY11	\$191,191	\$30,325	\$91,915
FY12	\$191,815	\$32,200	\$92,352
FY13	\$196,067	\$4,981	\$86,868

(FY = July 1 through June 30)

Waste Management Contract

The Town's contract with Waste Management for the curbside program is effective through June 2016. CPW will begin preliminary research and evaluation of procurement options for a new solid waste & recycling contract that will best fit the needs of the curbside program beyond July 2016.

Reuse and Recycling DropOff & SwapOff Events

The Spring DropOff & SwapOff event on May 4 attracted 893 households. The Fall DropOff & SwapOff event on October 19 was also a great success with 851 households participating. Both events went smoothly, thanks to the volunteers that make these events possible.

<i>Year</i>	<i>DropOff SwapOff Participants</i>	
	<i>May</i>	<i>October</i>
1999	521	430
2007	908	840
2008	974	918
2009	889	981
2010	931	989
2011	979	891
2012	890	852
2013	893	851

Unwanted Medication & Sharps Collection

Unwanted medication & Sharps were collected at the May 4 and October 19 DropOff events. Eleven boxes of unwanted medication and ten boxes of SHARPS were collected between the two events.

Hazardous Products Collection

Subscribers to the curbside collection program receive one pass per year at no additional charge to the Minuteman Hazardous Products Regional Facility in Lexington, where they can dispose of hazardous waste. The facility is open one weekend day a month from April – November. Ninety-seven curbside subscribers visited the site in 2013, along with three non-curbside subscribers who paid the vendor directly.

Composting Site Turns Yard Waste into Garden Gold

From April through December, residents made more than 7,000 visits to the Compost Site, dropping off leaves, grass clippings and brush, while 331 residents dropped off paint at the paint shed and 183 residents picked up paint for reuse. At the Compost Site, 1,150 Christmas trees were recycled and 89 bags of Styrofoam were collected for recycling.

Landfill Conservation Restriction Proposal

The Board of Selectmen sponsored an article pertaining to a conservation restriction on the Town's 35.4 acre former landfill site at the urging of Walden Woods Project (Article 12 on the Warrant for the 2013 Town Meeting). Where the former landfill site is utilized by numerous residents as well as Concord Public Works, and many other Town of Concord municipal entities including the Concord School Department, Natural Resources Division, Concord Fire Department, Concord Police Department, and other departments, the article was reviewed by a number of Town boards and committees. Concerns were expressed that the article could potentially impact

current activities at the site and limit future activities. After deliberation, the Public Works Commission voted to recommend no action on the article recognizing there was a large concern for both current and future activities at the site that could restrict activities with no other alternative site identified. Article 12 failed to pass at the 2013 Town Meeting.

51 Laws Brook Road Green Demolition Project

Concord Public Works coordinated the demolition of this single family dwelling at 51 Laws Brook Rd. that had been purchased by the Town in 2012. The total cost of the project, including removal of hazard trees and brush, was \$24,318. Diversion of construction and demolition (C&D) materials from the waste stream was a primary goal for the project. The building was deconstructed using sustainable methods. The C&D materials were hauled to Devens Recycling Center where 92.83 percent of the materials were recycled and diverted from the waste stream. Beyond the tons of materials that were recycled, some of the items in the dwelling, such as doors and vintage ceramic doorknobs, were reused and a number of shrubs were excavated and set aside for the Concord Green Thumbs for replanting elsewhere in Concord.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Visits to the Composting Site</i>			
	<i>Leaves & grass</i>	<i>Brush</i>	<i>Paint Drop-off</i>	<i>Paint Pickup</i>
2003	5,825	334	138	90
2004	5,963	329	204	148
2005	6,078	418	230	118
2006	6,651	615	298	158
2007	7,880	697	296	171
2008	8,093	508	222	138
2009	6,723	667	210	145
2010	6,470	587	252	156
2011	5,106	650	279	156
2012	5,376	667	200	190
2013	6,547	675	341	183

Keeping Mercury out of the Environment

Concord Public Works collected 10,240 linear feet of fluorescent light bulbs and 262 lbs. of nickel cadmium, lithium, and lead acid batteries from residents and municipal facilities for recycling. This is in addition to 45,303 lbs. of computers, TV's, and other electronics that were collected at the two DropOff events. Another 3,443 linear feet of fluorescent bulbs and 4,845 lbs. of computers and electronics were collected from businesses at business recycling events.

Annual Right-To-Know & Hazardous Waste Management Training

Annual Right-To-Know (RTK) & Hazardous Waste Management training was conducted for CPW employees on June 26 and July 10. The RTK training is required by the Mass. Division of Occupational Safety (DOS), and Hazardous Waste Management training is mandated by the EPA and MassDEP.

DEP Sustainable Materials Recovery Program Grant

CPW submitted a grant application and was awarded a “reimbursement” grant in the sum of \$1,250 for the purchase of seven new wire-frame recycling bins, under the DEP’s Sustainable Materials Recovery Grant Program.