

TRANSFER STATION

This year has seen some changes in the personnel at the Transfer Station. Roger and Steve have left with Scott taking Steve's place and Andy taking Roger's place as the Transfer Station / Facilities Manager.

For those who have been to the Transfer Station lately you have been seeing a lot of changes in both the overall cleanliness of the place and also in the operation of it.

One new change has been the combining of the plastics, tin cans and glass container. No, longer does the glass have to be separated from the plastics and tin. Hopefully this will make recycling much easier for the residents. Another change has been the start of a recycling program for Construction & Demolition (Wood); the reason for this program is to help control cost.

“Got Books” has also been implemented at the transfer station. They will accept books, CDs, vinyl records, VHS tapes, DVDs and books. These donations are then resold and the money is donated to charities.

We still have the public clothes drops from New England Clothes recyclers. They have been doing a wonderful job for us and the clothes are picked up every week and taken into Boston.

In 2006 the town residents recycled:

Cardboard	52.88 tons
Paper	47.28 tons
Metal	142.00 tons
Glass/Plastics & Tin	37.93 tons
Construction & Demolition	65.72 Tons
TOTAL	345.81 tons

This represents a considerable savings to the town. Glass, Plastics & tins plus construction & demolition disposal are done at a lower rate than standard household and bulky waste. Metal recycling is also a cost savings since the town is reimbursed for the metal. Cardboard and paper also gives the town revenue.

Recycling is becoming the way of the future and I hope that the town residents recycle more materials in 2007. The Town of Newton is currently recycling at a rate of 16.21% of total waste with the overall state average of 17.76%. Of the 236 Towns that report to the Department of Environmental Services, the Town of Newton came in at 175.

The Transfer Station also accepts grass clippings and leaves for composting. The compost is then available to the town residents at no cost. Concerns have been raised as to whether the ash from the burning of brush is mixed into the compost. The answer is “no” the ash does not get mix in with the leaf/grass compost. There may be some trash mixed in with it but all attempts have been made to remove the trash.

As you can see recycling has become a very big part of the Transfer Station. We are constantly researching new programs that offer recycling possibilities and ways to save the town's taxpayers money.

Respectfully Submitted by
Andrew P. Morse
Transfer Station/Facilities Manager