

## 2012 Washington Transfer Station Annual Report

Recycling markets remain steady but uncertain from month to month. Our struggling economy affects solid waste issues and can be one indicator as to where the economic growth is. Increased tonnage of construction demolition for instance is a hint that building construction may be on the rise. We closely monitor the markets with the help of the Northeast Resource and Recovery Association (NRRA). Washington has been a member of this organization for many years. NRRA has marketed such items as automotive tires, batteries, CFC removal and construction debris. By pooling resources with other member towns, we are able to lower the disposal, recycling fee of these items by negotiating better prices.

Scrap iron continues to be the largest revenue generator for the transfer station. Washington collected 55 tons this year and generated approximately \$9,500.00 dollars in income. Our commingled containers still cost us a small fee per ton to tip at the Keene recycling Center. Mixed fibers has had its ups and downs and 2011 was the first year we were assessed a small fee for disposal. We are currently paying \$15.00 dollars per ton for paper cardboard. We receive revenue for other recycled items like copper, aluminum and lead acid batteries. This year Washington has received approximately \$9,000.00 dollars in recycling revenue. This revenue is set-aside in a trust fund to offset equipment replacement costs like containers. The current balance in this trust fund is \$41,650.00 dollars.

Scale fees are assessed at .06 cents per pound for bulky items and construction and demolition debris that has to be land filled. These fees are deposited into the town general fund and used by the Selectmen to offset taxes for the next year. Washington received approximately 129 tons of land filled debris this year and collected almost \$10,000.00 dollars in scale revenue this year.

The tonnage comparison between 2011 and 2012 indicates a 30 ton decline in household waste and a 40 ton decline in bulky waste. This could indicate less use at the transfer station this year or better recycling efforts by residents. Next year's totals may indicate a trend to better conclude the data.

Washington entered into an agreement with the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission (UVLSRPC) to participate in four regional household hazardous waste collections last summer. The collections were held at permitted satellite locations in Sullivan County. Washington's participation was modest and we believe it is because of the travel involved to other facilities. We are working with the UVLSRPC and the State Department of Environmental Services to investigate the option of smaller satellite collections at individual towns. The collected wastes would then be hauled to a larger regional collection or picked up at the town transfer station by a licensed hauler. Pooling our resources with other small towns would result in lower overall costs for the collections.

Below is a comparison of wastes collected at the Transfer Station for 2011 and 2012:

**Recyclables**

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	
Commingled cans, bottles, plastic	75	67	Tons
Commingled paper, cardboard	56	55	Tons
Scrap steel	57	55	Tons
Construction Demolition	85	90	Tons
Lead acid batteries	1	1.5	Tons
TV/Computers/ Electronics	12	12.5	Tons
Used oil for recycle	1,050	900	Gallons
Used antifreeze for recycle	55	50	Gallons
Air conditioners and refrigerators	67	48	Units
Automotive Tires	9.4	10.63	Tons
Propane Tanks	80	50	Units

**Land filled Waste**

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	
Household compactor waste	429	402	Tons
Land filled Bulky waste	171	129	Tons

I would like to thank all of the townspeople that use the transfer station for their continued recycling efforts.

Respectfully submitted,  
Edward G. Thayer  
Public Works Director