

Durham Integrated Waste Management Advisory Committee

Present: Tracy Wood, chair; Dale Valena; Diana Carroll; Neal Ferris; Doug Bullen, Public Works; Jessie McKone, recorder;

The minutes of the 9-13-04 meeting were approved.

Agenda Topics below correspond to numbered paragraphs that follow:

1. Public Works -- report from Doug Bullen
2. Swap Shop
3. IWMAC goals for 2005
4. Household Hazardous Waste
5. Committee topics for Annual Report
6. Fall Newsletter
7. Schools
8. Other
9. Next Meeting

1. Doug reported that revenue from paper and cardboard recycling has remained consistent over the past few months. The recycling effort is self-sustaining in terms of costs, but we're ahead of the game if the tipping costs that are *avoided* are factored in. The benefit to the environment is an added plus.

Many electronic/ appliance stickers are now being purchased at the Transfer Station instead of at Public Works. This has contributed to a more efficient and less frustrating system.

Churches dropping off computer monitors after the September Church Sales were held accountable for the required electronic/appliance stickers.

Diana appreciated learning about the recycling truck that was down for 2 _ days. This information was posted on the List Serve. The consequence of the truck breakdown was that recyclables were not recycled during this time, but trashed instead. We were fortunate that the truck was not down longer. The new truck is much anticipated and will hopefully be very reliable.

The gates next to the roll-off containers at the Transfer Station are partially installed now.

Fluorescent tube recycling is going well but there are storage challenges. (The current vendor requires 5000 feet of tube be collected before shipment.) The Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRA) is seeking vendors who will accept smaller shipments. Durham is a member of the NRRA.

2. Jessie reported that she will be sending an update to Swap Shop volunteers. It will include winter guidelines. An example is: no items are to be left outside since PW will need places for plowed snow. Doug suggested encouraging residents to not bring big items during the winter if they have reuse value.

3. Possible committee goals for 2005 were offered including increased options for plastic recycling, composting demonstrations, wastewater and water treatment issues and helping establish policy for purchase of recycled paper in the local schools. These would be in addition to established committee initiatives such

as the Swap Shop, two newsletters per year, composter sales, etc. Committee members should bring further ideas to the next meeting.

4. Tracy gave a brief overview of her findings about the Keene, NH Household Hazardous Waste collection program. Through grant funding Keene has been able to offer 24 collections per year. Investigation of needs, and finding out what is happening at UNH will help the committee develop ideas for improving Durham's program. The idea of a multi-town effort was floated and one concern voiced so far was that of keeping the physical collection point in town for the convenience of Durham residents. Further discussion on this topic is planned.

5. Tracy will write a summary for the Durham Annual Report. Anyone wishing to contribute can e-mail her. Photos are appreciated, too.

6. Diana reported that she has heard enthusiastic comments about the latest newsletter put out by the committee. Doug fielded a complaint about "The Buy Nothing Day" article. Neal suggested that we stress the importance of buying locally in a future newsletter. It is understandable that the concept of pre-consumer reduction of waste could raise the hackles of merchants. Highlighting waste reduction efforts on the part of local businesses may help to offset some of the concerns. This will be noted for the Spring Newsletter.

7. Dale reported that there are plans to establish an environmental club at ORHS. She and Jessie will continue to meet and provide a "real world" connection. Possible projects include ink cartridge recycling and promoting the use of recycled paper. The town recently recycled all the corrugated cardboard associated with the new auditorium seats at ORHS. Because of the contacts that we are maintaining, Tim Knowles, facilities director for the school district, only had to make one call to get the job of recycling the cardboard in motion.

8. Diana will e-mail the letter that she has drafted, regarding recycling in Durham Private Ways, to committee members. After committee input she will send it to the Durham Planning Board. Her letter is in response to information the Planning Board requested. She and Merle met with the Planning Board in August and were encouraged by the Planning Board's interest in recycling.

9. The meeting adjourned at 9:10 am. The next meeting has been scheduled for January 10th at 7:30 am at Durham Town Council Chambers.