



RECYCLING NEWS



Long Range Waste Disposal and Recycling Committee of Hingham

Recycling at the Transfer Station

Wondering where something goes?

Taking a minute to ask saves everyone time and reduces costly contamination in our recyclables. Signs in each recycling area spell what goes where.

CARDBOARD: Here are some tips regarding cardboard recycling. Boxes should be broken down before going into the cardboard area. This saves space for you and makes bailing easier for the staff. All styrofoam, packing peanuts and plastic wrap must be removed - they are contaminants and reduce payment the town receives for valuable cardboard. Food soiled pizza boxes cannot be recycled. Food is one of the worst contaminants in the paper recycling process. When cardboard is recycled it is mixed with water and turned into a slurry. Since we all know water and oil don't mix, let's keep the oil out of our recycling. Keep all trash out of the recycling areas - Staff have found diapers, blood, glass, food as well as packing materials mixed with the cardboard- TRASH belongs in the compactors!

The Numbers Are In

Each year at this time we have an opportunity to look at our waste and recyclable totals from the year before and see how we as a town are doing. Highlighted below is a portion of our Town Report Card.

Household waste is constant:

Constant rubbish/trash totals are adequate but we should always be striving for a reduction. Trash costs continue to be high and disposing of trash continues to cost more in comparison to the cost of recycling so Think Before You Throw.

Transfer Station Stickers:

All Red Round Transfer Station Stickers **have expired.** Green stickers will be expiring in 2017. Stickers will expire in the month which corresponds with the last number (not letter) on your license plate. Check your car that you have a current sticker. Stickers and Permits are issued at the Department of Public Works office, 25 Bare Cove Park Dr, during business hours M-F and 8am-noon the second Saturday of each month.

Glass Recycling is up:

While any increase in recycling is the goal this commodity has a caveat. Recycling glass is very expensive for the town because of its weight. How can you help? Bring your returnable glass bottles to a redemption center. You get your deposit back and the town doesn't pay to haul it, in effect you get paid twice. We cannot accept glass returnables in the returnables area at the Transfer Station because it presents a hazard to our youth groups participating in the plastic bottle/can redemption program.

More Recycling Updates

PLASTIC BAGS: Don't bag recyclables.

Bags clog the machinery and contaminate the system.



The Transfer Station accepts plastic grocery bags for recycling. Look for the marked chute on the side of the plastics bay in the baler building.

UNIVERSAL WASTE AREA: Please recycle each of the following items in the labeled containers in the Universal Waste area of the baler building (between plastic bottle/can returnable area and the steps):

- Fluorescent tubes (contain mercury vapor)
- Ballasts (contain mercury)
- CFLs-compact fluorescent light bulbs-the new energy efficient bulbs (contains mercury vapor)
- Other mercury items (thermometers, thermostats, elemental mercury, and any other devices containing mercury).
- Medical sharps (syringes and lancets)
- Batteries: separate rechargeable and non-rechargeable/alkaline

Spring 2017

Tired of long lines to get into the recycling area?

- You should know that the Transfer Station opens at 7am Thursday through Sunday and there are rarely lines all day on Thursdays and Fridays and before 9am on weekends. Coming at a less busy time to do your recycling may work for your family.
- If your recyclables are rinsed and boxes broken down, they can be stored for alternate week trips to do recycling. And then you can use the divided off lane to access the yard waste and trash compactor areas for your weekly trips to drop off these smellier things.
- If you must do your recycling on weekends during busy hours, you can help keep the traffic moving by taking the first available parking spot and walking the few extra steps to the different drop off spots. Again, if your recyclables are flattened and broken down, this will be easier and faster.

Stories From the Swap:



Wondering where you can find a bull skull like this one. Try the Swap shop. "Treasures" come in everyday making someone's dream come true. The SWAP shop is open from 10 am to 2 pm, except when weather or other conditions warrant.

If you have questions about recycling or waste issues, you can reach us at recycling@hingham-ma.gov.
Long Range Waste Disposal and Recycling Committee