

**SOUTH SHORE  
RECYCLING  
COOPERATIVE**  
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## **2011 ANNUAL REPORT**

1/20/2012

The South Shore Recycling Cooperative (SSRC) is a voluntary association of fourteen South Shore towns. It was established by Intermunicipal Agreement and Special Legislation in 1998 to help member towns improve their recycling programs, and reduce the amount, toxicity and cost of disposal.

Members of the SSRC are: **Abington, Cohasset, Duxbury, Hanover, Hanson, Hingham, Kingston, Middleborough, Norwell, Plymouth, Rockland, Scituate, Weymouth, and Whitman.**

Representatives from each member town are appointed by Chief Elected Official(s) (*list attached*).

In 2011, the SSRC raised **\$67,250**: \$63,000 from municipal member dues, a \$2000 donation and \$4,723 in grant funding. Those funds pay for the services of the Executive Director and for waste reduction and recycling activities that benefit our member towns. In addition to technical assistance, these activities **saved /earned Member Towns \$125,000.**

### **MATERIALS MANAGEMENT**

**Regional Disposal contract** – The SSRC is combining the purchasing power of its member towns with that of **thirteen towns on Cape Cod**. In 2009, the SSRC was invited to join a regional long term disposal contract negotiation, facilitated and **funded by the Cape Cod Commission**. The CCC has retained the services of John Giorgio, Esq., of Kopelman and Paige to assist.

Five disposal companies are being considered to service a fifteen to twenty year contract, to begin in January 2015. With aggregated solid waste of over 100,000 tons/year, this procurement could save our towns **millions of dollars** over the anticipated life of the contract as compared with each town negotiating individually, and to enable the establishment of advanced waste technology in the region.

**Free E-Waste collection events** – The SSRC was chosen to host three free electronic waste collection events in December by Electronics Recyclers International on behalf of its client Samsung. Our organization, connection to the recycling community and service area enabled us to plan and deploy three- one day collections on December 10 in Abington, Hanover and Plymouth.

The events netted **131 tons** of electronic and appliance waste, saving our towns and residents about **\$25,000**, and facilitating the recovery of many valuable resources.

**Household Hazardous Waste Collections** - The SSRC bids a contract on behalf of its member Towns for Household Hazardous waste Collections. The current contract was awarded to PSC Environmental. Member Towns avoided a setup fee and paid significantly less than State Contract rates using both contracts, **saving our towns \$18,000**. They also saved staff time to bid, schedule and publicize collections. The Executive Director assists at most events, and administers the billing.

**1,716 residents** attended **eleven collections** held in 2011. The contract also enabled **96 residents and businesses** to attend other Member Towns' collections using the **reciprocal arrangement**.

**Books** - The SSRC introduced GotBooks, which pays \$80/ton for used books and other media, to SSRC members. In 2011, thirteen SSRC towns repurposed **224 tons** of material, earning **\$18,000**.

**Textiles** - The SSRC introduced Bay State Textiles, which pays \$50/ton for used clothing and textiles, to the managers. In 2011, eight towns utilized this program, diverting over 200 tons of material and rebating **over \$10,000**. Rebates will double in 2012, and efforts to divert more material will intensify.

**Mercury** - Covanta SEMASS extends free mercury recycling benefits to all SSRC members, even those that don't send their MSW to SEMASS. SEMASS offers reimbursement for costs incurred, and also directly pays for mercury bearing waste delivered to Complete Recycling Solutions in Fall River. CRS direct billed SEMASS for **\$7,189** worth of mercury bearing waste recycling in 2011. (Reimbursement data is not available at time of publication).

**Latex Paint collections** – The SSRC was awarded a **grant by MassDEP** to collaborate with The Paint Exchange, LLC, a small local company, to scale up their latex paint collection and recycling operation. TPE collected a thousand gallons of leftover paint from residents and processed it into reColor, a premium interior latex paint sold well below the cost of retail virgin paint. It is estimated that diverting this material from the municipal waste stream saved our towns about **\$2000**, but more importantly is helping to create a sustainable business to divert much more material for years to come.

**Medical sharps management** – A reportable incident in one of our towns, combined with new regulations prohibiting disposal of medical sharps with municipal waste resulted in the SSRC providing assistance to our Health Departments with sharps collection. The **Town of Whitman** thanked the SSRC for saving them **hundreds of dollars** by directing them to the State Contract.

**Ewaste RFP** – The SSRC received six proposals for the processing of electronic waste, a fast growing waste stream. The process confirmed the choice of vendor most of our member towns use.

**Compost and Brush** - The SSRC extended the contracts for **compost screening** and **brush grinding** with Daniels Recycling, Letourneau Wood Products, Inc., and New England Recycling, Inc. Contract use was light in FY11, but picked up this fall.

**Vegetable oil** – Two vendors offered to pay our towns for waste vegetable oil through the SSRC.

## **PUBLIC OUTREACH:**

**Website** - [ssrcoop.info](http://ssrcoop.info) got a major facelift in 2011. The site provides town-specific recycling information, household hazardous product collection information, SSRC meeting minutes and annual reports, press releases, a quarterly newsletter, and links to other sites. It logged 2,599 visits in 2011, 2,001 which were first time visitors.

**Press Contacts** - The SSRC is a resource to the local press on waste reduction, recycling, and the proper disposal of hazardous waste, and is a presence in print, radio and cable media.

[4/11 Talking Trash: Recycling Campaigns gaining speed on the South Shore](#), South Shore Living April

[4/11 Swap your mercury devices for digital thermometers](#) PR to Local and regional news outlets

[3/11 MassRecycle's Paper campaign](#) on CBS Boston. Watch the [video](#), take the [Challenge](#), see the [ad](#) . It started at the SSRC in 2006.

[2/11 "Plymouth County Corner"](#) Plymouth County Treasurer Tom O'Brien and Claire Sullivan discuss the SSRC's formation, what it does for its towns, HHW collections, the Latex Paint Grant, mercury, paper, types of trash and recycling collection and more. Produced by PACTV, 30 minutes

**Resident Contacts** - Member municipalities referred at least 77 residents' questions to the executive Director in 2011 via phone and email to answer questions, about everything from paper recycling to medical sharps disposal.

**Public and Professional Presentations** - The Executive Director spoke at two professional conferences about SSRC activities:

- MassRecycle's University of Resource Management conference, Updating the Bottle Bill
- Solid Waste Association of North America Mass. Chapter conference, Latex Paint Recycling

**Tours** - There's nothing like seeing firsthand how and where our waste materials are processed. In 2011, the SSRC hosted a tour for our solid waste managers and residents at **Strategic Materials** in Franklin, which processes and sells most of the glass recycled in New England.

**Marshfield Fair Recycling** - With assistance from MassDEP, the SSRC supported **recycling at the Marshfield Fair** for the eighth consecutive year. While public education is the priority, six tons of material was also recycled and composted.

The SSRC loans **recycling containers** from a previous grant for use at local events. In 2011, Hanover Youth Athletic Ass'n softball, Sustainable South Shore, Children Without Borders and the Island Creek Oyster Fest in Duxbury borrowed them.

## **ADVICE, ASSISTANCE AND NETWORKING.**

The Executive Director's help is frequently sought by the solid waste managers. She maintains regular contact with them, updates them on current trends, and advises on specific needs each town has.

A sample of the assistance she provided and problems she helped solve in 2011 included:

- Attended committee/board meetings in **Abington, Kingston and Weymouth.**
- Coordinated and assisted with discussions involving four member towns and a recycling service provider. Contracts, reimbursements and reporting problems were straightened out, to the benefit of the towns involved.
- Collected, evaluated and shared **recycling and disposal cost, tonnage, fee and hauler permit data**
- Provided program and contract recommendations upon request to **Abington Board of Health, Duxbury DPW, Hanover High School, Hanson Board of Health, Scituate and Whitman DPWs.**
- Notified all managers of **grant and reimbursement opportunities** and deadlines, training and educational **workshops**, prescription **take-back programs.**
- Provide current index and regional **commodity pricing** for materials of interest to our managers.

**Newsletter** - The SSRC publishes tri-weekly **Updates** filled with information of immediate interest to the South Shore solid waste community. The Updates are sent via email, and are posted online at [ssrcoop.info](http://ssrcoop.info), click on Newsletters.

**Monthly Meetings** - The SSRC provides **networking opportunities** and information sharing at our well-attended monthly meetings. Each meeting features a guest speaker. Solid waste collection,

disposal, recycling service, outreach, pricing and proposed laws and regulations are discussed.

[January - The Paint Exchange, MassDEP- paint grant; Duxbury](#)

[February - AbiBow Paper Retriever; Hanson](#)

[March - Office Recycling Solutions; Whitman](#)

[April - Hanover](#)

[May - AW Martin, Inc.; Middleboro](#)

[June - Excel Recycling](#)

[August - EOMS Recycling](#)

[September -Amenico Oil](#)

[October - AAA/Frade's Disposal](#)

[November - Electronic Recyclers International](#)

December - Cape Cod Biofuels, New England Recycling

## **ADVOCACY**

- The Executive Director attends **policy meetings and conferences** hosted by MassDEP, Solid Waste Association of North America, Council of SEMASS Communities, MassRecycle, and the Northeast Resource Recovery Association. She acts as a liaison between the Board and the State organizations.

In 2011, the SSRC Executive Director testified at two Committee hearings at the State House:

- Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture, 5/4, E-Waste Producer Responsibility bills
- Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy, 7/20, Updated Bottle Bills

The SSRC has been a strong and consistent voice with a growing coalition of organizations to move these cost saving measures forward both at the State House and in the recycling community.

- The SSRC co-hosted a **Legislative Breakfast** with the Plymouth County Highway Association in May.
- The Executive Director attends MassDEP Solid Waste Advisory Committee and Council of SEMASS Community meetings on behalf of SSRC, reporting relevant issues back to the Board.

The SSRC exists to assist its member towns in improving their solid waste disposal and recycling functions. It always welcomes suggestions on how it can better serve its Members.

Respectfully submitted,



Claire Sullivan, Executive Director, South Shore Recycling Cooperative

## South Shore Recycling Cooperative Board of Directors 2011

TOWN	FIRST	LAST	C/O	POSITION
<b>Abington</b>	Susan	Brennan	BOH	Commissioner
	Sharon	White	BOH	Agent
<b>Cohasset</b>	<b>Merle</b>	<b>Brown</b>		SSRC Chairman
	Mary	Snow		Highway Dept. Manager
<b>Duxbury</b>	Peter	Buttkus	DPW	Director
	Ed	Vickers	DPW	Assistant Director
<b>Hanover</b>	Victor	Diniak	DPW	Superintendent
	Steven	Herrmann	DPW	Foreman
<b>Hanson</b>	Deborah	Brownell	Recycling Committee	Appointee
	open			
<b>Hingham</b>	Randy	Sylvester	DPW	Superintendent
	Stephen	Messinger	Transfer Station	Foreman
<b>Kingston</b>	Paul	Basler	Streets, Trees & Parks	Superintendent
	Douglas	Buitenhuys		Appointee
<b>Middleboro</b>	Andy	Bagas	DPW	Director
	open			
<b>Norwell</b>	<b>Joanne</b>	<b>Dirk</b>	Recycling Committee	Chairman; SSRC Treasurer
	Norman	Thoms	Recycling Committee	Appointee
<b>Plymouth</b>	<b>Kerin</b>	<b>McCall</b>	Environmental Mgmt.	Recycling Coordinator; SSRC Secretary
	open			
<b>Rockland</b>	Rudy	Childs		Appointee
	Stephen	Nelson	BOH	Commissioner
	Victoria	Diebel**	BOH	Commissioner
	Janice	McCarthy**	BOH	Agent
<b>Scituate</b>	Albert	Bangert	DPW	Director
	<b>Kevin</b>	<b>Cafferty</b>	DPW	Asst. Director ; SSRC Vice Chairman
<b>Weymouth</b>	Robert	O'Connor	DPW	Director
	Kathleen	McDonald	DPW	Principal Clerk
<b>Whitman</b>	Elonie	Bezanson	DPW	Manager
	Lou	D'Arpino	BOH	Health Inspector

*Italics indicate membership through June*  
\*\* alternate

SSRC 2011 Annual Report benefit calculations

	Got Books tons	Got Books rebate, avoided disp cost	Bay State Textile tons	BST rebate, avoided disp cost	SEMASS Hg reimb., CRS direct pmts	HHW car-eq	HHW avoided setup fee	\$2.50/car -eq savings	free Ewaste events	paint, sharps, batteries avoided cost	IPR re-neg contracts	Total
Abington	17.82	\$2,851		\$0	\$263	48	860	\$120		\$50		\$4,144
Cohasset	0.00	\$0		\$0	\$0	72	860	\$180		\$25		\$1,065
Duxbury	0.00	\$0	93.6	\$13,910	\$1,004	52	430	\$130		\$50		\$15,524
Hanover	18.78	\$2,855	25.1	\$3,063	\$555	266	1720	\$665		\$200		\$9,058
Hanson	12.43	\$1,428	8.6	\$732	\$0	0	0	\$0				\$2,160
Hingham	40.91	\$7,527	23.5	\$3,617	\$1,611	350	860	\$875		\$200		\$14,691
Kingston	15.01	\$1,735		\$0	\$0	105	430	\$263				\$2,427
Middleboro	7.55	\$793		\$0	\$0	87	860	\$218		\$20		\$1,890
Norwell	2.16	\$234		\$0	\$662	25	860	\$63		\$25		\$1,843
Plymouth	49.46	\$5,071	50.2	\$3,642	\$1,802	420	1720	\$1,050		\$50		\$13,335
Rockland	0.00	\$0		\$0	\$0	48	860	\$120				\$980
Scituate	19.51	\$3,024	48.4	\$6,050	\$1,284	182	860	\$455		\$1,500	\$8,955	\$22,128
Weymouth	32.98	\$5,772	5.0	\$728	\$271	369	1720	\$923		\$800		\$10,214
Whitman	7.50	\$1,178		\$0	\$0	13	860	\$33		\$300		\$2,370
Total	224.11	\$32,468	254.5	\$12,723	\$7,189	2037	\$12,900	\$5,093	\$23,521	\$3,220		\$125,087