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REPORT OF SOUTH SHORE RECYCLING COOPERATIVE 2018

1/25/2019

The South Shore Recycling Cooperative (SSRC) is a voluntary association of fifteen 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, Hull, Kingston, Middleborough, Norwell, Plymouth, Rockland, Scituate, Weymouth, and Whitman.** Representatives from each member town are appointed by Chief Elected Official(s) (*list attached*).

2018 was a historically challenging year for our recycling programs. Markets for mixed paper, mixed plastics and glass suffered severe contractions due to China's embargo and the closure of our local glass plant. Metal and cardboard values were impacted. Costs for electronics and hazardous waste increased. Many of our recycling outlets either closed, or raised pricing and quality requirements in response.

The SSRC continues to help its Member Towns navigate this new normal by monitoring and reporting the changes locally and globally, seeking out the most advantageous vendor options and pricing, and aggressively helping with resident education to improve material quality.

All fifteen Members signed new five year Intermunicipal Agreements last spring, a testament to the value their membership in the SSRC provides.

In FY2018, the SSRC raised **\$104,506.74**: \$72,400 from municipal member dues, \$1,250 in sponsorships, \$28,240.35 in grant funding, \$2,511.17 in donations, and \$105.22 in interest. Those funds pay for the services of the Executive Director, the Recycling Education and Compliance Officer, and for waste reduction and recycling activities that benefit our member towns. In addition to technical assistance, these activities **saved /earned Member Towns \$207,483** in 2018.

MATERIALS MANAGEMENT

Household Hazardous Waste Collections - The SSRC bids and administers a contract on behalf of its Member Towns for Household Hazardous Waste Collections. Member Towns also saved staff time to bid, schedule and publicize collections. The Executive Director assisted at all twelve events, and administers the billing.

The contract provided much lower costs than the State Contract through June, so low that the service

provider barely broke even. With fewer vendors and more demand, our new contract provides an additional volume discount that is not in the State Contract, but all other terms are the same.

1,800 residents attended our **twelve collections** in 2018. The **reciprocity policy** also enabled a record **319 residents** attend other Member Towns' collections. This arrangement qualifies member towns for additional **Recycling Dividend Program** points, and earned them an extra **\$22,500** in grant money through that program.

The total cost savings and benefits of the HHW program in 2018 is estimated at **\$50,013**.

General Recyclables – Major disruption in recyclables markets continued through the year. The SSRC is helping our Towns' programs and residents adapt to more stringent quality standards through the services of our grant-funded Recycling Education and Compliance Officer, and guidance by the Executive Director. (see introduction for more)

Other Materials – The SSRC has enabled its Members to save money, find better service and/or earn rebates for:

- Electronic waste
- Smoke detectors
- Textiles
- Brush and compost management.
- Propane tanks
- Mercury bearing waste

PUBLIC OUTREACH:

Recycling Education and Compliance Officer (RECO) – The SSRC hire a dedicated field staffer with a 2-year, \$82,000 grant from MassDEP. She works directly with residents to improve recycling quality and quantity. This reduced staff time, and/or disposal and processing costs for the towns that enlist her services, and provided outreach materials and signage.

In 2018, she worked in thirteen of our Member towns. The project will be completed in mid-2019.

Radio PSAs – With funding from MassDEP and Covanta SEMASS, the SSRC recorded and aired 6 PSAs for 10 weeks on WATD FM. They covered plastic bags and food in recycling, textiles and composting, and proper disposal of mercury containing products. This helped our towns to qualify for MassDEP incentive grant funding.

“Refrigerator door prizes” - The SSRC distributed thousands of 5”x8” handouts, purchased with grants. The graphics clarify what is and is not recyclable, and direct the reader to the SSRC website.

Signage – All our Member towns have received “Do not bag recyclables” signs for transfer stations and other public display, through a MassDEP grant. Display of these signs helps our towns earn incentive grant money. See graphics at end of report.

Website - ssrcoop.info provides both general and town-specific recycling and household hazardous waste collection information, meeting minutes and annual reports, a monthly newsletter, and links to

other sites. It logged 52,177 page views in 2018, 21% more than in 2017. 75% of visitors were new.

Facebook: The SSRC posts waste reduction and recycling tips regularly on its new Facebook page, which has 255 followers.

Press Contacts - The SSRC is a resource to and a presence in print, web and cable media. It was featured in or consulted for several print articles, radio broadcasts and online media, including WGBH. They can be found in the News and media section of the website.

Resident Contacts – The Director fielded over 118 calls and emails from residents and businesses in 2018. She advised how to properly dispose of everything from wooden pallets to a broken Ski Doo.

ADVICE, ASSISTANCE AND NETWORKING.

The Executive Director's help is frequently sought by the solid waste managers. She stays current on local and national solid waste issues, attending conferences, meetings and webinars, visiting local disposal and recycling facilities, and reading professional publications. She attended Selectmen, Board of Health and DPW meetings, and provided advice and help on a **wide range of issues** including: Recycling, disposal and collection contracts, regulatory language, recyclable billing and rebates.

Regional meeting: The Director organized a “summit” meeting with MassDEP and several towns with a common service provider that was challenging their existing contracts.

Glass alternative outlets: When the glass recycler upon which the entire state depended closed, the Director aggressively sought out and identified several alternative outlets and options.

Grant assistance - The SSRC helped **the majority of Member Towns** submit their DEP Data Surveys and/or DEP Grant applications. Maximizing grant funds is a frequent topic at our Board meetings as well.

Membership in SSRC qualified our Member Town's for an additional **\$36,400** Recycling Dividend Program funds, which provided a total of **\$151,700** in grants to fourteen of our Towns.

Newsletter - The SSRC publishes monthly **Updates**, which are emailed to 525 subscribers.

ADVOCACY

The Executive Director worked actively with the Mass. Product Stewardship Council and our Beacon Hill delegation to promote legislation the Board deems beneficial to its solid waste programs. 2018's focus legislation concerned packaging, mattress and paint producer responsibility, and electronics right to repair.

The Director represents the Board on the MassDEP Solid Waste Advisory Committee.

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 L. Galkowski, Executive Director

South Shore Recycling Cooperative Board of Directors 2018

TOWN	FIRST	LAST	C/O	POSITION
Abington	Marty	Golightly	BOH	Health Agent
	<i>Lorraine</i>	<i>Mavrogeorge</i>	<i>BOH</i>	<i>Partial year</i>
Cohasset	Merle	Brown	citizen	SSRC Chairman
	Mary	Snow	DPW	Highway Dept. Admin. Asst
Duxbury	Peter	Buttkus	DPW	Director
	<i>Bruce</i>	<i>O'Neil</i>	<i>DPW</i>	<i>Partial year</i>
Hanover	Victor	Diniak	DPW	Superintendent
	Kenneth	Storey	DPW	Transfer Station Foreman
Hanson	Arlene	Dias	BOH	Commissioner, Treasurer FY18
	<i>Matthew</i>	<i>Tanis</i>	<i>BOH</i>	<i>Partial year</i>
Hingham	Stephen	Messinger	Transfer Station	Foreman
	Randy	Sylvester	DPW	Superintendent
Hull	James	Dow	DPW	Director
	Joyce	Sullivan	BOH	Health Director
Kingston	Paul	Basler	Streets, Trees & Parks	Superintendent, SSRC Vice Chairman
	Jean	Landis-Nauman	Recycling Committee	Chairman
	Eugene	Wyatt	Recycling Committee	Appointee; SSRC Secretary
Middleboro	Donna	Jolin	DPW	Office Manager
	Christopher	Peck	DPW	Director
Norwell	<i>Brian</i>	<i>Flynn</i>	<i>BOH</i>	<i>Retired</i>
	Ben	Margro	BOH	Health Agent
	Vicky	Spillane	Recycling Committee	Appointee
Plymouth	Jonathan	Beder	DPW	Director
	Dr. Nate	Horwitz-Willis	PHD	Public Health Director
	Rachel	Newell	DPW	Administrative Assistant
Rockland	Victoria	Diebel	BOH	Commissioner
	<i>Janice</i>	<i>McCarthy</i>	<i>BOH</i>	<i>Retired</i>
	Stephen	Nelson	BOH	Commissioner
Scituate	Kevin	Cafferty	DPW	Director; SSRC Chairman
	Sean	McCarthy	DPW	Asst. Director
Weymouth	Fred	Happel	DPW	Solid Waste Coordinator
	Kathleen	McDonald	DPW	Principal Clerk
	Robert	O'Connor	DPW	Advisor
Whitman	Bruce	Martin	DPW	Director
	Alexis	Andrews	BOH	Health Inspector

South Shore Recycling Cooperative 2018 Annual Report quantifiable benefits

	HHW residents to home town event	HHW reciprocity use	contract cost savings (see below)	roll off savings using SSRC arranged vendor (see below)	HHW admin, on site staff time (17 hours/coll @\$38/hr)	Recycling Dividend Program HHW awarded point values	Bay State Textile tons (arranged by SSRC)	HHW total value	Helpsy textile tons (arranged by SSRC)	BST, Helpsy rebates, avoided disp	SEMARS Mercury processing avoided disp cost	CRS direct pmts (facilitated by SSRC)	RDP textile awarded point subsidy, (radio ads, data coll, etc)	RECO services (\$25/ hour), outreach materials	Exec. Dir. MSW consults, assistance FY18 (\$38/ hour)	resident calls and emails	Total
Abington	70	23	\$14	\$900	\$217	\$1,200	\$2,331	39.2		\$6,507	\$1,462.42	\$600	\$313	\$551	\$11,764	9	
Cohasset	38	21	\$477	\$655	\$325	\$1,200	\$2,657	39.0		\$7,293	\$410.57	\$600	\$313	\$380	\$11,653	8	
Duxbury	110	39	\$1,280	\$900	\$325	\$2,200	\$4,705	74.2		\$11,575	\$1,055.99	\$1,100	\$704	\$494	\$19,633	7	
Hanover	213	5	\$2,013	\$1,450	\$917		\$4,379	76.3		\$13,581	\$927.28			\$57	\$18,945	11	
Hanson	7	8	\$856	\$900	\$217	\$1,200	\$3,172	19.9		\$3,085	\$35.35	\$600	\$163	\$627	\$7,682	2	
Hingham	181	39	\$1,013	\$550	\$650	\$2,200	\$4,413	23.0	4.1	\$4,500	\$3,430.34	\$1,100	\$388	\$437	\$14,268	6	
Hull	75	19	\$11	\$0	\$650		\$661	7.3		\$730	\$0.00		\$585	\$437	\$2,413	10	
Kingston	39	21	\$430	\$355	\$325	\$1,200	\$2,310	38.8	0.9	\$6,825	\$1,088.10	\$600	\$3,069	\$342	\$14,234	3	
Middleboro	31	20	\$19	\$0	\$650	\$2,200	\$2,869	17.8		\$1,780	\$0.00	\$1,100	\$175	\$57	\$5,981	9	
Norwell	10	28	\$267	\$900	\$217	\$1,200	\$2,583	9.0		\$1,557	\$0.00	\$600	\$3,924	\$57	\$8,721	6	
Plymouth	234	19	\$613	\$1,100	\$1,300	\$1,800	\$4,813	42.8	5.5	\$8,238	\$1,399.37	\$1,800	\$1,663	\$836	\$18,749	19	
Rockland	21	45	\$631	\$550	\$217	\$1,200	\$2,597	17.3		\$3,927	\$1,567.52	\$600	\$3,235	\$418	\$12,345	7	
Scituate	150	13	\$1,375	\$900	\$325	\$2,200	\$4,800	83.0		\$15,272	\$1,092.61	\$1,100	\$1,098	\$190	\$23,553	12	
Weymouth	287	12	\$600	\$0	\$1,300	\$3,500	\$5,400	94.7	0.1	\$18,467	\$763.55	\$3,500		\$38	\$28,168	8	
Whitman	15	7	\$6	\$900	\$217	\$1,200	\$2,322	21.1		\$3,587	\$22.74	\$600	\$2,749	\$95	\$9,376	1	
Total	1481	319	\$9,603	\$10,060	\$7,850	\$22,500	\$50,013	603.4		\$106,923	\$13,255.84	\$13,900	\$18,375	\$5,016	\$207,483	118	