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## REPORT OF SOUTH SHORE RECYCLING COOPERATIVE 2019

1/27/2020

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**, new member **Pembroke, Plymouth, Rockland, Scituate, Weymouth**, and **Whitman**. Representatives from each member town are appointed by Chief Elected Official(s) (*list attached*).

The historic challenges of 2018 for our recycling programs continued through 2019. Demand for mixed paper and cardboard, our largest volume commodities, continued their record slump due to the loss of the huge China market. Values for fibers, as well as metals were deeply impacted. The cost of single stream recycling soared to that of disposal. Uncertainty around household hazardous waste services informed our decision to bid out services for 2020, which will also be more costly.

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.

Despite the cost increases, SSRC welcomed new Member Pembroke in July.

In FY2019, the SSRC raised **\$116,450.74**: \$72,750 from municipal member dues, \$904.80 in sponsorships, \$27,193.24 in grant funding, \$980.00 in donations, and \$116.93 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 \$189.766** in 2019.

### **MATERIALS MANAGEMENT**

**Household Hazardous Waste Collections** - The SSRC bids and administers a contract on behalf of its Member Towns for Household Hazardous Waste Collections. It coordinates multi-town collections for ten of our Member Towns, creating further savings. Member Towns saved staff time to bid, schedule and publicize collections. The Executive Director assisted at eight of the twelve events, and administers the billing. The SSRC hired a Household Hazardous Waste Specialist to share the load of covering events.

The contract, in force through June, was similar to the State Contract with an additional 5% discount for larger volume collections. With fewer vendors and more demand, the terms for our Fall collections were the same as the State contract, FAC82.

**2,046 residents** attended our **twelve collections** in 2019. The **reciprocity policy** also enabled a record **372 residents** attend other Member Towns' collections. This arrangement qualifies member towns for additional **Recycling Dividend Program** points, and earned them an extra **\$23,100** in grant money through that program.

The total cost savings and benefits of the HHW program in 2019 is estimated at **\$49,800**.

**General Recyclables** – Major disruption in recyclables markets continued through the year. The SSRC helped our Towns' programs and residents adapt to more stringent quality standards through the services of our grant-funded Recycling Education and Compliance Officer, multimedia outreach, 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:

- Organic (food) waste
- Textiles
- Tires
- Brush and compost management.
- Propane tanks

## **PUBLIC OUTREACH:**

**20th Anniversary Lecture** - Executive Director Galkowski presented “From Single Use to Zero Waste: What’s new with recycling” at the South Shore Natural Science Center. A standing room only crowd attended. The show was part of the North and South River Watershed Association’s Water Watch Lecture Series.

MassDEP and the House of Representatives recognized the SSRC’s twenty years of service at the event.

**Recycling Education and Compliance Officer (RECO)** – The SSRC hired a dedicated field staffer with a 2-year, \$82,000 grant from MassDEP in 2017. She worked with municipal staff, haulers and directly with residents to improve recycling quality and quantity. This reduced staff time, and/or disposal and processing costs for the thirteen towns that enlisted her services, and provided outreach materials and signage.

In 2019, she completed projects in seven of our Member towns. The Report can be found [here](#). The 4 page Recommendation Summary (2 pages for curbside towns, 2 for dropoff towns) is [here](#).

**Radio PSAs** – With funding from MassDEP and Bay State Textiles, the SSRC re-aired 4 PSAs for 6 weeks on WATD FM. They covered plastic bags and food in recycling, textiles and composting. This helped our towns to qualify for MassDEP incentive grant funding.

**Signage** – All our Member towns have received “Do not bag recyclables”, and many took “No Food

or Liquids in Recycling” signs for transfer stations and other public areas, through a MassDEP grant. Display of these signs helps our towns earn incentive grant money. See graphics at end of report.

**Website** - [ssrcoop.info](http://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 62,000 page views in 2019, 19% more than in 2018. 74% of visitors were new.

**Facebook:** The SSRC posts waste reduction and recycling tips regularly on its Facebook page, which has 344 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 print articles, cable broadcasts and online media. They can be found in the News and media section of the website.

**Resident Contacts** – The Director fielded over 300 calls and emails from residents and businesses in 2019. She advised how to properly dispose of everything from adult VHS tapes to a pop-up camper.

### **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 and disposal contracts, regulatory language, propane tanks, and much more.

**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 625 subscribers, including many residents.

### **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. 2019’s focus legislation concerned packaging, mattress and paint producer responsibility.

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 2019

TOWN	FIRST	LAST	C/O	POSITION
<b>Abington</b>	Marty	Golightly	BOH	Health Agent
	Angela	Dahlstrom	BOH	Recycling Education and Compliance Officer
<b>Cohasset</b>	<b>Merle</b>	<b>Brown</b>	citizen	SSRC Chairman
	Mary	Snow	DPW	Highway Dept. Admin. Asst
<b>Duxbury</b>	Peter	Buttkus	DPW	Director
	Gary	Glasier	DPW	Assistant Director
<b>Hanover</b>	Victor	Diniak	DPW	Superintendent
	Kurt	Kelley	DPW	Assistant Superintendent
<b>Hanson</b>	<b>Arlene</b>	<b>Dias</b>	BOH	Commissioner, SSRC Treasurer
	Gil	Amado	BOH	Health Agent
<b>Hingham</b>	Stephen	Messinger	Transfer Station	Foreman
	Randy	Sylvester	DPW	Superintendent
<b>Hull</b>	Joseph	Stigliani	DPW	Interim Director
	Joyce	Sullivan	BOH	Health Director
<b>Kingston</b>	<b>Paul</b>	<b>Basler</b>	Streets, Trees & Parks	Superintendent, SSRC Vice Chairman
	<b>Jean</b>	<b>Landis-Nauman</b>	Recycling Committee	Chairman, SSRC Secretary
<b>Middleboro</b>	Christopher	Peck	DPW	Director
	Donna	Jolin	DPW	Office Manager
<b>Norwell</b>	Ben	Margro	BOH	Health Agent
	Vicky	Spillane	Recycling Committee	Appointee
<b>Pembroke</b>	Angela	Sestito	Selectmen's Office	Principal Clerk
	open			
<b>Plymouth</b>	<b>Jonathan</b>	<b>Beder</b>	DPW	Director; SSRC At Large
	Rachel	Newell	DPW	Administrative Assistant
<b>Rockland</b>	Delshaune	Flipp	BOH	Health Agent
	Stephen	Nelson	BOH	Commissioner
	Scott	Margolis	BOH	Commissioner
<b>Scituate</b>	Sean	McCarthy	DPW	Asst. Director
	Kevin	Cafferty	DPW	Director
<b>Weymouth</b>	Kathleen	McDonald	DPW	Principal Clerk
	Fred	Happel	DPW	Solid Waste Coordinator
	Robert	O'Connor	DPW	Advisor
<b>Whitman</b>	Alexis	Andrews	BOH	Health Inspector
	Bruce	Martin	DPW	Director

South Shore Recycling Cooperative 2019 Annual Report      quantifiable benefits

	HHW residents to home town event	HHW reciprocity use by residents	multitown setup fee avoidance	contract cost savings- 5% discount	roll off savings using SSRC arranged vendor (see below)	HHW admin, on site staff time @\$50/hr	Recycling Dividend Program HHW awarded point values	Bay State Textile tons (arranged by SSRC)	HHW total value	BST rebates, avoided disp cost	SEMASS Mercury processing subsidy, CRS direct pmts (facilitated by SSRC)	RDP textile awarded point values (radio ads, data coll, etc)	RECO services (\$40/ hour), outreach materials	equipment acquisition/disposal (\$50/ hour)	Exec. Dir. MSW consults, assistance	resident calls and emails	Total
Abington	41	39	\$850		\$290	\$600	\$1,200	\$3,020	38.5	\$6,397	\$325.51	\$600		\$200	\$10,543	14	
Cohasset	36	22			\$545	\$600	\$1,200	\$2,403	38.0	\$7,100	\$146.76	\$600		\$500	\$10,750	11	
Duxbury	44	50			\$290	\$600	\$2,200	\$3,184	58.2	\$9,077	\$910.13	\$1,100		\$350	\$14,621	18	
Hanover	223	8	\$850	\$314	\$1,445	\$1,200		\$4,040	20.4	\$3,637				\$250	\$7,927	12	
Hanson	41	8			\$900	\$600	\$1,200	\$2,749	17.4	\$2,690		\$600		\$250	\$6,289	6	
Hingham	166	41		\$320	\$290	\$600	\$2,200	\$3,617	16.6	\$2,658	\$3,167.33	\$1,100		\$100	\$10,642	14	
Hull	93	28			\$290	\$600	\$600	\$1,611	8.1	\$815	\$0.00			\$100	\$2,526	20	
Kingston*	116	8	\$850	\$381	\$900	\$600	\$1,200	\$4,055	42.1	\$7,198	\$995.79	\$600		\$3,350	\$16,199	9	
Middleboro	30	14			\$290	\$600	\$2,200	\$3,134	22.7	\$2,269		\$1,100	\$900	\$50	\$6,553	9	
Norwell	30	38	\$250		\$900	\$600	\$1,200	\$3,018	11.9	\$2,060		\$600	\$40	\$125	\$5,803	13	
Pembroke	0	23	\$850			\$150		\$1,023	40.4					\$400	\$1,423	11	
Plymouth	275	28		\$278	\$580	\$1,200	\$1,800	\$4,161	76.5	\$12,706	\$9,520.21	\$1,800	\$760	\$400	\$28,587	36	
Rockland	23	42	\$600		\$545	\$600	\$1,200	\$3,010	16.1	\$3,664	\$261.75	\$600		\$1,000	\$8,536	16	
Scituate	144	22	\$850	\$525	\$900	\$600	\$2,200	\$5,241	84.0	\$15,448	\$623.04	\$1,100	\$1,160	\$150	\$22,562	23	
Weymouth	304	8				\$1,200	\$3,500	\$5,012	80.0	\$15,595	\$2,010.99	\$3,500		\$50	\$26,168	21	
Whitman	63	16	\$850		\$900	\$600	\$1,200	\$3,629	20.0	\$3,400		\$600		\$150	\$7,779	9	
<b>Total</b>	1629	395	#####	\$1,818	\$9,065	\$10,950	\$23,100	\$52,907	590.9	\$94,713	\$17,961.51	\$13,900	\$2,860	\$7,425	\$189,766	242	
* benefits include free roll off from Cambridge									<b>HHW detail</b>		State Contract	SSRC Contract	diff				
									>150 disc		0%	5%	5%				
									setup fee multitown		\$850	\$850					
									Trash rolloff		\$900	\$355	\$545				
									Trash & OCC rolloffs		\$900	\$555	\$345				