

MEMORANDUM

To: Executive Board
From: CSWD Staff
Date: September 11, 2019
Re: Program Updates

1. Solid Waste Management Fee (Jon) – Data will be available for the September full board meeting.
2. MRF Overview (Josh) – Data will be available for the September full board meeting.
3. Organics Diversion Facility (Dan) – August food scrap tonnages were 468 tons. This is 62 tons less than the same period last fiscal year and 6% greater than budgeted amounts. We have seen an increase in the number of restaurants and other food scrap generators who are starting to self-haul their own food scraps. The tonnages from smaller residential-focused haulers has seen a steady increase while tonnages from the larger haulers has dropped compared to the previous year. This drop is believed to be from the relocation of supermarket wastes to other out-of-state processors. ● Following a review of early fiscal year transactions at the CSWD Organics Diversion Facility (formerly GMC), we will be modifying how we communicate who is eligible to purchase directly from our facility as we transition to the “wholesale only” sales model. We previously limited direct sales to resellers, landscapers, and similar categories, with the goal being to move small-vehicle transactions to our resellers, simplifying operations and reducing demands on staff and equipment. The new determination for customer eligibility is a 2-cubic-yard minimum purchase limit, which will still enable us to meet the stated goal while more clearly and consistently defining customer eligibility. Staff estimates an additional 100 transactions per year under this new model and will review the effects of this change a year following implementation.
4. Outreach and Communications:

Community/Residential (Lauren): We’ve received many requests to offer our backyard composting workshops offsite—the Jericho Gardeners Club, for example—and to focus on upcoming requirements for Act 148. This composting road-show has proven to be very popular and extends our reach to new audiences, so please send ideas for partnerships in YOUR community to Lauren (llayn@cswd.net or x234).

Events (Robin): Robin worked with the Seven Daysies Awards Party for the first time, helping them simplify the waste and improve the collection system in addition to enlisting Waste Warriors to help

the guests sort properly. Past Seven Daysies parties have struggled with contamination, so it was great to receive this from the event organizer: “The difference was night and day. I've never been so excited by waste in my life.”

Schools (Rhonda): In August, Recycle Rhonda taught kiddos at the Essex Library how to make reuse terrariums from old non-recyclable tennis ball canisters. More than 50 kids and adults showed up to turn trash into a treasure!

5. **Marketing (Alise/Raeann)** – The Local Color campaign ended with a high amount of participation on social media. Two lucky winners won a 5-gallon bucket of Local Color for their home project! ● Recent media coverage included:
 - 7.4.19: The Citizen - [Hinesburg trash, recycling drop-off going out to bid: Project draws some fire over costs and planning](#)
 - 7.10.19: Seven Days - [Burlington, South Burlington Consider Consolidated Approach to Trash Pickup](#)
 - 7.16.19: Burlington Free Press - [Federal judge: Lawsuit against Keurig recycling claims will go forward](#)
6. **Compliance (Josh/Jeanine)** – Jeanine performed 42 load checks and visited 5 construction sites. She’s also been working on content for a document for local planning and zoning officials that summarizes solid waste management considerations in development review and during construction.

An all-staff training was held on July 16th and 17th. Included topics were an introduction to a new stretching program as presented by Injury and Health Management Solutions, a review of heat-stress injuries and prevention techniques, a presentation by Jonathan Goffe of Opportunities Credit Union on credit 101, and a district update from Sarah.
7. **Hinesburg Drop-Off Center (Josh T, Sarah)** –The DRB approved the project with a few conditions (wastewater, fencing). The construction bids are due back on 9/18.
8. **S.113 Working Group (Jen)** – I have been appointed by the legislative Committee on Committees to serve as the representative of an urban solid waste district to the Single-Use Products Working Group. The group is tasked with making recommendations to the legislature to improve the management of single-use products in the State including whether the State should establish extended producer responsibility for these products. The first meeting will convene in September.
9. **Trends/In the News/What We’re Watching** – A mix of news, opinions, and studies that highlight what’s happening in solid waste. The information isn’t necessarily a direction either the District or the state will take; It’s a reflection of the industry and intended to spark thought and conversation.

Aspen, Co phases out single-stream recycling at drop off: <https://tinyurl.com/y3llcdjc>

Sen. Sanders’ \$16.3T climate plan promises major waste and recycling shifts, including a national EPR program: <https://www.wastedive.com/news/bernie-sanders-climate-plan-waste-recycling/562017/>

Will compostable packaging ever be able to solve our waste problem?

<https://www.fastcompany.com/90393297/will-compostable-packaging-ever-be-able-to-solve-our-waste-problem>