



# The Scrap Paper

Newsletter of the Maine Resource Recovery Association

September 2008

For the most up-to-date information check our web site at [mrra.net](http://mrra.net)

## Upcoming Events

### **MRRA Annual Meeting / Tour / Workshop**

**September 29** at the Katahdin Paper Company recycling mill, East Millinocket When you receive this you might still have time to sign up. See our web site [mrra.net](http://mrra.net) for more info or call 942-6772.

### **Maine Municipal Association Annual Convention**

**October 8-9** at the Augusta Civic Center

### **Maine DEP Transfer Station Operators Training Program**

**Managing Recyclables:** Oct. 9 - Augusta, Oct. 14 - Brewer, Oct. 16 - Portland, Oct. 23 - Presque Isle. For more information contact Sandy Moody at 287-7751.

### **MRRA Board of Directors Meetings (All are welcome!)**

**Thursday, October 23**, Noon, MRRA office, Bangor

**November to be determined**

**December to be determined**

### **Maine Recycles Week**

**November 8-15.** This is the 10th annual MRW! What do you have planned?

### **MRRA Winter Workshop**

To be announced. Please stay tuned.

### **Maine DOL - SafetyWorks! Training Schedule Available**

<http://www.safetyworksmaine.com/pdf/classschedule.pdf>

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Printed on post-consumer recycled paper

## RECYCLING MARKETS REPORT

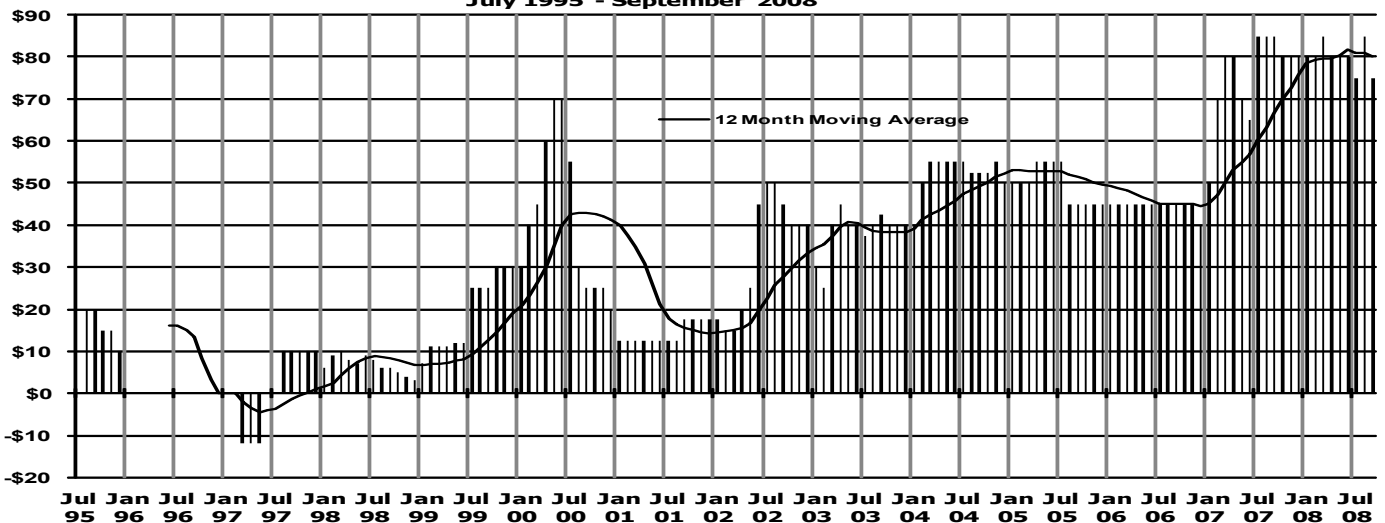
**We leverage our members' tonnage, seeking new markets to get YOU the best prices. How do our prices compare to what you are being offered?**

Market conditions have continued to deteriorate. In spite of this, paper prices have held up surprisingly well. Given the number of mills in the region which have curtailed or ceased operations this is unlikely to continue. The Mixed Paper market, in particular, is very difficult since Haverhill and Bennington have closed. As this is written the economy is extremely fragile at best and possibly nearing collapse at worst. More price decreases are anticipated as markets should continue to weaken. HDPE seems to be the exception with prices rising sharply. The only positive sign is that the recent sharp decline in oil prices may provide some relief for consumers.

**All prices are net to you and subject to changing market conditions.**

	Sep '08	Jun '08	Sep '07
<b>OCC</b>	<b>\$111</b>	\$91-111	\$116
<b>#8 NEWS</b>	<b>\$151</b>	\$121	\$101
<b>Mixed Paper</b>	<b>\$71</b>	\$71-76	\$66-76
<b>SOW</b>	<b>\$236</b>	\$211	\$191
<b>HDPE Natural</b>	<b>\$841</b>	\$696	\$686
<b>HDPE Mixed</b>	<b>\$726</b>	\$516	\$536
<b>HDPE Colored</b>	<b>\$656</b>	\$416	\$471
<b>PET (full load)</b>	<b>\$386</b>	\$396	\$396
<b>Tin Cans</b>	<b>\$156</b>	\$281-291	\$120
<b>Scrap Metal (del.)</b>	<b>\$126</b>	\$161	\$52
<b>Tires (negative)</b>	<b>-\$104</b>	-\$104	-\$104

**Mixed Paper - US \$ per Ton  
July 1995 - September 2008**



## MRRA has recycling bins & curbside carts for sale.

We offer large and small quantity purchasing of recycling curbside bins and wheeled carts.

**Custom artwork available.**

**Give us a call today for pricing  
and color availability @ 942-6772.**



18 gallon bins starting at \$8.00  
(minimum quantity: 100)

Wheeled carts in several popular sizes  
(minimum quantity: 54)

### MRRA also offers these services:

Maine's Recycling & Annual Solid Waste Conference  
Recycling & Solid Waste Technical Assistance  
Consulting – MRRA will send a rep for a free no obligation site visit  
Marketing of recyclable materials  
The Scrap Paper Newsletter  
Workshops & Tours

## Skills Inc.

### E-Waste, Computer Reuse, Computer Donation, Computer Recycling, Electronics Recycling, Asset Recovery

#### Types of Service

Computer Recycling, Computer Reuse, Drop Off Service (Waterville location), Pickup Service (New England)

#### Description

Skills Inc. is now providing computer reuse & recycling services to individuals and businesses throughout Maine. Drop off recycling is an option at our Waterville recycling center, and Pickup Services are offered for businesses (minimum volume applies).

Our unique asset recovery program helps to greatly reduce your e-waste recycling costs by offering a reuse option. These credits are earned for each piece of computer equipment that can be reused and are applied to the recycling costs of your older computer equipment. This method provides an efficient and cost effective way for businesses to offset recycling costs while providing computers for noteworthy social programs such as the PC's for MAINE non-profit computer access & literacy project. Recycling cost savings experienced by participating businesses range from 38 to 85%.

#### Waterville Recycling Center Drop Off Hours:

Monday – Friday, 8am to 4pm      Closed on State and Federal Holidays

#### Computer Pickup Information:

Contact: Chris Martin or Carol Gilpatrick at (207) 877-0522 or e-mail: [recycle@skillsinc.net](mailto:recycle@skillsinc.net)

## News & Notes

### **Back for a Return Engagement With a New Name! Enter the Binny Awards!**

After a successful launch last year, the State Planning Office is again sponsoring the Maine Recycles Video Contest. The "Binnies" are open to students of any age from middle school through college. Visit <http://maine.gov/spo/recycle/schools/videocontest.htm> for more information, contest rules and to get inspired by what others have produced! Entries must be submitted by November 30th.

### **Learn to Compost in Your Backyard - A Sierra Club Green Tip**

Owen Bailey from the Sierra Club offers this brief introduction into the basics of composting just in time for leaf gathering season! <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9PALk7Nux9Y>

### **Welcome to the New Home of the Recycle Guys!**

The North Carolina Division of Pollution Prevention and Environmental Assistance offers some interesting ideas on getting the message out on their new web site: <http://www.p2pays.org/recycleguys/>

### **What to do if a CFL Breaks: EPA Guidelines Dispel the Myths**

There have been several articles recently bemoaning the onerous and expensive cleanup needed if a compact fluorescent light bulb should happen to break. Thankfully the reality is far more benign. The EPA offers their recommendations here: <http://www.epa.gov/mercury/spills/index.htm#fluorescent> and remember, a CFL reduces mercury pollution at the power plant by more than it would release if broken. Also, Home Depot now accepts CFLs for recycling free of charge. For more information visit [http://www6.homedepot.com/ecoptions/stage/pdf/cfl\\_recycle.pdf](http://www6.homedepot.com/ecoptions/stage/pdf/cfl_recycle.pdf)

### **A Shopper's Guide to Home Tissue Products From NRDC**

Forests are cut to make toilet paper, facial tissues, paper towels and other disposable paper products. You can help reduce this destruction by asking manufacturers to use recycled content and clean manufacturing processes and by making smart shopping decisions. The Natural Resources Defense Council offers their Shop smart. Save forests. guide. Download it at <http://www.nrdc.org/land/forests/tissueguide/walletcard.pdf> or go to <http://www.nrdc.org/land/forests/gtissue.asp> for more information. Let's use the trees for energy!

## **Some Companies Pay for Old Equipment!!!**

### **Gazelle.com**

Visitors to gazelle.com are asked to enter their product's specs and answer a few questions about its condition including accessories. Gazelle then gives an instant quote. If you accept, the company sends you a pre-paid envelope or box in which you ship them your item.

Gazelle then inspects it, and if everything checks out, sends you payment or you can donate the money to one of 23 charities. If Gazelle disagrees with your assessment of your item and you don't accept their counter-offer, the company will return it at no cost. They claim 85 percent of items received have been as described, and only 1 percent of the items have been sent back.

Gazelle purchases nine types of items: cell phones, MP3 players, digital cameras, GPS devices, laptops, camcorders, gaming consoles, satellite radios, and portable hard drives. If someone makes an offer on a product not in the database, Gazelle will research it and make an offer.

About 50 percent of the products purchased by Gazelle are re-conditioned and sold on eBay. Others are sold to re-sellers who buy parts or refurbish the equipment. The remaining small amount is recycled.

### **Office Depot**

Office Depot also runs a trade-in / recycling program. If your item has value they will pay for it and, if not, they offer to recycle it for you at nominal cost. For more information visit <https://www.econewonline.com/officedepot/Common/equiptypes.aspx?SiteXfrMsg=0>

## **And Some Don't But Will Take it for Free to Recycle!**

### **Samsung Recycling Direct**

Beginning October 1st Samsung will accept Samsung products for recycling at no charge and for a nominal fee other brands will be accepted. Visit <http://pages.samsung.com/us/recyclingdirect/locations.html> to find a drop-off location near you.

### **Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corporation (RBRC) Adds Nickel Zinc**

The RBRC, in addition to nickel cadmium, nickel metal-hydride, lithium-ion and small sealed lead batteries, is now accepting nickel zinc batteries as part of their Call2Recycle collection program. This brings to five the types of rechargeable batteries accepted. For more information visit [www.rbrc.org](http://www.rbrc.org) or call 678-419-9990.

RBRC represents over 350 manufacturers of rechargeable batteries comprising over 90 percent of the rechargeable battery industry. There are 50,000 collection sites in the U.S. and Canada.

# Make This Your Last Paper Issue of The Scrap Paper!!

We would like to make this your last hard copy of The Scrap Paper.

Beginning with the next issue, we are offering a new way to receive your newsletter: sent to your e-mail inbox as a .PDF file which is readable with the free Adobe Acrobat Reader.

This process will offer several advantages to you & MRRRA including faster delivery, better, full-color pictures & graphics, embedded hyperlinks, easily saveable to your hard drive for future reference and cost savings on printing & postage.

If you would like to stop getting the paper version and start getting the e-mail version, please clearly print your e-mail address below and either fax this page to MRRRA at 207-942-4017 or mail it to MRRRA PO Box 1838 Bangor ME 04402-1838.

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

## Please Don't Forget: MAINE RECYCLES WEEK

Each year Maine celebrates Maine Recycles Week from November 8th-15th. Plan your own unique festivities to encourage increased recycling in your community! For more information visit <http://maine.gov/spo/recycle/mainerecyclesweek/index.htm> or contact Bruce White at the State Planning Office (287-8053 or 800-662-4545 or [Bruce.White@maine.gov](mailto:Bruce.White@maine.gov)).

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