



The Scrap Paper

Newsletter of the Maine Resource Recovery Association

December 2006

Also, please visit our website at mrra.net

Calendar of Upcoming Events

MRRA Winter Workshop

Black Bear Inn, Orono

Monday, January 29th (Snow date: Tuesday Jan. 30th) - See Page 4

14th Annual Maine Recycling & Solid Waste Conference

Sugarloaf/USA, Carrabassett Valley, Maine

Monday & Tuesday, April 30th & May 1st - See Page 6

Inside

Recycling Market Report - Page 2

Compost Bin Sale - Page 3

MRRA Winter Workshop - Page 4

MRRA Annual Awards Nominations - Page 5

News & Notes - Pages 6-7

Now Get The Scrap Paper via Email! - Page 8

RECYCLING MARKETS REPORT

We leverage our members' tonnage and constantly seek out new markets to get YOU the best possible prices. How do our prices compare to what you are being offered elsewhere?

The economy has shown some signs of recovery of late, although reports of Christmas retail sales have not been overly strong and the housing market remains weak. Materials prices have held up fairly well, given the seasonal declines normally seen at this time of year, although they started at seasonally low prices this summer. We hope the economy continues to improve so demand can move prices up from here.

Most material prices are down somewhat recently except News which has been steady and Office Paper grades (SOW & SWL) which have been on the rise.

	December '06	September '06	December '05
OCC	\$ 61	\$ 71	\$ 51-56
#8 NEWS	\$ 76	\$ 76	\$ 71
Mixed Paper	\$ 28-38	\$ 36-41	\$ 31-41
SOW	\$ 131	\$ 126	\$ 96
HDPE Natural	\$ 556	\$ 576	\$ 776
HDPE Mixed	\$ 396	\$ 396	\$ 656-681
HDPE Colored	\$ 276	\$ 381	\$ 616
PET (full load)	\$ 281	\$ 336	\$ 456
Tin Cans	\$ 80	\$ 104	\$ 82
Scrap Metal	\$ 29.50	\$ 29.50	\$ 29.50
Tires (negative)	-\$104	-\$104	-\$104

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

Compost Bin Sale

It is estimated that 25% of an average household's waste is kitchen scraps and yard trimmings. The Maine Resource Recovery Association (MRRA), in cooperation with the Northeast Resource Recovery Association, is pleased to offer 'The Earth Machine™' backyard compost bins at reduced cost to Maine communities and their residents.

Through local sales conducted by municipalities, community groups, or service organizations (one lead group per community), Earth Machine™ backyard compost bins and kitchen pails are provided to homeowners at low "Co-op buying power" prices. Bins sell for \$39.50 tax included (an \$80 value) and kitchen pails sell for \$10.50 each.

Once you register with MRRA to participate, a sample Kitchen Pail and/or Earth Machine™ can be sent to you to assist with sales!



Residents also receive a handy 18 page "how to" guide FREE with each compost bin!

How the Program Works: (This sale is conducted very much like a "Girl Scout Cookie" sale)

1 CONTACT the Maine Resource Recovery Association (MRRA) at 207-942-6772 or email mrra.victor@verizon.net for a Participation Packet.

2 REGISTER with MRRA to participate in the sale.

3 PROMOTE the sale of bins and/or pails (master posters and order forms are provided for easy copying) and accept orders until **March 30, 2007**, keeping track of who orders.

4 RETURN the Final Order Form and checks to MRRA by **April 4, 2007** with all checks made out to Maine Resource Recovery Association. Bin and pail orders MUST be in multiples of 20 i.e., 20, 40, 60, etc. ONLY!

5 ACCEPT delivery of compost bins/pails sometime during the week of **May 7, 2007**.

6 DISTRIBUTE the compost bins/pails to your residents and they start composting!

2007 MRRA Winter Workshop

Monday, January 29th (Snow date: Tuesday, Jan. 30th)

BLACK BEAR INN, ORONO, MAINE

Registration brochures have been mailed separately or may be downloaded from our website at mrra.net.

MRRA workshops are always informative and interesting events. Come and exchange ideas with your peers in the solid waste industry!

8:15 - 9:00 Breakfast Buffet & Registration

9:00 - 10:15 Doing More with Less: How Can You Respond to Budget Pressures?

Every area of local government is constantly under pressure to control costs. First it was LD 1, then TABOR, next will be? Learn about unique & different ways programs have found to work more efficiently. Don Robbins, Town of Sidney; Gerald Howard, Transfer Station Manager, Clinton-Benton Solid Waste; Mark Brown, Selectman, Town of Benton & others.

10:30 - 11:45 Developing & Using a Safety Program & Safety Manual

Everyone wants to work in a safe environment. OSHA & DOL expect every employer to ensure a safe workplace and a workforce well trained in safety precautions. Connie Bondeson, Environmental Planner, Northern Maine Development Commission, has developed a comprehensive safety manual and Mark Draper, Solid Waste Director, Tri-Community Recycling, will discuss their safety program.

11:50 - 12:30 Luncheon Buffet

12:30 - 1:00 Dessert

Recycling Promotion Update

Challenges in the Face of Budget Constraints

1:00 - 2:15 DEP Inspections: How to be Prepared

If you haven't been inspected recently, you probably will be soon. What do you need to know to ensure you will pass with flying colors? Lou Pizutti & Bill Butler of the DEP will provide guidance on what concerns they have when they visit solid waste facilities.

2:20 - 3:00 Open Forum/Focus Group/Work Session on the Promotion Campaign Please stay and provide your thoughts and ideas.

Program subject to change.

MARRA Annual Recognition Awards

**To Be Presented At The Dinner Reception
Monday, April 30, 2007, Sugarloaf/USA, Carrabassett Valley, Maine**

Award Categories

- ❖ **Manager of the Year**
- ❖ **Operator of the Year**
- ❖ **Program of the Year**
- ❖ **Volunteer of the Year**
- ❖ **Most Improved Program**
- ❖ **Composter of the Year**
- ❖ **Outstanding Quality Award**
- ❖ **Business Recycler of the Year**
- ❖ **Distinguished Service Award**

Criteria Guidelines for the Awards:

- Were there unusual problems to solve in the program?
- Was there a creative approach to solving the problem?
- Did the nominee use a cost-effective approach or creative use of limited resources?
- Did the nominee demonstrate leadership in rallying public support?
- Was the nominee addressing difficult to manage waste?
- Include the degree of commitment and the impact on the environment if appropriate?
- Include any information that would help the committee choose your nominee.

Submit nominations to: Awards Committee, Maine Resource Recovery Association,
PO Box 1838, Bangor, ME 04402-1838 or Fax to: 942-4017 to arrive no later than 5:00
PM, Friday, February 23, 2007

Please Include:

Award Category

Nominee & nominee contact information

Name & contact information for the person making the nomination

Briefly describe the Nominee's or Program's accomplishments for consideration.

RECYCLING NEWS

14TH ANNUAL MAINE RECYCLING & SOLID WASTE CONFERENCE

APRIL 30TH & MAY 1ST, SUGARLOAF/USA, CARRABASSETT VALLEY, MAINE

Mark your calendars now & plan on booking your rooms soon. Call Sugarloaf today at 800-843-5623 & make your reservations. A variety of room types are available at rates starting at \$80 per night per room + 7% tax & 4% service charge, guaranteed through March 30th. After March 30th the group rate is on an as available basis. Brochures should be mailed in early March.

WHAT YOU DO DOES MATTER

The November 6th issue of Waste News, contains a resounding endorsement of the importance of the work we in the waste industry do for our world. The op ed piece by Managing Editor, Brennan Lafferty, concludes: "Rest assured you and your job matter. Whether its managing waste oil in Washington state or scrap tires in Texas, you've got a role to play. And your local communities and possibly those thousands of miles away are depending on you to do it well." To read the full article visit www.wastenews.com/inbox2.html?id=1163452946

RECYCLING UP AND TRASH DOWN

Americans are recycling more and throwing away less according to **Municipal Solid Waste in the United States**, a new report by the EPA. EPA Administrator Stephen L. Johnson said the U.S. recycled 32 percent of its MSW in 2005. Including composting, Americans recycled 79 million tons, a 2 percent increase from 2004. Americans generated nearly 246 million tons of MSW in 2005 – a decrease of nearly 2 million tons from 2004. Per capita waste generation dropped from 4.6 to 4.5 pounds per day, a 1.5 percent decrease from 2004. Individuals recycled nearly 1.5 pounds per person per day. An Executive Summary or the full report can be found at epa.gov/msw/msw99.htm They describe the national municipal solid waste stream based on data from 1960 through 2005, the methodology used to characterize MSW in the U.S. and offer the latest facts and figures on MSW generation, recycling, and disposal. MSW recycling rates have increased from 6% in 1960, 10% in 1980 & 16% in 1990 to 29% in 2000 and 32% in 2005.

GENERATION AND RECOVERY OF MATERIALS IN MSW, 2005 (millions of ton)

Material	Generated	Recovered	% Recovery
Paper	84.0	42.0	50.0%
Yard trimmings	32.1	19.9	61.9%
Food & other organics	29.2	0.69	2.4%
Plastics	28.9	1.65	5.7%
Wood	13.9	1.31	9.4%
Steel	13.8	4.93	35.8%
Glass	12.8	2.76	21.6%
Textiles	11.1	1.70	15.3%
Rubber and leather	6.70	0.96	14.3%
Aluminum	3.21	0.69	21.5%
Other nonferrous metals	1.74	1.26	72.4%
Miscellaneous inorganic wastes	3.69	Negligible	Negligible
Other materials	4.57	1.17	25.6%
TOTAL MSW	245.7	79.0	32.1%

Bring Worms to Work

Noaki Schwartz of the Associated Press writes about the California Integrated Waste Management Board's (www.ciwmb.ca.gov) efforts to promote vermicomposting in the workplace. Just one more way to turn organic wastes into a resource.

www.livescience.com/othernews/061012_ap_worms_atwork.html

Tis the season for Extra Garbage

Julia Scott, staff writer for Inside Bay Area reminds us of the impact of packaging on the waste stream, especially during the holiday season. www.insidebayarea.com/search/ci_4710433

UN Meeting to Tackle E-Waste Menace

Reuters correspondent Daniel Wallis reports on the efforts of the U.N. Environmental Program to deal with the growing problem of e-wastes. It is estimated that the last decade has seen a quadrupling to between 20 & 50 million tons a year. Much of this toxic material is being shipped to the developing world. www.enn.com/today.html?id=11733

Throwaway Economy in Trouble

This article from Earth Policy Institute reports on the consumer economy's collision course with the earths' geological limits. www.enn.com/net.html?id=1739

A New Materials Economy

This follow-up article advocates recycling and reuse as major tools for building the needed eco-economy. www.enn.com/net.html?id=1742

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 email: recycle@skillsinc.net

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 email 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, 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 email version, please *clearly* print your email 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.

Email Address: _____ @ _____

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Winter Workshop
 January 29th (Snow date: Jan. 30th)
 Details Inside

Return Service Requested

**Maine Resource Recovery Association
PO Box 1838
Bangor ME 04402-1838**