



May/June 2005

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FULL CIRCLE is published bi-monthly by the Northeast Resource Recovery Association, a nonprofit coalition of municipalities, individuals and businesses working together to promote environmentally and economically sound waste management practices.

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FULL CIRCLE


MAKING RECYCLING HAPPEN!

NEW CO-OP PROGRAM - RECYCLE CELL PHONES - JOIN TODAY!

Today, there are more than 1 billion cell phones in use around the world, with an average life-span of **only** 18 months and shrinking. The presence of lead, cadmium, mercury and many other heavy metals in a typical cell phone poses a serious environmental risk. In the U.S. alone, it is estimated that 130 million cell phones are discarded every year, representing 65,000 potential tons of toxic waste. Nationwide, only one percent of discarded cell phones are recycled or reused.*




To help increase cell phone recycling, your Co-op is kicking off a new program. A vendor with the highest level of environmentally responsible recycling has been selected by the Co-op to "recycle the phones". In addition, the vendor will pay competitive prices for usable cell phones and will accept discarded PDAs, laptop computers, inkjet and laser ink cartridges and related equipment.

Join this important new program today by calling the Co-op at 1-800-223-0150. You will receive a **FREE** collection box and materials to promote your program. All you need to do is set up the collection box in a prominent place (e.g. recycling center, town hall, library, etc.) and begin collecting discarded phones. When the box is full (or approximately 25 phones), transfer the phones to any cardboard container and call the Co-op to receive a prepaid shipping label. Ship the material and wait for your check (and inventory list) from NRRA. It's easy, it's financially rewarding and most importantly, it diverts some nasty toxins from the waste stream. 

(* Source: Inform Inc.)

AN IMPORTANT REMINDER TO TRANSFER STATIONS AND RECYCLING CENTERS!

Fax and/or Mail your Bills of Lading (BOL's)

Members need to fill out a *Bill of Lading* for all material going through the Co-op. This ensures us proof of delivery and proper credit for your materials shipped. The Co-op can provide these forms to you for **FREE!** Just call and we'll send you as many as you need. 





"Fostering cooperative solutions"



NRRA IS YOUR CO-OP!!!

*As a member of the Co-op, you are entitled to **all** of the services we provide. If you need help locating a market for your product, comparing prices or help starting a new recycling program, we can help you!*

MEMBER SERVICES

THE CO-OP IS A PROACTIVE NONPROFIT WORKING WITH ITS MEMBERSHIP TO MAKE THEIR RECYCLING PROGRAMS STRONG, EFFICIENT AND FINANCIALLY SUCCESSFUL! ARE YOU TAKING ADVANTAGE OF ALL THE CO-OP'S SERVICES?

COOPERATIVE MARKETING

- PAPER
- GLASS
- TIRES
- PLASTICS
- BATTERIES
- ELECTRONICS
- STEEL CANS
- ANTIFREEZE
- SCRAP METAL
- PROPANE TANKS
- ALUMINUM CANS
- FLUORESCENT BULBS
- TONER/INK JET CARTRIDGES
- CONSTRUCTION & DEMO WASTE


COOPERATIVE PURCHASING

- BALING WIRE
- WORK GLOVES
- STORAGE TRAILERS
- HHW "WRANGLERS"
- BACKYARD COMPOST BINS
- EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE
- "ON THE GROUND" STORAGE CONTAINERS

- NRRA MEMBER INCREASES ANNUAL REVENUE BY \$1,200 -

**CO-OP MEMBER MAKES \$\$\$
...ANOTHER SUCCESS STORY!**

It is always a good idea to check Co-op pricing *before* arranging marketing of recyclable products. Because of the volume of commodities recycled by the Co-op (1,200 tons a week!), NRRA has negotiated preferential pricing with many vendors for members.

One of the NRRA member communities recently started marketing aluminum cans through the Co-op (rather than directly with a vendor) increasing their revenues by \$1,200 per year. Don't leave revenues "on the table" – talk with the Co-op about your recycling programs at 798-5777. 

- WHAT HAPPENS TO RECYCLED MATERIALS? -

Many Co-op members have expressed interest in learning what happens to their recycled materials. The end uses of a commodity will be featured in each newsletter. In this issue, plastic recycling is examined.




WHAT HAPPENS TO OUR RECYCLED PLASTIC?



While hundreds of different plastics are used in consumer and industrial products, only six plastics account for more than 70% of total plastics in production: LDPE (low density polyethylene), PVC (polyvinyl chloride), HPDE (high density polyethylene), PP (polypropylene), PS (polystyrene) and PETE (polyethylene terephthalate). HPDE #1 & #2 (#1 includes milk and water jugs; #2 includes colored plastics, such as detergent bottles) and PETE (soda and water bottles, salad dressing and condiment containers) are the most commonly recycled plastic materials.

Recycled plastics are typically chipped, washed, and heated to produce pellets or flakes before being used to manufacture other products. Many items can be made from HPDE #2, including flowerpots, pipes, toys, pails, drums and of course, new bottles and containers. PETE #1 can be recycled to manufacture carpet fiber, fiberfill insulation (for jackets, sleeping bags, etc.) and floor tiles.

For recycling purposes, PETE and HPDE plastics typically need to be separated. HPDE and colored HPDE are usually separated, but the market for mixed HPDE plastics is growing and consequently the price differential from separating the two types of HDPE plastics is narrowing. Combining HPDE plastics also allows communities to save money on labor and storage. Mixed plastics are recycled to manufacture decking for docks, traffic stops and park benches.

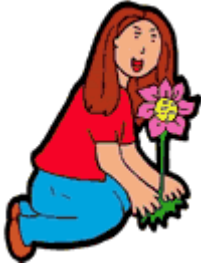
As most plastics will take more than 500 years to decompose, recycling plastic material is not only a financial boom but also a great environmental idea! 


(Source: New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services)



School NEWS Recycling CLUB


OUT OF THE MOUTHS OF OUR YOUTH!



When presented with the benefits of waste reduction and reuse, most students become enthusiastic recyclers. THE CLUB provides opportunities for students and their teachers to exchange recycling information and experiences. We recently heard from a group of sixth grade students from Mrs. Hall's class at Hinsdale Elementary School in Hinsdale, NH. Following up on a recycling project from a previous class, the sixth graders were invited to expand recycling activities. They decided to research and start composting. After experimenting with shoebox "landfills", the class learned how food scraps properly decompose (they need air to prevent mold) to commence composting. In the words of the sixth graders, "Our compost is turning into great soil that will be useful for the school flowers. Certainly our compost will be great for the earth, also for flowers, veggies, and less landfills and mold." ...Out of the mouths of our youth! 




PROPANE TANKS A "NO NO" IN SCRAP METAL

Scrap metal recyclers are sometimes unpleasantly surprised to discover propane tanks in scrap piles. Propane tanks of all sizes are volatile and can be dangerous. As scrap metal is crushed and/or shredded, the potential for propane tanks (as well as fire extinguishers, helium tanks and refrigerant canisters) to explode and cause damage or injury is very real! Please be careful that propane tanks are not inadvertently included in your scrap metal. To properly dispose of propane tanks, consider joining the Co-op's Propane Tank Recycling Program. Call NRRA today at (603) 798-5777. 

- MIXED PAPER -

MAXIMIZE THE BENEFITS OF "ANYTHING THAT RIPS" PROGRAM



Are you getting the most from your mixed paper-recycling program? ...probably not, when you consider that 40% of all household waste is paper material! While it may not be practical for all to divert 40% of the waste stream to paper recycling, there is certainly room for improvement in most paper recycling programs. Encourage increased paper recycling of items such as telephone books, magazines, junk mail, corrugated cardboard and chipboard (cereal boxes, shoe boxes, etc.). The Co-op would like to help you "grow" your paper-recycling program by providing you with promotional materials such as sample press releases and flyers to initiate school and business recycling. For each ton of additional paper material that is diverted from the waste stream, your community saves money on disposal costs, while the recycled paper adds revenue to the program! 

PHONEBOOK DISTRIBUTION SCHEDULE



Maine

Biddeford 6/27 to 7/15/2005

Vermont

Late July: exact dates to come

New Hampshire

Laconia 6/30 to 7/15/2005

Verizon Environmental Facts...

Verizon prints its telephone books on text paper that has a minimum of 40% recycled content. Also, comprehensive municipal recycling information is included in primary Verizon SuperPages Directories in selected territories, such as the northeastern part of the United States. This information is provided as a community service in the recycling pages section of the phone book and can be found in the back of each directory before the Zip Code section.





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FULL CIRCLE
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"A Recycling Cooperative"
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

June 23: Pay As You Throw - Can It Work For Your Community? DES Operating Training Program, 9am-12pm, At NHDES, 29 Hazen Dr., Concord, NH / Call Donald E. Maurer at 271-2928 for more information.

July 6: C&D Issues and Answers DES Operating Training Program, 9am-12pm, At NHDES, 29 Hazen Dr., Concord, NH / Call Donald E. Maurer at 271-2928 for more information.

July 13: NRRA Marketing Meeting* at the Local Government Center in Concord, NH 9:30am

August 10: NRRA Marketing Meeting* at the Moultonboro Transfer Station, Moultonboro, NH 9:30am

August 24: Transfer Station Design, New and Improved DES Operating Training Program, 9am-12pm, At the Littleton Learning Center, Union St., Littleton, NH / Call Donald E. Maurer at 271-2928 for more information.

Sept 14: Trustee Meeting at 9:00 am and the NRRA Marketing Meeting* at 9:30 am. In different rooms at the Local Government Center in Concord, NH.

Sept 14: NRRA PigNic! 11:30 am at the Co-op Offices at 9 Bailey Rd in Chichester, NH! Featuring Gordon's famous Bar-B-Que Ribs!

*These meetings are open to all Co-op members. Please join us for great discussions, networking and troubleshooting!



**DID YOU JOIN THE
CO-OP'S NEW CELL
PHONE RECYCLING
PROGRAM YET?**