

**Falmouth Recycling Committee and  
Falmouth Parks and Public Works Department**

Date: February 8, 2010

To: Nathan Poore, Town Manager

CC: Finance Department

From: Jay Reynolds, Parks and Public Works Director 

Re: Recycling/Budget Items

Regarding the Town's recycling options for the next fiscal years, I offer the following: As you know, Randy and I met with Pine Tree Waste to discuss our annual collection services for trash and recycling. Pine Tree proposed the following changes:

1. Altering the collection days from 2 to 4 per week. This would split each of the 2 routes into 4 total.
2. Implementing weekly curbside recycling collection.

These changes are able to be done with a cost savings to the Town. The savings is realized through the use of a consolidated automated truck that collects both trash and recycling at the same time. Also, using this truck in other municipalities makes this economically viable for Pine Tree.

As you know, this is budgeted out of the solid waste's operating budget.

The following table outlines the proposed changes and operational impacts:

Year	FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14
Waste and Recycling Collection Cost	\$364,500	\$351,000	\$360,000 (estimated)	\$369,000 (estimated)
Labor Hours Saved	NA	12hr/wk	12 hr/wk	12 hr/wk
Days/week waste collection	2	4	4	4
Recycling collection frequency	Every other week	Weekly	Weekly	Weekly

With the implementation of curbside recycling, the elimination of the remote silver bullet sites is also quite feasible. Weekly curbside recycling would reduce or eliminate the need for the silver bullets. As you know, we have had increasing dumping issues at both Bucknam Road and Gray Road. Today, a gasoline derivative was dumped at Gray Road. Earlier this winter, two employees were injured and hospitalized from hydrochloric acid being dumped. Chief Rice has kept you apprised of many other issues at Bucknam Road.

With the elimination of the silver bullets, this would create operational efficiencies with my department, both in labor and cost perspectives.

- ❖ Approximately 12 hours of labor would be freed up each week.
- ❖ Controlled/Supervised recycling would occur. Illegal dumping would be eliminated.
- ❖ Non-Falmouth recycling would be eliminated from Falmouth's recycling 'equation'.
- ❖ Hauling would decrease by 50% (estimated). This also opens the potential to create revenue by hauling for neighboring communities. I have had initial discussions with another Public Works Director about this option.

My recommendations are as follows:

1. Implement weekly curbside recycling with changes to collection days.
2. Eliminate the Bucknam Road and Gray Road locations, consolidate silver bullets at the Transfer Station.
3. Retain the 3 existing silver bullets at the Transfer Station (and 1 at the High School) and add 2 or 3 silver bullets at the Transfer Station.
4. Recognize the operational cost savings and explore additional cost saving options with regards to hauling.

Please feel free to forward this to any interested parties.