

The seal of the Town of Falmouth, Maine, is circular with a rope-like border. Inside the border, the text "TOWN OF FALMOUTH" is at the top, "INCORPORATED" is in the middle, "1718" is at the bottom, and "MAINE" is at the very bottom.

# TOWN OF FALMOUTH, MAINE

## Memorandum

To: Town Council

From: Randy Davis, Staff Liaison for REAC and Nathan Poore, Town Manager

Re: Town of Falmouth – Curbside Commercial Recycling

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We recently met with representatives from Pine Tree Waste to discuss the feasibility and framework for a curbside recycling collection program that would serve Falmouth businesses. Pine Tree Waste has been very helpful implementing curbside recycling in Falmouth. They were the service provider when we implemented the bi-weekly collection program in 2007 and the weekly collection program in 2011.

Since the decision to reduce the number of “silver bullet” locations in town, the opportunity for local businesses to recycle has been a concern for both the Recycling and Energy Advisory Committee (REAC) and staff. The town recently changed its policy to allow businesses to access and use the transfer station. While this certainly offers additional recycling opportunities, few businesses have opted to use this new program. A new curbside commercial recycling program may be more attractive to businesses because it makes recycling very convenient. Pine Tree Waste has implemented this program in neighboring towns, including Scarborough.

An outline of the program for businesses that register follows:

1. Pine Tree Waste would provide a 60 gallon recycling bin that can be wheeled to the curb for collection. The bins are designed to allow businesses to use the bins indoors or outdoors. Additional bins would be available if necessary. These bins will remain the property of Pine Tree Waste.
2. Pine Tree Waste will coordinate the collection days to coincide with the residential curbside collection program. Pine Tree Waste will drive into areas of multiple businesses if there are multiple businesses that choose to join the program.
3. Pine Tree Waste will charge each business \$13 per week for the initial bin and \$9 to \$10 for each additional bin if necessary.

We are developing a program to inform businesses of this new opportunity to recycle. We may offer an incentive where the Town will subsidize the first 3 months of the program for the first

50 businesses that register. This subsidy would cost the Town about \$2,000.

Both REAC and Falmouth Economic Improvement Committee (FEIC) have recently discussed this program at their meetings and support the effort. Please contact us if you have any questions about this program.