

Northern Berkshire Solid Waste Management District CY 2022

The Northern Berkshire Solid Waste Management District (NBSWMD) was established in 1988 through legislation passed by the Massachusetts General Court. By forming the solid waste district, the small municipalities in Northern Berkshire County have been able to pool resources and obtain professional waste management services to conduct recycling and outreach education programs, hazardous and special recycling collections. We have a vision to seek regional solutions to attain sustainability and environmental objectives through solid waste and recycling programs.

The 13 member -towns that comprise NBSWMD include Adams, Cheshire, Clarksburg, Florida Hancock, Hinsdale, Lanesborough, Monroe, New Ashford, Peru, Savoy, Windsor, and Williamstown. Each town appoints a representative to serve on the NBSWMD Board. Board Officers for 2022 included: Joseph Szczepaniak Jr., Chair (Lanesborough), Edward Driscoll, Vice Chair (Adams); and, Terry Haig, Treasurer.

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- Working with third party inspector from MassDEP conducting annual transfer station Inspections pursuant to 310 CMR 19.018, all of which have been highly rated.
- Serving as Bid Administrator for 5 years hauling and processing of waste, recyclables with Casella Waste Systems Inc.
- Working with regional entities to challenge increased prevailing wage rates for hauling, Prevailing Wage was reversed to the local town's DPW rate. Negotiate with District Hauling Company (5-year Contract) reducing the per haul rate. Effective September 2022 per haul rate was rolled back to \$368.00 from \$384.71. Based on the prior 12 months of data, this will provide the towns with a total cost savings of roughly \$15,000 over the course of the year. To break it down MSW/C&D; 394 haul x (\$16.71) savings per haul = \$6,583.73 District cost savings. Recycling; 485.50 haul x (\$16.71) savings = \$8,029 Cost savings. This is based on prior 12 months data from Casella Waste Systems data.
- District Program Coordinator yearly reviews the benchmarks set by MassDEP in regards to the Sustainable materials recovery program Recycling Dividends Program. As coordinator I work with all the towns with implementation of recycling special collections, outreach and education to meet the criteria. The RDP will provide payments to municipalities that earn 1-9 points, advanced level for municipalities that earn 10 or more points. The points are gained by implementing specific program and policies

proven to maximize re-use, recycling, and waste reduction. The program policy criteria (RDP) define the characteristics of model municipal recycling program, essentially functioning as a best practice framework. Each point has a value attached to it. Coordinator, Linda Cernik, completes all RDP grant applications and submits on behalf of the member towns. This CY22 total RDP awards were to 10 of the member towns \$43,675.00, With NBSWMD awarded \$1500 small scales grant. The 3 Towns that offer recycling services only didn't receive RDP CY22 due to the criteria changes in gaining points. RDP Awards can be carried over to the next year if not spent. However, MassDEP would like to see the Funds utilized for best practices within recycling services, such as "PAYT" programs, Hauler regulations, Swap Shop (re-use shed), expansion within recycling services etc. If a Town only offers Municipal Recycling Services, they must have implemented "Private Hauler regulations" to qualify for RDP application. Linda has made this recommendation to the 3 towns under BOH regulations. The Town of Adams and Williamstown have Model regulations and Bylaws in place. The Districts Small Scales awards are a spend down grant, CY22 we hosted 2 Community paper shredding events, offered Subsidized Home Composting units, kitchen compost buckets, and upgrade on Web site, and continued outreach materials to educate our communities. Towns awarded CY22 RDP were Adams \$6300, Cheshire \$4550, Florida \$2205, Hancock \$3,500, Hinsdale \$4,900, Monroe \$1,470, Peru \$3,850, Savoy \$4,900, Williamstown \$5,600, Windsor \$4,900. The Towns of Clarksburg, Lanesborough and New Ashford didn't receive Grant allocations this year due to the new criteria. In past years all the of 3 towns have received small scales awards \$500. Linda Will continue to work with the 3 towns in establishing private hauler regulations. To highlight some use of the Town's RDP funds, Town of Adams purchased a New Tire Recycling 40-yard Container. Tire Recycling is a shared District program for all 13 member towns. The town of Windsor also purchased a Tire recycling shed to expand their program. Also a new Swap Shed was purchased to replace the old. "Windsor Mall is expanding" Thanks to Larry Roberts. Town of Williamstown has saved their RDP funds to utilize towards a paper compactor, This will reduce the amount of Hauls per month for paper recycling and save the town money and maximize space that the container can hold. The Town of Hancock has plans on using their fund to replace a concrete pad under the Scarp Recycling Container. NBSWMD Small Scales , hosting community paper shredding event "Shred Fest" 4 hours event, this is to shred confidential paper work and upgrade on website, and outreach materials for all special events. "Let's make Everyday Earth Day".

- Coordinating special collections that are open to all 13 member towns, including annual. Bulky and electronics recycling, household hazardous waste collections and community Paper shredding events with pro-shred and Community Compost distribution day and ongoing Composting Education.
- Worked closely with Commonwealth of Massachusetts Community Service program! Along with the States 3 Coordinators of the Program, participants that are on

community service have provided the district with over 1,000 hours of help. Projects such as painting Sheds at our Transfer Stations. Helping maintain and organize Town of Hinsdale Swap shops, help at all or our Special Collections with offloading and loading items for our Bulky and E waste events, Community paper shredding events (2), HHW event, helps and clean out of universal waste sheds. (Lightbulbs and battery recycling). This program has been recognized throughout the state and Coordinator took part in a survey highlighting the benefits. Participants not only are working towards their community service hours, but they are also benefiting from learning about the environment.

Such as re-use, recycling, toxic materials banned from the waste stream, NEW waste ban regulations effective November 1, 2022. Working together as a team to get the job done professionally. There is a lots of jobs in waste management field, great opportunities for them.

- Management of transfer station recyclables including collection, hauling and recycling of tires, electronic waste, universal waste, textiles, scrap metal, books, swap shops (household good) 3 in place towns of Hinsdale, Savoy, and Windsor. New programing in 2022; CMRK textile recycling program, Towns of Adams, Florida, Savoy, and Windsor. Discover book recycling Town of Lanesborough and Williamstown. Organics composting Town of Williamstown with Casella Waste Systems INC and community outreach with Second Chance Composting. Program Coordinator is always looking at additional recycling opportunities for the towns she serves. NBSWMD works towards waste reduction and increasing our recycling diversion. The Solid Waste and Recycling Surveys that are completed by the district's coordinator show the progress by each town, % of MSW to % recycling. Yearly our goal is to increase the % of recycling and decrease the % of MSW. All MassDEP data and complied reports can be located on Mass.gov.
- Outreach with local youth groups introducing MassDEP "Green Team" Program.
- Established Mattress Recycling "HUB" effective November 1, 2022, in partnership with the Town of Dalton. The district's efforts have been recognized throughout the state and Linda, Program Coordinator has the honor of speaking at the MassRecycle Conference March 2023 on a panel of three woman within the waste management industry.
- Establishing Textile Recycling Bin at every town's Transfer / Recycling Centers effective November 1, 2022. Textile diversion has increased since CY21. Effective November 1, 2022, Textiles have been added to the Massachusetts State Regulations 310.CMR.19.017 Prohibits the disposal.
- Linda Cernik, Program Coordinator was responsible for the completion and submitting of Each member town's Certification for the operation of a Transfer Station. Typically, this is done every 5 Years but with the New Waste Ban regulations taking effect

November 1, 2022, MassDEP required the Certifications to be generated this year. Each Town's Signatory had to review and sign. Linda submitted the completed document to Dan Hall, MassDEP Solid Waste and Recycling Section Chief. April 2022, Due by each member town was Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Standard Contract to MassDEP, Dan Hall. This contract authorizes a Town/ District official to be the signatory for legal documents submitted to MassDEP. This is a mandatory document and is good for 7 years before renewal, CY2029. Due August 1, 2022, NEW Waste Ban Compliance Plan This is a 12-page document, MassDEP, Waste Ban Compliance Plan. Completed by Linda Cernik, program Coordinator for each town's responsible party to review, understand & sign. The Plan must be kept on File and copy in a binder placed at the town's Transfer Station in a binder. Yearly MassDEP Third party inspections take place in October and the inspector will look for the Compliance plan, Certification, and current years inspections reports and any Corrective action recommendations. Each member town is responsible for understanding of The Waste ban compliance and operations of their town's facility. Town officials are responsible for maintaining compliance within 310 CMR 19.017. New Signs were posted as of November 1, 2022, to say within compliance as well.

- Submittal of member-town MassDEP annual recycling and solid waste surveys, grants through Sustainable Materials Recovery Program (SMRP) and all reporting. Buy Recycled Policy in place for every member town and current LA4 form included.
- Outreach and Education is provided by Coordinator, Linda Cernik. Outreach publications, flyers, post cards, All press Releases, Coordination with local colleges within the environmental field , Work with our IT provider to keep District Website up to date, upcoming CY 23 Linda is working with MCLA students and Professor Elena Taister. Public speaking events, conference attendance, Coordinator member of Springfield Materials solid Waste Advisory group, The Western Mass Regional planning Coordinator group, and interfaces with local, regional, and state officials. And newly appointed to the MassRecycle Board.

The district 2022 held its annual household hazardous waste collections April 2022, held in the Town of Adams for all 13 member Town's residents. 150 Households participated in this event. This year our Annual Household Hazardous Waste collection will be held Saturday, April 22, 2023, to kick off Earth Day. This allows residents to properly dispose of toxic cleaners, oil-based paints, oil, pesticides, and other products that are deemed hazardous.

Also, the district held 3 bulky waste and electronics collections in 2022. Two Community paper shredding events were held to offer residents a safe way to recycle secure documents, over 51 totes containing a total 3,250 pounds of paper were shredded on site by Pro-Shred

offer residents a safe way to recycle secure documents. The district continues to offer all member Towns' residents subsidized home composting units for \$25, allowing food waste, leaves, and brush to be composted at home.

The day -to-day program operations of the NBSWMD are managed by Program Coordinator, Linda Cernik, only employee! She also serves as a representative to the Springfield Materials Recycling Facility, The Solid Waste Advisory Committee, The Western Mass Regional Recycling Coordinator group, and interfaces with local, regional, and state officials, and newly appointed to Mass Recycle Board. Linda works closely with all the town officials and departments that oversee the Town's Transfer/ Recycling Facilities, such as DPW, BOH, Town Administrators, NSWMD Board of Commissioners and more! We have a great Team and I thank you for your continued Support.

The NBSWMD has an annual operations assessment that is approved by the district's Board of Commissioners, which is based on the current census 2020. The combined assessments for all Thirteen towns were \$97,930.41. The Assessments are for operating costs, retirement Health benefits, outreach and education, special collections, such as Household Hazardous waste collection contracted with Clean Harbors Environmental, Community paper shredding events, subsidized home composting units, six universal waste collections sites with Next Level Recycling.

During the past year, the NBSWMD member-towns collectively 777 tons of recyclable materials to Casella Waste Systems INC, Vermont MRF; 60 Earth Machines were subsidized and distributed to all 13 member towns, for composting household brush, leaves, food. District wide diverted over 123,979 pounds of textiles from the waste stream. Electronics recycling with East Coast Electronics, over 40,567 pounds. The district donated some of the Earth machines to local youth groups, Town outreach events, schools and more. Thank you to all the district volunteers, town's DPW, officials, and the residents of all the member towns. Your continued support in recycling and waste reduction keeps our communities a beautiful place to call home. I am proud to be part of the district and expanding our towns in the right direction of sustainability within the environment.

Earth Day 2023! Let's make everyday Earth Day!

All the best,
Linda Cernik, Northern Berkshire Solid Waste Management District