



Kennebunkport
Recycling Options

(9 January 2020)

Recycling 2020

- There are no perfect choices
- Markets for recyclables are evolving after China's exit
- Publicly funded recycling only works when residents are properly educated
- Education needs to focus on:
 - What is currently recyclable
 - How to properly remove contamination

Collection Options

- Curbside
 - Casella collects from residential bins every other week and hauls to Ecomaine
 - Ecomaine sorts, bundles, and markets recyclables
- Town Recycling Center
 - Residents drive to recycling center on Wednesday (after 3PM), Saturday, or Sunday
 - Casella hauls to either –
 - Ecomaine (single stream option)
 - The recycler of choice (sorted option)

To Sort, or Not to Sort...

- Single Stream Option –
 - Can be either Curbside or Recycling Center options
 - Recycled Materials – Paper, paste board, cardboard, #1-#7 plastics, glass, and tin & aluminum cans
- Sorted Option –
 - Recycling Center option only
 - Recycled Materials – Cardboard, #1 & #2 plastics, and tin & aluminum cans. To keep costs manageable, only recyclable items that currently have value are collected and individually hauled
 - All other potentially recyclable materials (approximately 60% of total by weight) are added to the trash load

Pros and Cons

Curbside Pickup	
Pros	Cons
No capital expenditures required	Greater dependence on education to keep contamination low
More convenient, assume significantly higher participation	Harder to monitor/enforce low contamination levels
Eliminates car trips to recycling center	
Community education provided by Ecomaine to reduce contamination	
Flexible – no sunk capital expense if markets drive changes in recycling practices	
<i>Maximizes reduction of solid waste hauled as trash (400 tons @ \$75/ton)</i>	

Recycling Center (Single Stream)	
Pros	Cons
Paid town employee keeps contamination low	\$57,000 upfront capital expense
Provides opportunity for composting household waste: reduced trash	Requires hiring/training a town employee
Support of Ecomaine's education department	Sunk capital costs - cannot easily respond to changes in recycling markets
<i>Next best option to reduce solid waste hauled as trash (~300 tons @ \$75/ton)</i>	Reduced seasonal/rental participation
	More hassle = less participation
	Potential burden for seniors
	May require Planning Board approval

Recycling Center (Sort Onsite - cardboard, #1 plastics and metals)	
Pros	Cons
Paid town employee keeps contamination low	\$57,000 upfront capital expense
Provides opportunity for composting household waste: reduced trash	Requires hiring/training a town employee
<i>Least best option to reduce solid waste hauled as trash (~150 tons @ \$75/ton)</i>	Sunk capital costs - cannot easily respond to changes in recycling markets
	Reduced seasonal/rental participation
	More hassle = less participation
	Potential burden for seniors
	May require Planning Board approval
	Increased trash to landfills (not recycling paper, glass and #3-#7 plastics)
	Loss of Ecomaine educational support

Cost Comparisons

		Curbside Pickup					
		Cost Element	Units	\$/Unit	2020 Budget \$\$	Following Yrs \$\$'s	\$/TxUnit
Recycling Only		Casella Pickup	1	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00	
		Std Tipping Fee/Ton	400	\$ 95.00	\$ 38,000.00	\$ 38,000.00	
		Contam. Fee/Ton	400	\$ 35.00	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 14,000.00	
		Education Staff (.25 FTE)	500	\$ 40.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	
		TOTAL CURBSIDE \ Year			\$ 172,000.00	\$ 172,000.00	\$ 56.58

		Recycling Center (Single Stream)					
		Cost Element	Units	\$/Unit	2020 Budget \$\$	Following Yrs \$\$'s	\$/TxUnit
Recycling Only		Site Prep	1	\$ 26,000.00	\$ 26,000.00	\$ -	
		Compactor	1	\$ 31,000.00	\$ 31,000.00	\$ -	
		Ed. & Attend. (.75 FTE)	1500	\$ 40.00	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 60,000.00	
		Annual # Hauls	80	\$ 250.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	
		Std Tipping Fee/Ton	300	\$ 95.00	\$ 28,500.00	\$ 28,500.00	
		Contam. Fee/Ton	300	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
		Increased Trash	100	\$ 75.00	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 7,500.00	
		TOTAL Recycling Center (Zero Sort) \ Year			\$ 173,000.00	\$ 116,000.00	\$ 38.16

		Recycling Center (Sorted Onsite - only cardboard, #1 Plastics, and metals)					
		Cost Element	Units	\$/Unit	2020 Budget \$\$	Following Yrs \$\$'s	\$/TxUnit
Recycling Only		Site Prep	1	\$ 26,000.00	\$ 26,000.00	\$ -	
		Compactor	1	\$ 31,000.00	\$ 31,000.00	\$ -	
		2 Silver Bullets	2	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -	
		Ed. & Attend. (.75FTE)	1500	\$ 40.00	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 60,000.00	
		Annual # Hauls	57	\$ 250.00	\$ 14,250.00	\$ 14,250.00	
		Increased Trash	250	\$ 75.00	\$ 18,750.00	\$ 18,750.00	
		TOTAL Recycling Center (Sorted Onsite) \ Year			\$ 160,000.00	\$ 93,000.00	\$ 30.59

Assumptions:

- 1) Annual Recyclables = 400 tons (2018 data).
- 2) Casella biweekly pickup charge = \$100,000.
- 3) Recycling tipping fee = \$95.00/ton (\$65/ton plus variable year-end true-up).
- 4) Recycling Contamination Costs (estimates):
 - With education: \$35.00/ton.
 - With Education and staff attendants: \$0/ton.
- 5) Education and Recycling Center Staff (Ed. & Attend.): \$20/hr with 100% overhead.
- 6) Estimated hauling costs: \$250/trip.
- 7) Number of taxable units (TxUnit - Residential, Mixed, and Commercial): 3,040. Assumes 10-yr amortization of capital expenses.
- 8) Does not include additional costs (\$33,500 in 2019) for cardboard pickup at Dock Square and Bradbury's.
- 9) See separate sheet for costing backup.

Education is the Key to Success

- Proposed education plan is under development and will reflect choices made by Kennebunkport (Curbside or Recycling Center, and if at Recycling Center whether Single Stream or sorted)
 - If sorted at Recycling Center option is chosen:
 - Committee will develop a tool-kit (similar to Ecomaine's) that will guide residents in the proper mechanics of recycling so residents know what can be taken to the Recycling Center and what will go in regular garbage pails
 - Town staff member will guide residents at the Center when materials are dropped off
 - Intern will work with town staff and committee to prepare for opening date (July 2020)
 - Intern will work with realtors and owners of rental cottages to try to get owners to collect and bring recyclables to Center. Private hauler would be an option

Education is the Key to Success

- If Single Stream (Curbside or Recycling Center) option is chosen:
 - Education plan will be led by Ecomaine's 3-person education department, with materials supplied by Ecomaine (stickers for bins, Dos and Don'ts cards and fridge magnets, free Recyclopedia app, access to videos, press releases, youth education and coordination with Consolidated). The goal will be to begin operation July 2020
 - Town intern and SW Committee will work with Casella during the start-up phase to monitor recycling materials and guide residents to reduce contamination (soiled pizza boxes, plastic bags or film, plastic without recycling symbols, containers with liquid/food, batteries, etc.)
 - Intern, with Ecomaine's support, will develop literature and a plan to work with realtors and owners of rental cottages to get cooperation in the collection (and, if Recycling Center option chosen, the delivery) of recyclable materials

Committee's Recommendation

- The Solid Waste Committee recommends: **Curbside** (with focused education)
- Our reasoning:
 - Most flexible option for a changing recycling market
 - Largest potential reduction in solid waste volumes (costs)
 - Best option to recycle the largest variety and volume of materials
 - Best option to capture renters' recyclables
 - Most sensitive to seniors and physically challenged residents
 - Avoids need to increase town staffing
 - Only \$26/year more expensive for the average household than the cheapest option

Thank You

Questions?

Solid Waste Committee

- Mike Claus (Town Representative)
- Jon Dykstra (Chairperson)
- Dave Eglinton
- Harvey Flashen
- Paul Hogan (Secretary)
- Tom McClain
- Kinder Wilson