

COMPARISON OF DISPOSAL SYSTEMS May 2012
Compiled by Thompson Transfer Station Advisory Committee

Factors to Consider: Reduce/Reuse/Recycle and Environmental Impact/Equity/Efficiency

SYSTEM:	Pros:	Cons:
CURRENT SYSTEM	Permit fees and other fees can be adjusted by Board of Selectmen	
	Traffic flow works well	Bags not randomly checked
	Swap Shack, Boy Scout cans	
	Free mulch to residents	
	Citizen commitment and community spirit	
	Fundraising site	
	Recycling is at a fairly good rate	Recycling could improve
	Variety of materials taken	Need to recycle more items, balance efficiency with environmental concerns
	Educational tour for children	
	Have capital equipment & contracts for best return/lowest cost	
	This system allows reasonable disposal, incentive not to litter and helps eliminate roadside dumping.	
	2 employees	

Pay As You Throw - BAG	Compliance of over-users	No conservation of petroleum resources, as bags are one of the most intensive uses of oil
		Extra bags will enter the waste stream, as no re-use of existing bags will be allowed to dispose of MSW
		Cost of bags, storage, distribution, paperwork
		Theft, damage by rodents or vandals
		More roadside trash possible, people will learn to avoid identifying papers in trash
		Compactors purchased by those who can afford them. This will increase cost per bag in future
		Our recycling rate is higher than most towns with PAYT
		Town costs may increase for picking up roadside trash
		Roadside Clean-up volunteers would need to pay per bag
		Will probably be pressured to install single stream recycling, resulting in loss of revenue
		Lower permit fees may result in loss of revenue
		No reuse of existing bags
		All bags should be inspected to be sure of compliance, possibly resulting in loss of revenue
		No information available on average consumer cost
		Cost for vendors or vending machine, availability of bags without travel (consumer fuel cost)
		Charged by volume, not weight

Pay As You Throw - STICKER	Allows re-use of existing bags: feed bags, shopping bags, etc.	Raises cost
		Staff time to check tags, slows traffics
		Volume, not weight, as base
		Sale of stickers, cost of stickers, paperwork and money handling
		Travel to obtain stickers (consumer fuel cost)
		Stickers should be available at Transfer Station: vending machine or staff time

TOWN-WIDE PICK-UP Weight or Bag	May increase recycled material for sale by Town	Increased taxes due to expenses: man-hours, fuel, scale if weight system, bags if bag system, billing
		Costs of bags or container (see concerns under bag system)
		Possible revenue loss if single stream recycling is used
		No venue for fundraisers
		Large or unusual items difficult: sofas, metal, leaves
		If hired one company to do town-wide pickup = loss of revenue from recycling
		May affect amount of recycling

WEIGHT	Fairest-how we pay to send it on	Time intensive for staff, may need more staff
		How do we bill, handle money?
	Platform scale is not expensive	Equipment needed
		Slows traffic flow
		Lower permit fee may result in loss of revenue

CLOSING TRANSFER STATION	Reduces budget: tipping fees, man-hours, equipment	Cost to citizens who use the Transfer Station will be increased by three-fold or more
		Less recycling, depending on hauler
		Loss of venue for Girl Scouts, etc., to hold fundraisers
		Loss of community spirit, uproar from citizens who utilize this service
		Roadside trash
		How would the Town dispose of self-generated trash and roadside trash?
		Possible decrease of roadside clean-up volunteers