


Recycling Meeting Minutes 2-March-2023 @ 6:00 P.M. @ Town Hall Room 200  
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<p><b>Members Present</b> Becky Soderman Karen Willis Kristin Champagne Lee Williams Norm Eisenmann Rebecca Gore</p>	<p><b>Members Absent</b> <u>None</u></p> <hr/> <p><b>Guests Present</b> Jennifer Yu (CHS Eco Club) (remote, left at 6:15 p.m.)  Debbie Tait (remote)  Tamar de la Concepción (Arrived 6:25)  Somi (remote, left at 6:15)</p>	 <p><b>Chelmsford Recycling Committee</b></p>
<p><b>Sustainability Manager Present</b> Chris Haley (remote)</p>		

**Call to Order.**

The Committee meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Assign Recorder of New Action Items**

Becky volunteered to record the action items.

**Review and Approve Meeting Minutes – February 2023**

The 2-February-2023 meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

**Eco Club Input**

- Speaker event next week at the high school.
  - ⊖ Wednesday 2 to 3 pm in Room 114.
  - ⊖ One speaker will discuss energy efficiency.
  - ⊖ A second speaker will discuss sustainability.
- Composting is being consistent and going well. No noted contamination from Black Earth Compost.
- Chris is working on a quote for next year from Black Earth Compost.
- CHS is applying for a grant to cover up to \$10,000 of the cost of composting.
- GIVE will collaborate with the Eco Club on Town Wide Cleanup (15-April-2023 to 23-April-2023)
- The Club will participate in the Earth Day Fair on 22-April-2023 at the library.
- Somi will set up a spreadsheet for students to sign up to volunteer for events.
- The Eco Club has 12 to 14 students.

**Sustainability Manager Update**

**TONNAGE TOTALS for January 2023**

Textile recycling (Formerly Pink Bags)	3450	Pounds
UTEK Mattress*	76	items
Recycling	309.32	tons
Compost from CHS	2.25	tons
Batteries		tons
Trash	768.81	tons

\*Using a weight of 60 pounds per item in recycling % calculations

Chris is working with Black Earth on town wide composting.

Chris plans on having the dumpsters behind the town hall removed due to most of the material is from businesses and there is a lot of contamination. There is a cost per container to dump, plus fees, plus contamination fees.

Compactors cost about \$40,000 for material and setup.

126 pounds of holiday lights were collected.

Will not be able to order extra compost bins or rain barrels due to no room for storage.

The additional 8x10 Bulb Shed has been approved.

See Attachment 2 for previous tonnages.

**Old Business**

**Recent and Upcoming Events**

EVENT	DATE(S)	TIME	LOCATION
Farmers Market Table	26-Nov-2022	<b>COMPLETE</b>	Maxwell's
Farmers Market Table (Lee and Rebecca)	7-Jan-2023	<b>COMPLETE</b> Discussions on Pink Bags, and the App.	Maxwell's
String Lights Collection	Until 15-January.  Until 30-January ONLY at the DPW	Collected about 100 pounds to date.	at the Library, DPW, and Sr. Center
Compost Bin Pickup (Need volunteers)	25-March-2023	9 a.m. to 1 p.m.	DPW Yard

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EVENT	DATE(S)	TIME	LOCATION
Bulb/Battery Collection	5-April-2023	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	Bulb Shed behind Town Hall
Household Hazardous Waste Day (need volunteers)	22-April-2023	9 a.m. to 1 p.m.	DPW Yard
Earth Day Fair (Need volunteers)	22-April-2023	1 p.m. to 4 p.m.	Library (Lee and Rebecca)
Town wide Cleanup When residents pick up bags, give a sheet asking questions on the cleanup.	15-April-2023 to 23-April-2023	Daylight hours	
Bulb/Battery Collection	3-May-2023	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	Bulb Shed behind Town Hall
Paper Shredding (Need volunteers)	6-May-2023	9 a.m. to 1 p.m.	DPW Yard
Leaf Drop-off (Need volunteers)	13-May-2023	9 a.m. to 1 p.m.	DPW Yard
Brush Drop-off (Need volunteers)	13-May-2023	9 a.m. to 1 p.m.	Community Tree
Bulb/Battery Collection	7-June-2023	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	Bulb Shed behind Town Hall

Publicity/website Update

The Committee website contact form has had several questions submitted this month. Norm and Chris answered the below questions.

1. Thank you *very* much for following up on this, Norm. It's greatly appreciated. I'll go out and get my new barrels soon. The bottoms on the old ones are about to give way! I assume I can recycle the old plastic barrels as long as they have numbers on them.
2. Just one more question. If we were to buy our own Toter should we get the 32 gallon or 48 gallon barrel?
3. Hi, I have a dehumidifier that is no longer working right. Is this something I can put out with the trash?
4. Good afternoon,  
just wondering if you take all different size wooden pallets , good and damaged I have a bunch trying to get rid of.

Karen has an Ad for the rain barrels/compost bins in the Action and an article along with the 5 minute read in The Lowell Sun.

Lee has been updating the website.

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Conflict of Interest Training

Due 31-March

Review of Open Action Items

DATE	OWNER	ACTION	DUE DATE
1-Sep-22	Rebecca	Rebecca will speak at the Garden Club's 6-June-2023 meeting.	6-Jun-23
5-Jan-23	Kristin	Status of the Bags to Benches bench	5-Jan-23
2-Feb-23	Chris	Contact Simple recycling regarding that the Ap does not work on phones	COMPLETE
2-Feb-23	Lee	Drop off string lights at DPW	COMPLETE
2-Feb-23	Karen	Advertise compost bin sale	COMPLETE
2-Feb-23	Chris	Check on yellow bags	COMPLETE
2-Feb-23	Lee	Draft response to survey	COMPLETE
2-Mar-23	Lee	Send the volunteer needs for HHW and Earth Day Fair to Somi	17-Mar-23
2-Mar-23	Norm	Determine volunteers needed for HHW and let Lee know	COMPLETE
2-Mar-23	Norm	Stake out the location for the 2 <sup>nd</sup> shed.	15-Mar-23
2-Mar-23	Lee	Create flyer for Town Wide Clean	24-Mar-23
2-Mar-23	Becky	Contact Keep Mass Beautiful	24-Mar-23
2-Mar-23	Becky	Create handout with instructions with responding to the cleanup, how many bags filled, how many people hours spent, send a photo,	24-Mar-23
2-Mar-23	Karen	Send old flyer to Lee and Becky	6-Mar-23
2-Mar-23	Rebecca	Send old flyer to Lee and Becky	6-Mar-23
2-Mar-23	Everyone	Look for areas of Town that need cleanup	6-April-23
2-Mar-23	Lee	Complete Conflict Training	31-Mar-23
2-Mar-23	Kristin	Complete Conflict Training	31-Mar-23
2-Mar-23	Becky	Complete Conflict Training	31-Mar-23
2-Mar-23	Chris	Setup meeting with Lee and the senior center management.	24-Mar-23
2-Mar-23	Chris	Contact Acton about the Polystyrene collection.	6-April-23
2-Mar-23	Everyone	Rain barrel collection volunteers	15-Mar-23
2-Mar-23	Kristin	Secretary for April meeting	COMPLETE
2-Mar-23	Karen	Email blast to parents in the schools	31-Mar-23

Review of 2021-2022 Goals and Long-Term Goals

See Attachment 1 for updated goals.

**New Business**

Rebecca mentioned Acton is starting a Polystyrene collection, but has no other information. (Norm found this additional information: <https://www.acton-ma.gov/ImageRepository/Document?documentID=8480> )

**Open Discussion**

Global Recycling Day March 18<sup>th</sup>

Mass Recycle Conference and Trade Show 23-March

Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRA) has many vendors and discusses what various communities are doing. Anyone attending should focus on Maine and Vermont as they are ahead of New Hampshire in reuse and recycling.

Trash Tonnages Year-to-Date (July 2022 through February 2023) Comparisons of the current (FY23) and the previous 3 years.

FY23	6053.33 tons
FY22	7195.63 tons
FY21	7505.78 tons
FY20	7111.6 tons

**Review New Action Items**

Completed items were updated and new items were added to the Action Item List

**Next Scheduled Meeting**

6-Apr-2023 at 6:00 p.m. is the next meeting. It will be held at the Town Hall at 50 Billerica Rd. Room 200 with the option of remote attendance.

**Motion to Adjourn.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

**Attachments**

1. 2021-2022 Long-Term Goals
2. FY 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023 Trash and Recycling Tonnages

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Review of 2021-2022 Goals and Long-Term Goals

**Mission Statement:**

The Chelmsford Recycling Committee is dedicated to reducing the volume of solid waste generated in the town of Chelmsford. The committee strives to promote waste reduction, reuse, recycling, repairing, and composting among the residents, businesses, and institutions in the town of Chelmsford.

Prior to June 2023	Beyond June 2023	Recycling Committee Goals	Committee Member Taking Lead
		<b>EDUCATION/AWARENESS</b>	
X		Tour Covanta burn facility (possibly May or June)	Chris
X		Tour Black Earth Composting facility (possibly May or June)	Chris
	X	Tour E.L. Harvey Transfer Station and MRF	Chris
X		Tour Complete Recycling Solutions (possibly May or June)	Chris
		<b>REDUCE WASTE</b>	
	X	Plastic Free July Could be a focus of the 4 <sup>th</sup> of July table	
		<b>RE-USE/REPAIR</b>	
	X	Repair Cafés Three events/year, post-pandemic (Eco Club participation?) Hire a company to bring in parts and run the repair café? (Consider a September date and a location.) (Set up meeting with Chris, Lee and Sr Center Management)	Lee
		<b>RECYCLE-RESIDENTIAL/TOWN RECYCLING</b>	
X		Multi-vendor recycling event (shredding, electronics, tires, etc.) The Zero Waste Day.	Karen
	X	Open the Bulb Shed on a Saturday	Norm
		<b>COMPOST</b>	
X		Organics curbside pickup: Town request for bids; residents sign up and pay individually. Karen has information from previous years.	Chris
	X	Organics Day with Black Earth	
	X	Worm Composting	

**Recent Recycling Tonnages**

<b>FY2023</b>	<b>July 2022</b>	August 2022	Sept 2022	Oct 2022	Nov 2022	Dec 2022	Jan 2023	Feb 2023	Mar 2023	April 2023	May 2023	June 2023
Textile Recycle (tons)	0.696	0.992	0.87	0.87	1.03	0.51	1.725					
Recycling (tons)	273.07	273.42	193.99	265.95	282.94	290.22	309.32	223.27				
FY23 YTD (tons)	273.07	546.49	740.48	1006.43	1289.37	1579.59	1888.91	2112.18				
Mattresses/Box Springs (units)	78	92	82	80	88	76	76					
Weight (tons)	2.34	2.76	2.46	2.40	2.64	2.28	2.28					
CHS Compost				2.25	2.25	2	2.25	2.25				
Batteries		0.12		0.41								
Trash (tons)	721.29	822.24	801.64	731.69	804.93	768.9	768.81	633.83				
FY23 YTD (tons)	721.29	1543.53	2345.17	3076.86	3881.79	4650.69	5419.5	6053.33				
% Recycled	27.4%	24.9%	19.4%	26.5%	25.9%	27.3%	28.5%					
% Diverted	27.7%	25.2%	19.8%	26.9%	26.2%	27.5%	28.9%					

<b>FY2022</b>	<b>July 2021</b>	August 2021	Sept 2021	Oct 2021	Nov 2021	Dec 2021	Jan 2022	Feb 2022	Mar 2022	April 2022	May 2022	<b>June 2022</b>
Textile Recycle (tons)	0.58	0.85	0.51	2.1725	2.8305	1.4455	1.9085	1.383	1.9135	2.1865	0.5405	0.714
Recycling (tons)	289.14	268.32	289.89	263.59	294.1	321.55	289.68	227.6	273.06	244.24	235.39	317.8
FY22 YTD (tons)	289.14	557.46	847.35	1110.94	1405.04	1726.59	2016.27	2243.87	2517.13	2761.37	2996.76	<b>3314.56</b>
Mattresses/Box Springs (units)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	51	52	85	41	32	66	72	90
Weight (tons)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1.53	1.56	2.55	1.23	0.96	2.19	2.16	2.7
Batteries									0.59	0.48		0.41
Trash (tons)	899.43	981.09	967.47	852.73	881.83	951.81	877.7	783.57	967.38	1009.78	833.66	1010.36
FY22 YTD (tons)	899.43	1880.52	2847.99	3700.72	4582.55	5534.36	6412.06	7195.63	8163.01	9172.79	10006.45	<b>11016.81</b>
% Recycled	24.3%	21.5%	23.0%	23.6%	25.0%	25.2%	24.7%	22.5%	22.0%	19.4%	22.0%	23.9%
% Diverted	24.4%	21.5%	23.1%	23.8%	25.2%	25.4%	25.1%	22.7%	22.2%	19.8%	22.2%	24.1%

YTD = Year-to-Date

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<b>FY2021</b>	<b>July 2020</b>	August 2020	Sept 2020	Oct 2020	Nov 2020	Dec 2020	Jan 2021	Feb 2021	Mar 2021	April 2021	May 2021	<b>June 2021</b>
Textile Recycle (tons)	6.6485	5.712	6.414	5.803	4.8885	4.5085	5.78	2.74	5.45	6.28	4.78	1.54
Recycling (tons)	294.9	269.52	310.3	280.32	304.11	329.44	266.77	235.32	292.95	279.82	262.82	297.4
FY21 YTD (tons)	294.9	564.42	874.72	1155	1459.2	1788.6	2055.36	2290.68	2583.63	2863.45	3126.27	<b>3423.67</b>
Mattresses/Box Springs (units)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Weight (tons)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Trash (tons)	1060.38	887.94	967.24	1039.83	961.2	992.68	854.86	741.65	915.62	912.92	860.7	924.35
FY21 YTD Trash (tons)	1060.38	1948.3	2915.6	3955.4	4916.6	5909.3	6764.13	7505.78	5421.4	9334.32	10195.02	<b>11119.37</b>
% Recycled	21.7%	23.2%	24.2%	21.1%	23.9%	24.8%	23.7%	24.0%	24.1%	23.3%	23.3%	24.3%
% Diverted	22.1%	23.7%	24.7%	21.6%	24.3%	25.2%	24.2%	24.3%	24.6%	23.9%	23.7%	24.4%

<b>FY2020</b>	<b>July 2019</b>	August 2019	Sept 2019	Oct 2019	Nov 2019	Dec 2019	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Mar 2020	April 2020	May 2020	<b>June 2020</b>
Textile Recycle (tons)	4.29	4.449	3.672	4.758	6.415	3.779	0	0	3.838	1.194	7.752	6.214
Recycling (tons)	264.1	254.5	240.7	274.5	250.95	302.9	300.2	226.7	247.2	283.3	288.1	307.01
FY20 YTD Recycling (tons)	264.1	518.5	759.2	1033.7	1284.7	1587.5	1887.8	2114.5	2361.7	2645.0	2933.1	<b>3240.1</b>
Mattresses/Box Springs (units)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Weight (tons)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Trash (tons)	990.2	888.98	877.02	981.93	872.5	903.81	886.25	710.89	822.6	920.75	943.43	990.23
FY20 YTD Trash (tons)	990.2	1879.2	2756.2	3738.2	4610.7	5514.5	6400.7	7111.6	7934.2	8855.0	9798.4	<b>10788.6</b>
% Recycled	21.0%	22.2%	21.5%	21.8%	22.2%	25.0%	25.3%	24.2%	23.0%	23.5%	23.2%	23.6%
% Diverted	21.3%	22.6%	21.8%	22.1%	22.8%	25.3%	25.3%	24.2%	23.4%	23.6%	23.9%	24.0%



**Fiscal Year Totals**

		<b>FY 2022</b>	<b>FY 2021</b>	<b>FY 2020</b>	<b>FY 2019</b>
Textile Recycle (tons)		17.0395 ↓	60.5465 ↑	46.179 ↑	26.91 *
Recycling (tons)		3,314.56 ↓	3,423.67 ↑	3,240.1↑	3171.43
Mattresses/Box Springs Weight (tons)		14.67 **	N/A	N/A	N/A
Trash (tons)		11,016.81	11,119.37	10,788.6	10632.1
% Recycled		23.1% ↓	23.4% ↑	23.0% ↑	22.9%
% Diverted		23.3% ↓	23.9% ↑	23.3% ↑	23.1%

\* Textile Program started January 2019

\*\* Mattress Program started November 2021