


Town of Brunswick, Maine

INCORPORATED 1739

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Town Council
John Eldridge, *Town Manager*

FROM: Jay Astle, Public Works Director 

DATE: Thursday February 4, 2021

SUBJECT: Proposal for Graham Road Processing Area

The purpose of this memo is to outline the proposed operations for the processing area currently located at the Graham Road facility given the permanent closing of the landfill on April 1 of this year.

ACCEPTED MATERIALS

The processing area will continue to accept and process scrap metal, white goods, brush/leaves/grass, wood waste, tires, universal waste, and electronic waste. Materials that will no longer be accepted include asphalt shingles, concrete/masonry, used motor oil, and items for the re-use swap shop.

HOURS OF OPERATION

Currently, the entire Graham Road facility (landfill and processing area) is open five days a week, Tuesday through Saturday, from 8:00 am – 3:30 pm. Trash disposal is, by far, the most common reason for visiting the facility (56% of all trips in 2020), and with the closing of the landfill we expect a reduction in visits. Thus, the processing area will have a reduced schedule of two days a week, Friday and Saturday, 8:00 am – 3:30 pm, year-round. However, we do anticipate the need to temporarily expand the number of open days during peak weeks of brush/leaves disposal in the spring and fall.

FEES

Visitors to the Graham Road facility currently pay \$5 per year for a permit (residential and commercial), and then are charged a tipping fee at each visit based on the material(s) that they are dropping off. That tipping fee structure is as follows:

- \$80/ton (minimum charge is \$5.00) for trash.
- \$60/ton (min. \$3.00) for scrap metal, white goods, asphalt shingles, wood waste, and concrete/masonry.
- \$30/ton (min. \$3.00) for brush/leaves/grass for commercial only, residents pay nothing.

The existing scale at the landfill will be demolished as part of the closure process, and to simplify the payment process for visitors, the fee structure will be changed. Residents and commercial entities will still need to purchase an annual permit (\$5 for residential and \$25 for commercial) and then will pay either a size-based fee depending on their material or a unit-based fee depending on their item:

Residential

- Free for leaves, grass clippings, scrap metal, and universal waste.
- \$10/cubic yard for brush and wood waste.
- \$10/each for white goods.
- \$5/each for electronic waste.
- \$5/each for tires.

Commercial

- Free for scrap metal.
- \$30/cubic yard for brush/leaves/grass and wood waste.
- \$15/each for white goods.
- \$5/each for tires.

REVENUE

The annual revenue generated by the sale of annual permits is estimated to be \$12,800, and the fee revenue generated by the various materials is estimated to be \$106,800. The material revenue expected is slightly higher than previous years due to the shift from a weight-based system to a load-based system.

EXPENSES

The decrease in revenue is offset by the substantial reduction in personnel and operating costs compared to the current facility (landfill and processing area). Expenses drop from \$416,812 to an estimated \$137,000, and based on the estimated revenue, the fees to use the processing area should pay for the expenses to run the facility and dispose of the collected materials.

The following matrix highlights the current operations at the Graham Road facility and what is being proposed for processing-only operations beginning April 1.

	Current	Beginning April 1, 2021
Accepted Materials		
Trash	YES	No
Recycling	YES	No
Scrap Metal	YES	YES
White Goods	YES	YES
Brush	YES	YES
Leaves/Grass	YES	YES
Wood Waste	YES	YES
Asphalt Shingles	YES	No
Concrete/Masonry	YES	No
Tires	YES	YES
Universal Waste	YES	YES
E-Waste	YES	YES
Used Motor Oil	YES	No
Re-Use "Swap Shop"	YES	No
Hours of Operation		
	Tue-Fri, 8:00 am – 3:30 pm	Fri-Sat, 8:00 am – 3:30 pm * Possibility of adding days during peak spring and fall weeks)
Fees		
Permit	Annual permit \$5 Residential and commercial	Annual permit \$5 Residential / \$25 Commercial
	By Weight Residential Commercial	By Size (cubic yard) Residential Commercial
Brush	Free \$30/ton	\$10/cy \$30/cy
Wood Waste	\$60/ton \$60/ton	\$10/cy \$30/cy
Leaves/Grass	Free \$30/ton	Free \$30/cy
Scrap Metal	\$60/ton \$60/ton	Free Free
White Goods	\$60/ton \$60/ton	\$10/each \$15/each
Tires	\$2/each \$2/each	\$5/each \$5/each
Electronic Waste	Free Not accepted	\$5/each Not accepted
Universal Waste	Free Not accepted	Free Not accepted
* Cubic yard = 3' x 3' x 3'		
Customers		
	7,763 (2020) Peak day = 120 customers Average day = 30 customers 2,011 Residential permit-holders 112 Commercial permit-holders	6,500 (estimate) Average day = 63 customers

	Current	Beginning April 1, 2021
Revenue		
Permit Sales	\$ 10,615	\$ 12,800
Material Fees	\$ 100,220	\$ 106,800
Sale of Material (metal)	\$ 22,100	\$ 22,000
<i>TOTAL REVENUE</i>	<i>\$ 132,935</i>	<i>\$ 141,600</i>
Projected Expenses		
Material Disposal	-	\$ 50,500
Personnel	-	\$ 70,300
Operation/Maintenance	-	\$ 15,000
<i>TOTAL EXPENSES</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>\$ 135,800</i>
Net Gain (Loss)	-	\$ 5,900

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