

September 8 visit to Moultonborough and Gilford Transfer Stations

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Tara Albert, Austin Mills and Paige Wilson from DES

Moultonborough Transfer Station a single stream facility

Moultonborough is a town of roughly 5,000 with a population that can swell to 22,000 in the summer.

Open 4 1/2 days a week, and employ four full time people, one part time and an additional seasonal employee. Ken reports that he needs at LEAST 3 people there when the transfer station is open. All employees are trained to be at every station.

Sunday: 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Monday, Tuesday, Friday, Saturday: 8:30 am to 5:00pm

Closed: Wednesdays & Thursdays & Holidays

Two FREE days a year (Haz Material excluded)

Moultonborough transfer station is heated by waste oil collected from residents. It covers their winter heating needs. Grant monies are available for projects like this.

Scales:

Moultonborough applied for a grant from NRRRA for equipment (funded in part by NH the beautiful) for the Fairbanks scales.

Current charge is 10 cents a pound (\$ goes to general funds)

Employee at scales must be weigh-master certified.

Orientation of the scale is critical. If it is positioned properly, you will not need it manned full time: You are able to watch more than one thing at once.

Surveillance system highly recommended.

~Using the scales has been an asset to the town, and they have not noted folks throwing stuff in the woods to avoid cost.

~RSA money can be added to car registration fees in town to cover vehicle waste cost such as disposing of tires (Up to \$40.00 per car) Paige has further info available through the municipal association.

Signage:

In addition to written signs, Moultonborough has made use of large, colorful cartoon characters to mark areas of the transfer station. For example, employees regularly tell the public to drop off materials by the Bugs Bunny sign.

Brush:

Transfer stations are not legally required to take brush. Moultonborough takes anything less than 5 inches in diameter.

Brush is moved with a skid steer or front loader and pushed into a burn pile.

The fire department approves burning and will often check fire at the end of the day.

Equipment:

DES recommended speaking to experienced operators before purchasing equipment.

Ken recommended asking each company to loan the equipment for a month so that the crew could try it out. This policy made their decisions on what vehicles to purchase much easier.

Compost:

There were questions about composting at transfer station sites, and about collecting compost to be taken by an outside vendor.

Transporting compost: dropping off compost is allowed, but material must be transported to an authorized facility for composting. (follow-up info with Tara.)

Tara from DES recommended speaking with Joan Cudworth in Hollis about composting.

~Moultonborough has an impressive home composting display created by Boy Scouts. It features plastic roller bins, cement blocks, pallets and more. (See pictures.)

Propane Tanks

Moultonborough uses Cosco as a vendor. Moultonborough is charged a fee for tanks to be picked up (negotiated through NRRRA).

Propane tanks need to be stacked upright, and large ones secured.

Tanks should be stored in an outside area in case of leaks.

Moultonborough charges residents \$20 for a 100 lb tank, and \$4 for a small tank.

Refrigeration units

All refrigeration units must have freon removed. Paperwork needs to be filed for every unit dropped off, regardless of whether the freon has been removed yet. If owner states that it has been removed, they must show paperwork that it has been removed by a licensed remover of freon. (Tara from DES noted that there is a hefty fine (\$27,000) if paperwork is not done correctly.)

Mattresses

Moultonborough 'strips' covering from the wire frame and box springs.

They charge a fee to dispose of mattresses, and they are stored for shipment in a container under a roof to keep them dry, until full.

Construction and Demolition

After C & D material is weighed, it is brought to the C and D pit and dumped. Employees then crush material and transfer it into a large shipping container.

This gives employees an opportunity to inspect material.

Employees use a loader with a grapple specifically designed for crushing to compact C and D material. The average cost for a pick-up truck load of C and D is \$100.

Questions to Glenn about Tamworth C and D:

There are 8 contractors in the town of Tamworth and also some contractors that are located out of town working on Tamworth home projects.

A lot of C and D comes from homeowners.

Tara from DES said that a building inspector should provide paperwork stating that material going into the C and D is asbestos free. (Tamworth does not have a building inspector)

Cardboard

Moultonborough stores cardboard in a Conex container. They do not bale their product.

It will be important for Tamworth to plan a large storage area for both baling and holding baled products.

Questions about source separation: Moultonborough employed three additional people when they source separated and baled commodities.

It was noted that planning a facility so that commodities are moved minimally would help reduce employee costs.

NRRA can help reduce cost and maximize available space by arranging loads from several towns to be combined and picked up together.

Tamworth could become a regional hub for a specific product: they would need to have an operating plan that would allow them to do this. (Tara recommended a very broad policy that included every possible option)

Yard Waste Composting

Grass clippings and leaves are collected in an area and turned. When the material has decomposed sufficiently, Moultonborough rents a screener. The subsequent screened compost is made available to residents.

Tara stated that compost should be checked for invasive plants.

Electronics

Moultonborough works with ECER in Shirley Mass to recycle electronics. They provide a container to collect electronics in. (Electronics do not need to go in a gaylord Employees simply load the container up, then it is picked up.) Transfer station employees strip wires from electronics during less active times, usually in winter.

Ken said that this is a real money-maker for the transfer station and is very convenient for the staff.

Swap Shop

The swap shop is open whenever the transfer station is. It is manned by staff members and is located strategically so it can be seen from the main building.

Moultonborough has not had any liability issues. (Suggestion from Austin to check with insurance providers: some swap shops do not take electronics.)

Austin said that the most successful swap shops in the state are manned by volunteers.

Volunteers do not need to be certified, but there should be oversight from transfer station staff. Suggestion to visit swap shops in the town of Lee and Bedford.

Discussion on Single Stream vs. source separating recycling

Moultonborough switched from source-separate recycling to single stream based on their huge summer population. Space was an issue: before single stream, residents had to wait in a long line to dump their items, and handling the recyclable commodities took up employee time.

Ken had some suggestions for Tamworth:

Plan a large facility with lots of floor space

Recycling areas need to be placed where they can be monitored by staff

Signage is important! Suggest a peg board with actual commodities displayed

Pay as You Throw

Tara is in favor of these programs, as they incentivize recycling and are fair to taxpayers.

Introduce programs over time, so that there is a buy-in by the public

Suggested a tag system vs. providing bags.

Gilford Transfer Station: Source Separation Recycling facility

Meghan Theriault, Public Works Director; Bruce Hewitt, Transfer Station Supervisor

Gilford has a population of 8,000. This figure doubles and triples in the summer.

The facility opened in 2020 and cost 1.4 million to build.

Staff: 4 full time workers, 1 seasonal employee
Open five days a week: 8-4 Tuesday-Saturday

Scales:

Scales were added a year after the transfer station opened. Revenue has doubled since the scales were added. Gilford charges 9 cents a ton for C&D. Moultonborough charges 10 cents a ton.

Styrofoam:

Gilford is a regional hub for recycling foam. (Applied for permit asking to service more areas.) They applied and received a \$50,000 grant through NRRRA to cover partial cost of the equipment needed. (Total cost: 82,500.) They have also worked with the rotary club to obtain funds. They currently recycle about 90 lbs of foam a week. Foam is sold to Canada at \$900. a ton. Gilford needs more storage space for the foam as sun degrades the product. They are currently applying to LRPC for more containers. Meghan reports that it takes a staff person about 50 minutes to process the foam.

Recycling

Different bays are provided for each commodity.

~ Each bay window is clearly labeled with colorful posters of exactly what material can be recycled. Meghan has them printed locally. Each poster costs about \$25.

~All commodities are baled using a horizontal baler, but Bruce and Meghan recommend looking at a vertical baler.

Aluminum recycling:

Cans are thrown into a net. Staff checks the net to make sure everything thrown in is aluminum, then dumps cans into the bay below.

Tin and Glass

Tin and glass are collected in clearly labeled large bins in front of the bay windows.

Plastic:

#1, 2, 5 and 7 are currently recycled. If Gilford had more space, they would bale #1 and #2 plastic separately to make more money. (Bales stored in Convex containers as facility does not have space inside)

Cardboard

This is stored in Convex containers in back, as facility does not have space inside. Cardboard baling takes 2 people.

Paper

Gilford takes mixed paper and ships about 21 tons a month.

Trash compactors: Gilford owns their compactors and ship out a container every 3 days.

Brush:

Gilford does accept brush and grinds it for wood chips.

Yard waste Composting:

Gilford has space to compost grass clippings and leaves. They rent a screener and allow residents to pick up a load of loam. If more loam is wanted, residents can purchase it for \$18 a cubic yard.

Asphalt:

Gilford crushes asphalt and concrete to make a product that can be used by the town for road projects.

Tires

Gilford has a vendor to collect tires.

~A handout from Gilford is available for more details and information about all products recycled.

Swap-Shop

The swap shop is open the same hours as the transfer station. It is currently manned by staff, but Meghan recommends volunteers.

Recommendations:

The Gilford Recycling Center is a new facility. Meghan and Bruce both had recommendations for our group as we plan our facility.

Plan room for tool storage,

Bathrooms, breakroom,

Build a building with enough floor space so that commodities can be baled and stored inside, and so that equipment can move around stored commodities and the baler. Note: The Gilford facility was built unnecessarily tall and with insufficient floor space. Both Gilford and Moultonborough use outside containers to store commodities.

Video surveillance

Scales

Publicity/public relations: Meghan works hard to document the costs deferred through recycling. Services for the public are also important (offering loam, Recycling buckets from NH the beautiful, taking yard waste.)