



Monroe Recycling Proposal

Casella Waste Management will provide two (2), 23-foot enclosed and lockable containers (free of charge) which will be located at the Municipal Garage on Woodsville Road.

The facility will be open on Saturday mornings for approximately 3 hours. At the current time, we plan to staff the collection site every week during the summer, and every other week in the winter.

This recycling system would accept virtually everything you can think of to recycle: any type of glass, plastics, #1-7 (yes, even #7!), aluminum and metal cans, paper, and cardboard. The School and local businesses would also be able to recycle here.

Importantly, **NO SORTING** is required. Just bring everything down, all together, and in it goes. Casella's transports the recyclables to a Williston, VT sorting facility, who does the sorting there.

This proposal includes money for paid, town employee labor costs. If **YOU** volunteer to help, and are willing to commit to staffing the station, this cost can be eliminated!!!!

Costs

		Rest of 2010 (May – Dec)	Full Year (i.e., 2011)	Comments
Transportation	\$600 per Round Trip, to take containers to Williston	\$4,800	\$7200	These estimates are for once a month to empty containers; may need fewer trips in winter when they are not smelly.
Sorting	\$40 per ton	\$ 640	\$960	
Town Labor	1 person	\$1,980	\$2700	Could be zero if we all want to volunteer!
TOTAL OPERATING COSTS		\$7,420	\$10,860	

Startup Costs: There is also a one-time 'start-up' cost of \$3,000 to build a platform next to the containers, so people can get up there to put their recyclables in.

Total Warrant Article for 2010: \$10,420

Note: There will be an offsetting reduction in solid waste disposal costs; we can't yet calculate what this will be – it depends on the # of people who start recycling.



Monroe Recycling Proposal Q&A

Q: How many options did you look at?

We looked at the operations in Littleton, East Rygate and East Barnet, and met with Tony Ilaqua, Littleton's Recycling Coordinator. We reviewed several options with the Selectmen and decided reducing the amount of pre-sorting by residents would be the easiest approach.

Q: How many quotes did you obtain?

Two. Pete's Garbage currently services the town for our regular trash and we asked them for their proposal. In the end, Casella's proposal was simpler & cheaper for the Town.

Q: I want curb-side pick up. When will it happen?

We are trying to keep this as simple as possible. Depending on the volume of materials being recycled, we may want to look at ways of expanding the service offered. However, curb-side pickup is significantly more expensive, and Pete's, our current trash-hauler, did not have a solution for us that was cost-effective at mixed recyclables.

Q: I'm worried that other towns will dump their trash in Monroe.

The containers are enclosed and lockable, eliminating the need for both a covered shed and a fence. If this proves to be a real issue, a security fence can be added for approx \$2,500. However – let's be realistic – others could dump their trash anywhere in the town and we would not know. People could leave their garbage outside a fence just as easily as outside a container.

Q: I'm concerned that I will have to start paying for trash pickup.

You already do. It is just "lost" in the overall town tax bill. Almost 10% of the Town budget goes towards paying for garbage pick up and disposal. The town currently pays approximately \$80 for every ton going into landfill, over and above the hauling fees. The EPA estimates that between 66% and 85% of trash going into landfills is really recyclable.

Q. What if we try this and no one recycles? Then what?

Many people already take their recyclables to one of the existing recycling facilities. As this is more convenient, it is highly unlikely that it will not be used. The only cost we will have incurred that can't be 'undone' is the \$3,000 for the platform. That's the risk we are taking. Everything else can be cancelled.