

Town of Northport  
Select Board Meeting  
May 23, 2022 @ 6:02 pm

Chair: Shelly Patten

Vice Chair: Jeanine Tucker

Municipal Officer: Breanna Pinkham Bebb

Town Administrator: James Kossuth

Finance Director: Vicki Eugley

Town Clerk: Amy Eldridge

Road Commissioner: Amon Morse

NVC Representative: Jeffrey Wilt

**Present:** Shelly Patten, Jeanine Tucker, Breanna Pinkham Bebb, James Kossuth, Vicki Eugley, Amy Eldridge, Jeffrey Wilt, Tim Patten, Toupie Rooney, Amon Morse, Davis Saltonstall, and Tessa Rosenberry.

**Citizen Concerns:** none at this time.

**Transfer Station:** Kossuth introduced Davis Saltonstall and Tessa Rosenberry from ScrapDogs Community Compost. Tessa stated curbside pickup is offered from Belfast to Thomaston. Residents would pay a monthly subscription fee for a 5 gallon bucket. The subscription is month to month so homes that are seasonal would be able to utilize their service as well. The customer would drop off a covered full 5 gallon bucket of household food waste, and take an empty 5 gallon bucket. There would be an area at the transfer station that would have 3 pallet size containers to hold the empty and full buckets, as well as provided compost. ScrapDogs would pick up weekly and the customer would be able to take a half yard of compost every calendar year (See Appendix A). ScrapDogs stated they work with a dairy farm, where the compost pile is located, and it takes about a year for the compost to cure. ScrapDogs would need 3 to 4 months to get everything set up at the Transfer Station. The Board asked ScrapDogs to send a draft agreement to Kossuth to review.

**Public Hearing:** Proposed ordinance amendments and revisions:

***Tucker motioned to open the hearing at 6:48 p.m., seconded by Patten, Board voted 3-0, motion passed.***

Code Enforcement Officer Toupie Rooney reported to the Board on the proposed Building Permit Ordinance and Shoreland Zoning Ordinance revisions. The Board reviewed both Ordinances and thanked Rooney for all the work she performed on updating the Ordinances.

***Patten asked for any other questions or comments. Hearing none, Patten motioned to close the hearing at 7:00 p.m., seconded by Pinkham Bebb, Board voted 3-0, motion passed.***

**NVC:** Wilt reported the floats at the wharf in the Village are going in this week. The Overseers are in the budget planning stage for 2023.

**Road Commissioner:** Morse provided the Board with the Paving, Ditching, and Culvert replacement specifications for Prescott Hill Road, Rocky Road, and Saturday Cove Road; Paving, Ditching, and Rip-Rap specifications for Bluff Road; and Paving, Ditching, and Gravel specification for Knights Pond Road. He explained the scope of work for each job and answered questions from the Board.

Kossuth reported he spoke with the Department of Transportation (DOT), about the crosswalks on Shore Road in Temple Heights. The DOT recommends that the Town of Northport no longer paint the

crosswalks, and also recommends putting up signs instead. Kossuth mentioned that he had a request that the Town put up the No Parking sign across the street from 686 Shore Road in the Kelly Cove area.

Morse reported Allen's Environmental cleaned most of the catch basins in the Village. There were a couple of catch basins that still need to be cleaned. Morse stated the invoice for Allen's Environmental went up due to an hourly increase and 8 new catch basins the Village put in. Morse also is going to rent a sweeper to do the intersections in Town.

**Town Administrator:**

Spring roadside clean-up: Kossuth reported that 25-30 people came for the Clean Up. He thanked the Scone Goddess and Hammond Lumber for their donations, and provided additional ideas for next year's Clean Up.

Website Redesign progress: Kossuth provided the Board with an update on changes made to the website.

Transfer Station fees: Kossuth reported stickers will be increasing to \$3.00 each on July 1, 2022. He also stated the Board may want to look at the fees for Demo & Metal Debris disposal. The Board reviewed the current fees and discussed areas needing a increase reflective of current contracts. Kossuth will draft a proposed new fee schedule and provide the Board with a copy at the next meeting. The Board suggested multiple ways to communicate the increases to the residents.

**Department of Transportation (DOT) Route 1 update:** Kossuth reported on the results of the DOT traffic study on Route 1, from Cross Street to the Belfast line, as had been requested by several business owners and residents on Route 1. DOT found no particular concern with that stretch of Route 1, but the DOT did recommend that the intersection of Cross Street and Route 1 be modified so that Cross Street forms a (T) intersection with Route 1. The DOT also recommended putting a flashing speed sign in the area, which would save the speed data for the Town and law enforcement.

**Town Clerk:** Eldridge provided the March 21, 2022 and April 4, 2022 minutes to the Select Board for them to review. The Board approved the minutes with corrections.

**Finance Director:** Eugley provided the Board with a graph of the Northport website analytics to review and discuss. She also provided the Board with Payroll & Accounts Payable warrants for review and signature. The Board approved and signed the Payroll & Accounts Payable Warrants.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** June 13, 2022 will be the next Board Meeting and Paving Bids will have a due date of June 23, 2022.

**Adjourn:** *Tucker motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 pm, seconded by Patten. Board voted 3-0. motion passed.*

Respectfully submitted by,

Amy Eldridge

## Appendix A

# Food Waste Diversion Opportunities for Municipalities

By ScrapDogs Community Compost



### **About ScrapDogs Community Compost:**

ScrapDogs Community Compost was founded by Davis Saltonstall and Tessa Rosenberry, with the goal of minimizing waste sent to landfill and building consciousness for a closed-loop economy. Davis and Tessa are passionate about environmentally intelligent practices, and are working to build a healthy, resilient food system in Maine.

### *Essential Services*

- Residential & Commercial Food Scrap Collection
- Residential Food Delivery

### **Introduction**

Based on a 2011 study by the University of Maine, roughly 20% of municipal solid waste is food and nearly half of municipal solid waste is potentially compostable.

ScrapDogs offers food waste collection services that reduce the content of food in the waste stream, at great benefit to participating municipalities. Municipalities served by ScrapDogs benefit from:

- Cost reductions in carting and tipping fees for municipal solid waste
- Greenhouse gas emission reductions
- Garden-ready compost returned to participating members in the program

### **A Market-Driven, Multi-Faceted Approach**

ScrapDogs sells a variety of subscription-based services that are designed to make composting food scraps easy, convenient, and affordable for Mainers.

*Subscription Drop-Off:* Residents who select this option collect a clean 5-gallon bucket from a public location (such as a transfer station) to fill with food waste, then return the full bucket in exchange for a clean one. Subscribers are eligible for ½ a yard of finished compost as part of their subscription, which they receive by-the-bucket from lock-boxes at the drop-off site or delivered in bulk to their homes for an extra fee. *Current pricing - \$12 / month*

*Curbside Pickup:* Residents who would like food waste picked up from their household subscribe to this option. ScrapDogs supplies customers with 5-gallon buckets that are filled and swapped out for clean ones on a frequency set by the customer. Subscribers are eligible to receive ½ a yard of finished compost delivered to their house. Service area and pricing are dependent on potential customer density. *Current pricing - \$7.5 or \$10 / pickup, based on frequency.*

*Food Delivery + More:* ScrapDogs tows a trailer of compost behind a refrigerated van to complete its pickup routes. Subscribers to curbside pickup are able to purchase Maine-grown produce and specialty foods from ScrapDogs for home delivery. ScrapDogs is also building partnerships with local food pantries to expand home-delivery options to those without access to transportation.

*School + Commercial Services:* ScrapDogs works with a wide range of for-profit and non-profit institutions to collect food waste at a larger scale. Customers receive larger receptacles and can choose the frequency of pickups. *Current pricing varies by volume.*



## ScrapDogs at the Northport Transfer Station

ScrapDogs currently serves close to 500 customers in the midcoast region. Its service area stretches from Thomaston to Belfast and already includes a few customers in Northport along the Route 1 corridor.

ScrapDogs would like to provide food waste diversion opportunities for the entirety of Northport; however, limited housing density throughout most of the town is cost-prohibitive for the expansion of ScrapDogs pickup service. The addition of a centralized drop-off site at the Northport Transfer Station could meet the needs of all residents and complement the existing pickup service that ScrapDogs does offer in Bayside.

### How It Works

1. Residents subscribe online for \$12/month
2. Subscribers collect a clean 5-gallon bucket from the transfer station drop-off site
3. Subscribers fill their bucket with food waste
4. Subscribers return their full bucket to the drop-off site and swap it for a clean one
5. Subscribers can order up to ½ a yard of finished compost to be delivered by the bucket to lock-boxes at the drop-off site, or to their homes for an extra fee.



### Community-Wide Adoption and Potential Savings

ScrapDogs serves between 3-5% of households in its current service area on average, and has continued to grow at a rate of 50% annually. Adoption rates in Southern Maine for similar, older services serve close to 20% of households, representing a sizeable growth potential for ScrapDogs.

ScrapDogs currently serves <1% of households in Northport, partially due to its limited pickup service area. **If 5% of households in Northport (34 homes) composted with ScrapDogs it could potentially represent a \$390 savings for the transfer station annually, based on estimated volume.**

### Frequently Asked Questions

*How are these stations maintained? What about pests and smell?*

ScrapDogs maintains and services its drop-off stations on a weekly basis. No labor is expected from transfer station staff to maintain the containers. All food waste on site between visits is kept in sealed 5-gallon buckets inside of a palletized box with a lid. Sealed buckets do not emit odors and are fantastic pest deterrents.

*How much does it cost?*

The station is free for the transfer station to host. Residents who use the service are billed \$12 / month in exchange for clean buckets and a ½ yard of compost.