

Subcommittee Meeting – November 27, 2007: Increasing Source Reduction & Recycling Rates

Subcommittee members discussed the following:

- DEP discussed whether or not to continue monthly meetings or change to bi-monthly meetings. The consensus was to continue conducting monthly meetings in order to keep the momentum and communication alive in the subcommittees.
- DEP staffing needs to be addressed to accommodate the monthly meetings and to follow through with the Solid Waste Management Plan, (SWMP) through outreach, education and monetarily.
- The SWMP does not supply funding for implementation.
- Concerns that public education is not coming from DEP-that the public is waiting for a state message-we need to take advantage of the “climate” and have legislators invest in DEP. DEP needs to get the message out there to legislators to obtain more staffing and funding to carry out the SWMP. Need a “marketing campaign”. Lack of DEP marketing will result in a lost opportunity and wasted energy. Why can’t marketing resources be our goals?
- Concerns were expressed that there was too much attention by the group given to Pay As You Throw (PAYT). Others disagreed and were interested in the topic. Recommendation that the subcommittee develop other subcommittees within this group to cover the many areas we need to such as PAYT, recycle bank, single stream, climate change and education.
- Concerns that DEP’s website is not current and therefore does not supply enough creative material as other states do.
- Concerns that all Towns are not following the SWMP in the same way, which would make the system work better. Can’t the DEP mandate the plan to be followed in the same manner in all Towns?
- DEP staff is developing a survey to determine town waste disposal and recycling systems.
- Suggestion for future presentations including: CRRA explaining the business revenues and sale of commodities-current incentives; other incentive systems used by other Towns/Cities/States for the public
- Need some focus on manufacturing and their packaging.
- Need waste characterization study.