

Arlington Recycling Committee  
Minutes of 4/3/14

PRESENT Co-Chair Juli Brazile, Co-Chair Gordon Jamieson, Recycling Coordinator Charlotte Milan, Larry Slotnick, Susan Stamps, Ellen Callaway, Secretary Pete Howard

COORDINATOR'S REPORT: Charlotte provided an update (Ref 1) on diversion. Solid waste continues to be slightly greater than last year. She reported that 42 bins were sold at EcoFest making the ARC subsidization \$840. Also sold were 25 rain barrels.

RIGID PLASTIC: Charlotte is planning to add collection of plastic toys, furnishings, plastic plumbing piping at the fall CCD. Members debated what to call this material. Charlotte will check what other communities call it. VOTED to subsidize at up to \$250 beginning during fall CCD. Unanimous.

ECOFEST: All agreed that the ARC booth with the recycle paper column, the laptops showing dos & don'ts, and the non-curbside options handout was a huge success. Nice coverage in the Advocate as well. Members staffing the ARC table reported continuous visitors. The committee needs a receipt from Ellen for her costs in finishing her photos before we can reimburse her. Gordon plans to use the handout, appropriately titled & signed, as part of ARC's presentation to Annual Town Meeting. The diversion chart will be on the back. And Charlotte will post a copy to the website.

CCD: Charlotte will advertise the various collection options and will incorporate Ellen's sneaker photo. Juli will talk w/ Stratton. It would be desirable to have 4 volunteers on each shift to staff foam, metal, the corner, and shredding. Collecting for the Arlington Food Pantry was discussed. Some members thought this was dubious effort with no obvious connection to recycling and rather small proceeds. Charlotte stated that having a good will offering to a local charity was part of her deal with the shredding people. Gordon will pitch CCD to Town Meeting and Town Meeting's ACMI viewer audience.

EDUCATION CAMPAIGN: Committee's 20,000 HH Op-Ed article (Ref 2) was published in the Advocate on 3/27 before EcoFest as planned. The paper's editor decided not to use a reusable title. Future articles:

- Textiles - May (CCD prep)
- Paper, Paper, Paper - June/Jul
- Use Garbage Disposals - Aug/Sep
- Recycle Plastic Shopping Bags - Fall
- Styrofoam and Rigid Plastic (Fall CCD prep)

BACK YARD COMPOSTING: There will be a 1 day composting class in May.

OTHER INITIATIVES - Not discussed

Tires out of the trash stream by taking them to tire dealers.

Curbside kitchen waste collection for composting

Rug recycling by JRM and Brackett composting

Bulkies

NEXT MEETING 5/1/14 Meetings held 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday monthly at 7:30 PM in Town Hall Annex 1<sup>st</sup> Floor

Ref 1 Coordinator's Report

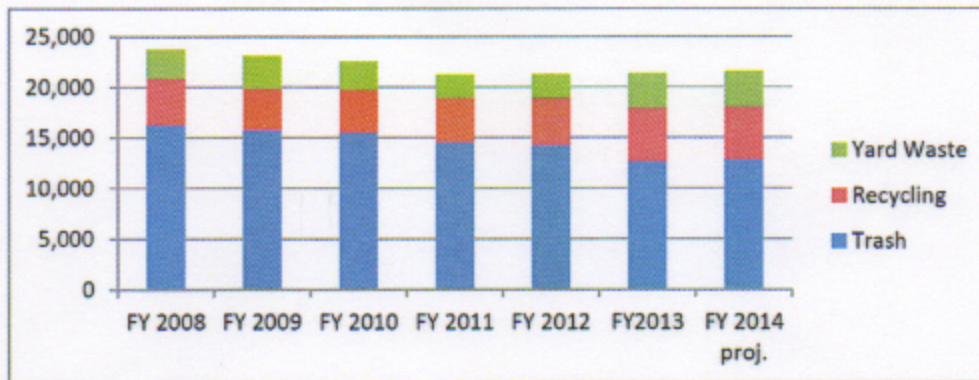
Ref 2 More Recycling Can Be Done

Ref 1

**Arlington Recycling Committee  
 Recycling Coordinator Report  
 April 3, 2014**

**Arlington Municipal Solid Waste Tonnage by Waste Category**

	Trash	Recycling	Yard Waste
FY 2008	16,232	4,639	2,881
FY 2009	15,740	4,165	3,216
FY 2010	15,493	4,244	2,799
FY 2011	14,538	4,395	2,332
FY 2012	14,248	4,652	2,381
FY2013	12,603	5,278	3,503
FY 2014 proj.	12,838	5,233	3,550



Month	Solid Waste
Jan. 2013	1,074
Feb.	865
Mar.	976
Apr.	1,084
May	1,148
Jun.	1,113
Jul.	1,126
Aug.	1,069
Sep.	1,042
Oct.	1,127
Nov.	1,049
Dec.	1,138
Jan. 2014	1,086
Feb.	880

Spring compost bin deal update: 25 sold at EcoFest; 2 given to Bishop School.

Rigid Plastic: could be collected at Community Collection Day for \$200 by JRM, I will continue to get comparables

**ARC Expense Report**

Date	Purchase	Cost proj.	Balance
1-Jul-13	Starting bal		\$ 3,000
16-Nov-13	Foam Rec	250	\$ 2,750
1-Mar-14	Trashformations	150 for prizes	\$ 2,600
Mar-14	comp. \$20 disc	X 42 bins= \$840	\$ 1,760
1-May-14	Foam Rec	250	

**Proposed Expense**

May-14	Rigid plastic	200	
			<b>\$1,310</b>

Arlington Advocate 3/27/14

COMMENTARY

# More recycling can be done

By Gordon Jamieson and Juli Brazile

**H**ere's the good news: Increased recycling in Arlington has saved the town over \$2 million over the past 10 years, as the amount of solid waste (trash) that the town pays to incinerate annually has dropped by one-third.

Yes, one-third of the level that it was just 10 years ago. And everyone involved is to be congratulated for these impressive results!

But there are still many recycling opportunities which can help us decrease our solid waste costs even more.

Next time you are about to toss a recyclable item

in the trash, ask yourself this question: If every one of the 20,000 plus households in Arlington recycled this item instead of throwing it away, how much lighter would our load of trash be this week? Remember, each ton of trash costs more than \$72 to incinerate.

■ A single weekday newspaper (x) 20,000 households = 6.25 tons

■ A single Sunday newspaper (x) 20,000 households = 28.1 tons

■ A single cereal box (x) 20,000 households = 1.875 tons

■ A single sheet of paper (x) 20,000 = 40 reams of paper = 800 pounds

■ A single paper towel inner core (x) 20,000 = 625 pounds

■ A single toilet paper core (x) 20,000 = 250 pounds

And the savings really add up when you look at cardboard. By the way, cardboard recycling is easier since you can put it out on the curb with your regular recycling and you no longer have to cut it down to fit in the recycling collection trucks!

■ A single large cardboard box (x) 20,000 = 30 tons

■ A single medium cardboard box (x) 20,000 = 15 tons

■ A single small cardboard box (x) 20,000 = 7.5 tons

■ As for those items you may feel a little lazy about rinsing bottles out - Think again:

■ A beer bottle (x) 20,000 = 5 tons

■ A small salsa jar (x) 20,000 = 5 tons

■ A single pasta sauce jar (x) 20,000 = 8 tons

■ A single (empty) plastic gallon milk container (x) 20,000 = 2.5 tons

You get the idea. So each time you are about to toss one of these items into the regular trash take a moment to imagine a pile of 20,000 of them - yikes - And then please 'toss' them in the recycling bin instead!

Every little effort really can and does make a big difference!

*Gordon Jamieson and Juli Brazile are the co-chairmen of the Arlington Recycling Committee.*