

Arlington Recycling Committee
Minutes of 6/5/14

PRESENT Co-Chairs: Juli Brazile and Gordon Jamieson; Recycling Coordinator Charlotte Milan, Ellen Callaway, Larry Slotnick, Susan Stamps, Laura Kiesel, Secretary: Pete Howard

COORDINATOR'S REPORT: Charlotte discussed her monthly report (Ref 1). The yearly trash prediction is slightly higher than last year. The balance in the ARC account is \$1520 before payment for trash publicity photos. Gordon to discuss photo retouching statement w/ Ellen & request more specific information. Charlotte has done some trash auditing. She believes there are pockets in the town where the trash regulations are not followed. She plans to spend the summer monitoring JRM's adherence to the contract. She has continued to work with school groups. Refer to Ref 1. The group discussed the reuse and recycling possibilities at the end of school - books, partial notebooks, loose leaf covers, etc. She is arranging a trip to Wheelabrator in North Andover in July. Details TBD.

TOWN DAY 9/13: Use Ecofest handout, perhaps reworked by Gordon & Juli. Charlotte to try to again involve Save Club.

SURVEY RESULTS: Juli provided a summary of the results (Ref 2). Results suggest that 2 trash barrels/HH would be OK. Correlation tables were provided. A surprising % of HH compost food waste. Many use disposals.

REDUCING TRASH IDEAS

Gordon suggested neighbors share a food waste composter. Perhaps we could subsidize a bin for such groups. Would promote neighborly behavior.

Gordon again urged that the Town encourage greater use of garbage disposals. Charlotte suggested he discuss w/ Town Engineer.

The group recognizes that there are new residents every year who need to be informed about the trash regulations.

Charlotte to promote rigid plastic collection for the Nov CCD.

FOOD WASTE:

Charlotte discussed the Cambridge (a few neighborhoods) & Salem (entire city) pilot food waste collection and composting programs. Cambridge is using modified regular garbage trucks. Initial results 10 lb/hh/week in Salem, 6.6 lb/hh/week in Cambridge.

PROMOTION

Paper, Paper, Paper - Gordon > Jun/Jul

Styrofoam > Larry

Food Waste > Why we should get it out of the trash stream – Pete

Food Waste > How will the Town do it – DPW will handle

SUMMARY OF YEAR

Pete provided (ref 3) a list of accomplishments, on going projects, and discussions based on the minutes.

NEXT MEETING 9/4/14 - No meetings in July & August. Starting in September, meetings held 1st Thursday monthly at 7:30 PM in Town Hall Annex 1st Floor

Ref 1 Coordinator's Report

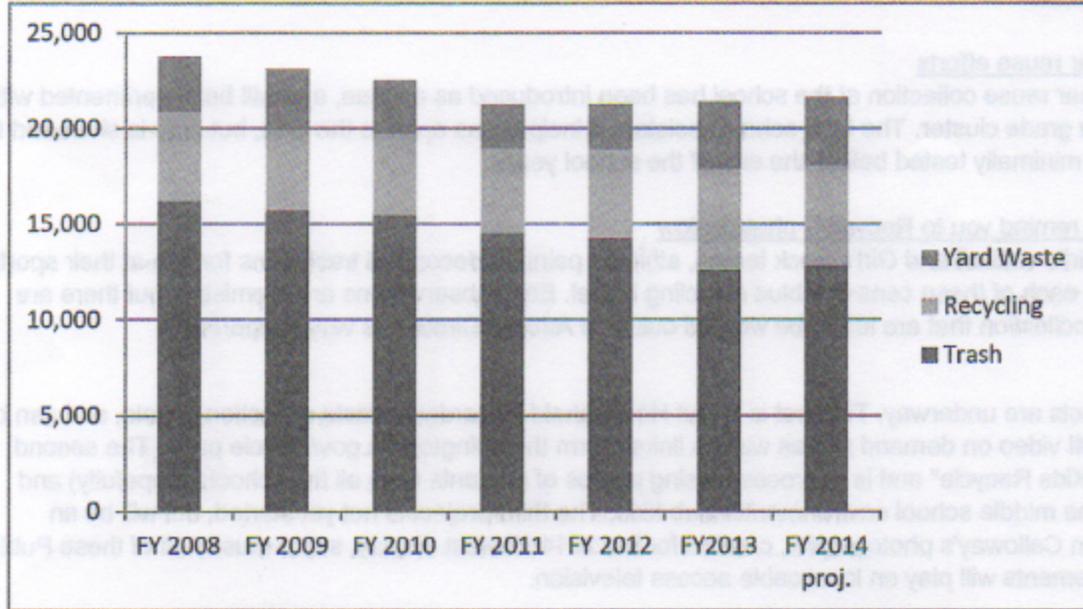
Ref 2 Vision 2020 Survey Results (DPW Questions)

Ref 3 From The ARC Minutes 2013-2014

Ref 1

Arlington Municipal Solid Waste Tonnage by Waste Category

	trash	recycling	yard waste	Mass MSW Master Plan Goals	What this means for Arlington
FY 2008	16,232	4,639	2,881	baseline MSW - 2008	16,232 tons
FY 2009	15,740	4,165	3,216	where we are in FY 2014	12,879 tons proj
FY 2010	15,493	4,244	2,799	30% reduction by 2020	10,875 tons
FY 2011	14,538	4,395	2,332	80% reduction by 2050	3,246 tons
FY 2012	14,248	4,652	2,381		
FY2013	12,603	5,278	3,503		
proj. FY 2014	12,879	5,260	3,497		



Monthly Totals

Month	Solid Waste Tons
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
March	970
April	1,131

ARC Expense Report

Date	Purchase	Cost proj.	Balance
7/1/2013	Starting bal		\$ 3,000
11/16/2013	Foam Rec	250	\$ 2,750
3/1/2014	Trashformations	140 for prizes	\$ 2,600
3/1/2014	comp. \$20 disc	X 42 bins= \$840	\$ 1,760
5/1/2014	Foam Rec	250	\$ 1,520

Updates

Trash Audit purpose: document curbside MSW behavior status: postponed until after curbside monitoring is undertaken for a month

Trash Monitoring purpose: monitor trash hauler, estimate current noncompliance by residents status: uderway

Updates, continued

Composting activities- end of school year update

Using parent volunteers, the Bracket School continues to deliver cafeteria waste (front of house) to Whole Food Market for no cost, and included in this waste are compostable lunch trays. Bishop School is underway with planning for an outdoor classroom, the timeline for which includes composting cafeteria waste to begin in the fall of 2014. Bishop hosted a composting workshop open to the community and attend by over 20 people, and Jeremy Marin taught a Community Education class this spring that was attended by 18 people. The Ottoson has a new environmental club that started worm bins in two science classrooms, and most school gardens have active composting of garden waste. The AHS leaf compost bins, started this fall, have been left unattended but are not creating any problems.

End of school year reuse efforts

Hosting end-of-year reuse collection at the school has been introduced as an idea, and will be experimented with in at least one 6th grade cluster. The high school assistant principal was open to the idea, but time is short and the idea may be only minimally tested before the end of the school year.

"Arlington Athletes remind you to Recycle"- photo below

Partnering with Girl's softball and Girl's track teams, athletes painted /decorated trash cans for use at their sports locations. Next to each of these cans is a blue recycling barrel. Early observations are promising, but there are details related to collection that are left to be worked out. The Athletic Director is very supportive.

Video projects

Three video projects are underway. The first is about Household Hazardous waste collection events, and can be found on the ACMI video on demand site as well as linked from the arlingtonma.gov/recycle page. The second project is called "Kids Recycle" and is in process, using photos of students from all the schools (hopefully) and voice over from the middle school environmental club kids. The third project is not yet started, but will be an adaptation of Ellen Calloway's photographs, created for the 2014 Ecofest display, set to music. All of these Public Service Announcements will play on local cable access television.



AHS Girls Softball Team, April 2014

Vision 2020 Annual Survey Results for 2014

Demographics

Total Responses:
6,536

Precinct

Precinct	#	%
Pct. 1	235	3.6%
Pct. 2	310	4.7%
Pct. 3	304	4.7%
Pct. 4	308	4.7%
Pct. 5	272	4.2%
Pct. 6	317	4.9%
Pct. 7	304	4.7%
Pct. 8	347	5.3%
Pct. 9	315	4.8%
Pct. 10	318	4.9%
Pct. 11	311	4.8%
Pct. 12	344	5.3%
Pct. 13	290	4.4%
Pct. 14	295	4.5%
Pct. 15	296	4.5%
Pct. 16	286	4.4%
Pct. 17	286	4.4%
Pct. 18	297	4.5%
Pct. 19	317	4.9%
Pct. 20	296	4.5%
Pct. 21	320	4.9%
No Response	168	2.6%

Household includes children < 18

	#	%
Under 18 yrs	1,933	29.6%

Household includes 18-29 year olds

	#	%
18-29 yrs	1,009	15.4%

Household includes 30-44 year olds

	#	%
30-44 yrs	2,119	32.4%

Household includes 45-54 year olds

	#	%
45-54 yrs	1,708	26.1%

Household includes 55-64 year olds

	#	%
55-64 yrs	1,543	23.6%

Household includes 65-74 year olds

	#	%
65-74 yrs	1,122	17.2%

Household includes 75+ year olds

	#	%
75+ yrs	993	15.2%

Years in Arlington¹

	#	%
<5	1,605	24.6%
6-15 yrs	1,748	26.7%
16-25 yrs	1,028	15.7%
26-40 yrs	872	13.3%
40+ yrs	1,180	18.1%
No Response	103	1.6%

Housing Type

	#	%
Single family	3,347	51.2%
2-family	1,806	27.6%
3-8 unit bldg	351	5.4%
9+ unit bldg	715	10.9%
No Response	317	4.9%

Own/Rent

	#	%
Rent	1,650	25.2%
Own	4,654	71.2%
No Response	232	3.5%

How many people are in your household?

	#	%
1-2 people	3,444	52.7%
3-4 people	2,213	33.9%
5-6 people	321	4.9%
7+people	20	0.3%
No Response	538	8.2%

¹There are two age ranges that overlap, 26-40 yrs and 40+ yrs. This is how the choices were presented in the paper survey.

*Note: Because of rounding, some choices add to 99 or 101%.

Public Works - Household Waste Program

The Town would like to know more about your residential trash, recycling, and yard waste practices in order to continue to update and improve the recovery of **recyclable and reusable** materials.

How does the survey benefit the Department of Public Works?

Speaking for the Department of Public Works, Charlotte Milan, Recycling Coordinator, said, "We can use this information to inform how we improve outreach to residents and continue to build positive recycling habits while reducing solid waste costs for the town."

The following questions are designed to create better understanding of waste disposal and recycling behavior.

How many 35-gallon equivalent bags or barrels of TRASH - not including recycling - does your household put out on the curb or in your building's dumpster each week, on average?

	#	%
One or fewer	4,322	68%
Two	1,553	24%
More than two	492	8%

How many RECYCLING CONTAINERS does your household put out on the curb each week, on average? (Fill in ONLY ONE bubble)

	#	%
One 16-gal bin	1,910	30%
More than one 16-gal bin	1,786	28%
One recycling barrel - 35 gal	1,087	17%
More than one 35-gal barrel	935	15%
Shared recycling totes	554	9%
Recycling not available	58	1%

What does your household do with YARD WASTE? (Fill in ALL answers that apply)

	#	%
Composted on the property	1,288	15%
Put on curb for Town collection, April - November	4,419	52%
Removed by a hired lawn service	1,230	15%
Handled by condo association/apartment building	900	11%
Kept on property	634	7%

What does your household do to dispose of FOOD WASTE? (Fill in ALL answers that apply)

	#	%
Include food waste with trash	4,477	46%
Compost some or all food waste at home	1,359	14%
Contract with a private company to take food waste for composting	43	0%
Use a garbage disposal	3,708	38%
Use a worm bin	69	1%

Public Works - Household Waste Program - TRASH

The Town would like to know more about your residential trash, recycling, and yard waste practices in order to continue to update and improve the recovery of **recyclable and reusable** materials.

Explanation of tables

These tables show how waste disposal and recycling practices vary for different demographic segments among survey respondents.

The percentages displayed indicate the % of that segment that provided a specific response. For instance 1,166 or 74% of households that have lived in Arlington <5 years put out one or fewer waste barrels per week. Percentages in most categories add to 100%.*

How many waste barrels per week?

Housing type	One or fewer		Two		More than two	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Single family	2,291	69%	815	25%	202	6%
2-family	1,151	65%	479	27%	151	8%
3-8 unit bldg	242	71%	71	21%	27	8%
9+ unit bldg	456	70%	100	15%	91	14%

Number of people in household	One or fewer		Two		More than two	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
1-2 people	2,494	75%	611	18%	231	7%
3-4 people	1,374	63%	664	30%	155	7%
5-6 people	147	46%	117	37%	54	17%
7+people	2	11%	7	39%	9	50%

Years in Arlington	One or fewer		Two		More than two	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
<5	1,166	74%	338	21%	82	5%
6-15 yrs	1,200	70%	404	24%	102	6%
16-25 yrs	696	69%	239	24%	68	7%
26-40 yrs	558	65%	215	25%	84	10%
40+ yrs	640	57%	332	30%	152	14%

Own/rent	One or fewer		Two		More than two	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Rent	1,072	68%	377	24%	135	9%
Own	3,112	68%	1,115	24%	344	8%

*Note: Because of rounding, some choices add to 99 or 101%.

Vision 2020 Annual Survey Results for 2014

Public Works - Household Waste Program - RECYCLING

The Town would like to know more about your residential trash, recycling, and yard waste practices in order to continue to update and improve the recovery of **recyclable and reusable** materials.

Explanation of tables

These tables show how waste disposal and recycling practices vary for different demographic segments among survey respondents.

The percentages displayed indicate the % of that segment that provided a specific response. For instance 1,015 or 31% of households who are in Single family homes put out One 16-gal recycling bin/week. Percentages in most categories add to 100%.*

How many recycling containers does your household put out on the curb each week, on average?

Housing type	One 16-gal bin		More than one 16-gal bin		One recycling barrel - 35 gal		More than one 35-gal barrel		Shared recycling totes		Recycling not available	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Single family	1,015	31%	1,013	31%	645	20%	563	17%	32	1%	8	0%
2-family	529	30%	584	33%	344	19%	291	16%	17	1%	6	0%
3-8 unit bldg	119	35%	93	28%	41	12%	23	7%	54	16%	6	2%
9+ unit bldg	133	20%	38	6%	18	3%	17	3%	422	64%	34	5%

Number of people in household	One 16-gal bin		More than one 16-gal bin		One recycling barrel - 35 gal		More than one 35-gal barrel		Shared recycling totes		Recycling not available	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
1-2 people	1,336	40%	778	23%	418	13%	269	8%	467	14%	45	1%
3-4 people	378	17%	768	35%	511	23%	481	22%	47	2%	3	0%
5-6 people	17	5%	110	35%	73	23%	117	37%				
7+people	4	24%	7	41%			5	29%	1	6%		

Own/rent	One 16-gal bin		More than one 16-gal bin		One recycling barrel - 35 gal		More than one 35-gal barrel		Shared recycling totes		Recycling not available	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Rent	494	31%	372	24%	181	12%	133	8%	343	22%	47	3%
Own	1,348	30%	1,352	30%	872	19%	777	17%	190	4%	5	0%

Years in Arlington	One 16-gal bin		More than one 16-gal bin		One recycling barrel - 35 gal		More than one 35-gal barrel		Shared recycling totes		Recycling not available	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
<5	412	26%	417	26%	339	21%	229	14%	175	11%	14	1%
6-15 yrs	399	24%	520	31%	306	18%	309	18%	142	8%	16	1%
16-25 yrs	287	29%	311	31%	164	16%	150	15%	81	8%	10	1%
26-40 yrs	291	34%	254	30%	119	14%	107	13%	69	8%	5	1%
40+ yrs	477	43%	268	24%	146	13%	132	12%	79	7%	10	1%

*Note: Because of rounding, some choices add to 99 or 101%.

FROM THE ARC MINUTES 2013-2014

Accomplished

- Town Day booth helped staff
- Fall CCDs helped staff
 - Funded Styrofoam collection
- EcoFest table
 - Flip chart laptop display
 - Sonotube column
 - Partly funded compost bins
- Spring CCD helped staff
 - Funded Styrofoam collection
- 20,000 household Advocate article
- Textile Advocate article
- Beyond Curbside Advocate Article
- By Brackett parents
 - Whole Foods to take Bracket lunch food waste
- By Coordinator (along w/ much else)
 - Weekly Advocate recycling articles

On Going

- Business recycling
- Plastic shopping bag recycling
- Advocate articles
 - Paper, paper, paper
- Collection Bin Map

Discussed

- Kitchen waste composting
- Mow leaves into lawn
- Compost display at DPW
- Independent survey of mailing list
- Bulk item collection
- Plastic film recycling
- Rigid plastic recycling
- Bins in parks
- Tires out of the trash stream
- Membership appointments