

SWMOC Public Input Questionnaire Paper Version

The Selectmen appointed the Solid Waste Management Options Committee (SWMOC) to study various options for disposal of trash and recyclables and to advise the Selectmen on available alternatives. SWMOC is conducting this survey to determine how Sudbury residents are currently disposing of their trash and recycling and to gather their opinions about alternative options.

The survey should take about 10 minutes, and the Committee is grateful for your input and your help. If you have questions or comments beyond the scope of this survey, please contact the Committee at swmoc@sudbury.ma.us. For more information about the Committee, visit the town website, www.sudbury.ma.us, and click on Committees. Thank you.

If you can answer this survey online, please do so. You can find the survey at the SWMOC website XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX.

If you choose to submit this paper version, you can drop the completed survey off at the Goodnow Library, the Put-&-Take area of the Transfer Station, or the Fairbank Senior Center, or mail it to SWMOC, Flynn Building, 278 Old Sudbury Road, Sudbury, MA 01776.

1. How do you currently dispose of your **trash**? (Check all that apply.)
- Picked up at curb.
 - Picked up at backdoor/garage.
 - Handled under condominium or apartment complex contract.
 - Taken to Sudbury Transfer Station on Rt. 20 near Wayland town line.
 - None of the above

1A. If you answered "None of the above," how do you currently dispose of your trash?

2. How do you currently dispose of your **recyclables**? (Check all that apply.)
- Picked up at curb.
 - Picked up at backdoor/garage.
 - Thrown out with the trash.
 - Handled under condominium or apartment complex contract.
 - Taken to Sudbury Transfer Station on Rt. 20 near Wayland town line.
 - None of the above

2A. If you answered "None of the above," how do you currently dispose of your recyclables?

3. Enter the total number of people in your household _____

SWMOC Final Report: APPENDIX II – Resident Questionnaire

How many age 18 or under? _____

How many age 65 or over? _____

4. In choosing your method of trash disposal, how important are these factors to you on a scale of 1 to 5? (1 – Very Important, 5 – Not important at all.)

Cost? _____

Recycling options? _____

Convenience? _____

5. How satisfied are you with your current trash disposal method for each of these factors on a scale of 1-5? (1-Very Satisfied, 5-Not Satisfied at all.)

Cost? _____

Recycling options? _____

Convenience? _____

6. Please rank the following trash disposal factors in order of importance to you. (1 – most important)

_____ Cost

_____ Recycling

_____ Convenience

_____ Social/community aspect of Transfer Station

_____ Other

- 6A. If you checked "Other," what are those factors?

If you pay a private hauler to pick up your trash, please answer Questions 7 and 8.

If you take your trash to the Sudbury Transfer Station, please skip to Question 9.

7. Why do you use a private hauler to pick up your trash? (Check all that apply.)

- It is convenient – I just have to bring my trash to the curb.
- It is very convenient – The hauler picks up my trash at backdoor/garage.
- They let me put out extra trash bags without charging me.
- They pick up my recyclables.
- They pick up my yard waste.
- They pick up appliances, furniture, etc.
- I do not know anything about Sudbury's Transfer Station.
- I have always used curbside pickup for my trash.
- I don't want to haul my trash to the Transfer Station in my car.
- I don't want to deal with pay-as-you-throw bags.
- The Transfer Station hours are not convenient for me.

SWMOC Final Report: APPENDIX II – Resident Questionnaire

7A. List any other reasons you use a private hauler:

8. How much are you paying for trash/recycling pickup now? (Fill in the amount depending on how you are billed and check the appropriate billing period.)

\$ _____ ___ per month
 ___ per quarter
 ___ per year

Private hauler customers, please go to Question 14.

If you take your trash to the Sudbury Transfer Station, please answer Questions 9 - 13.

9. How often on average do you go to the Transfer Station? (Check only one.)

- Weekly
- Every other week
- Once a month

10. How many bags do you usually take when you go to the Transfer Station? (Check only one.)

_____ large yellow bags
_____ small yellow bags

11. How many Transfer Station car stickers do you have? (Check only one.)

- One
- Two or more

12. Why do you use the Sudbury Transfer Station rather than a private trash hauler? (Check all that apply.)

- It is cheaper.
- It offers scheduling convenience and flexibility.
- I like to maximize recycling.
- I like to go to the Transfer Station.
- I like the “Put & Take” area at Transfer Station.
- I want my kids to be involved in recycling.
- I believe recyclables are handled more responsibly than with curbside pickup.
- I have always used it.
- I don't know what my options are for private trash haulers.

12A. Are there any other reasons that you use the Transfer Station?

13. If you were to switch to curbside pickup, what services would you want included in the program, keeping in mind that the more services that are included, the more costly the program will be? (Check all that apply.)

- Weekly pickup of recyclables.
- Yard waste pickup during fall and spring.
- Bulky waste (appliances, sofas, furniture, propane tanks) pickup for a fee.
- Christmas tree pickup.
- Maintain all Transfer Station recycling services.

13A. Are there any other services you would want included in a curbside program?

All Sudbury residents please answer Question 14.

14. The base cost of using the Sudbury Transfer Station is about \$230 a year counting the sticker fee and one large yellow bag a week; your cost is higher if you discard more than one yellow bag a week. The cost of using private haulers ranges from about \$450 to \$625 a year.

If you had the opportunity to subscribe to a townwide system of curbside trash and recyclables pickup which included the following features, would you be interested in signing up?

- Each residence would be supplied with a 64-gallon covered tote with wheels for trash.
- Each residence would be supplied with a 64-gallon covered tote with wheels for all recyclables.
- Your trash would be picked up weekly. You would wheel the tote to the curb each week.
- Your recycling tote containing mixed paper, glass, plastic and metal would be picked up weekly. You would wheel the tote to the curb. Recyclables would be sorted by the hauler at a specialized facility.
- All Transfer Station recycling services would remain available.
- The cost for such a program, based on data from comparable towns, would be around \$350 a year. The program would not be funded through property taxes.

_____ Yes I would sign up. _____ No I would not sign up. I would stay with my current situation.

Do you have any comments concerning trash and recyclables collection in Sudbury that would be useful to the SWMOC? _____
