

Lakes Region Household Hazardous Product Facility 2008 Annual Report

1. Facility Summary

- a. The Lakes Region Household Hazardous Product Facility (LRHHPF) is a permanent facility where residents and taxpayers can dispose of hazardous waste such as oil based paint, pesticides, toxic cleaners and solvents. The facility is a joint venture between the Lakes Region Planning Commission, the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services and the member Towns of Alton and Wolfeboro. For detailed information on what the facility does and does not accept, see the attached brochure. The facility is open every third Saturday 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM May through October.

- b. Currently there are two member towns: Alton, NH and Wolfeboro, NH with Wolfeboro being the host municipality. Operation of the facility is governed by an Inter-Municipal Agreement that spells out the cost sharing, officers, etc. The agreement also has provisions for other towns becoming members. The officers during 2008 were: Alan Sherwood Chair/Treasurer/Alton Selectman/member rep and Sarah Silk Vice-Chair/Secretary/Wolfeboro Selectman/member rep. Paid employees are: Sarah Silk is the site coordinator and Paulette Wentworth (Town of Alton Finance Officer) is the facility finance manager. Brenda McBride continues as licensed Pharmacist, with Amy Capone-Muccio is a part-time paid data entry person used for required medicine collection inventories. Shanna Chase is the survey taker for all collection days at both sites for consistency in recording essential cost allocation data.

- c. In 2006, a first ever medical waste collection of unwanted prescription drugs was held at the facility. The program expanded as two medical waste collections were held at the facility in 2007 and 2008. In both 2007 and 2008 two “satellite” household hazardous waste (HHW) collections were held at the Alton Solid Waste center with outstanding turnout. Also in 2008 a medical waste collection was held in Alton at the fall HHW collection.

- d. LRHHPF continues to provide small quantity generator access to the waste hauler with direct billing. DES frequently forwards folks from other communities that have missed their regional once a year HHW disposal option. The towns of Lee and Sandwich had special circumstances requiring the disposal of 55 gal drum quantities. DES compliance referred two cases of oil cleanup disposal (Ossipee and Tamworth). The Wolfeboro Waste Water Treatment Facility was direct billed for mobilization and disposal of a potentially explosive chemical from their lab. Disposal arrangements have been made with the waste hauler for large quantities of outdated agricultural chemicals containing DDT for spring of 2009. Many of the larger quantities of pesticides received at the Facility come from old farms and include products currently discontinued or banned. Providing access to the waste hauler encourages compliance as they pay directly for appropriate disposal and recovery costs while avoiding the substantial cost of mobilization to their site.

2. Summary of Operations

a. Usage Data

Overall attendance was up considerably in 2008. Alton participation for 2007 and 2008 was higher than prior years due to the satellite collections held in Alton.

Member Towns	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Alton	97	140	121	142	287	259
Wolfeboro	231	308	338	314	261	341
Non-Member Towns						
Canterbury				10		
Center Harbor					1	
Franklin	7					
Freedom	1					
Gilford			1		2	1
Gilmanton	5					
Holderness	1					
Laconia			1		1	
Lee						8
Manchester						2
Meredith						1
Moultonborough	4		2	8	2	5
New Durham						1
New Hampton		2				1
Ossipee		2			5	9
Rochester				1		
Sandown						2
Sandwich		12	6	1	1	13
Tamworth						2
Tuftonboro	16	15	12	15	28	25
Total	362	479	481	491	588	670

Table 1. Attendance by Households

b. Use Procedures for Member and Non-Member Towns

Residents of member towns Alton and Wolfeboro first pick up a pass at their respective solid waste facility and then transport up to 10 gallons of hazardous product to the collection facility on one of the six monthly collection dates. Also residents of Alton may transport product to the Alton Solid Waste Center on one of the scheduled satellite collection days.

Residents of any other town may use the Wolfeboro facility on a "pay at the gate" fee basis of \$40 for each 0-5 gallon increment, example \$80 for 10 gallons. Non-member communities attending HHW collections in 2008 were: Gilford, Lee, Meredith, Manchester, Moultonborough, New Durham, New Hampton, Ossipee, Sandwich, Tamworth, and Tuftonboro. For pharmaceutical waste, a nominal fee of \$25 per household will be charged in 2009.

Please see the attached brochure for more information on how households in your community can utilize the facility.

c. In 2008 we conducted three Medical Waste collections

In addition to the threat to communities via inappropriate ingestion, water supplies are contaminated by flushing as a disposal means and solid waste facility workers are at risk of exposure when pharmaceuticals are disposed of as trash. DES will be holding stake-holder meetings in 2009 to address proper disposal of medicines for households as well as businesses and healthcare organizations in an attempt to remove them from waste water treatment plant flows.

Medicines are classified as hazardous waste both in state and federal regulations. Increased inappropriate use of pharmaceuticals has led to a substantial rise in drug deaths caused by other than the stereotypical street drugs (8 in the Lakes Region). Because of the severity of the problem nation-wide, public service announcements have appeared on major television networks warning the public of the danger of prescription drugs, but giving little help in proper disposal options to eliminate their inappropriate use by others. The Lakes Region Household Hazardous Product Facility offers the first program in NH for disposal using best management practice protocols with a pharmacist, police officer, and registered hazardous waste hauler present to comply with state and federal regulations. (Facility personnel have trained Nashua Regional Solid Waste District personnel which held 2 collections using the NERC protocol. Gilford School personnel held a medicine collection in 2008 during a 1-day collection outside the training and protocol parameters.)

The 2006 successful pilot program evolved into 2 medicine collections in 2007/2008 at the permanent Facility site and one in Alton in 2008. Pharmaceutical collections have maintained a gallon or more from each participating household since the inception of the program (a total of 25 gal-2006, 54 gal-2007, and 116 gal-2008). LRHHPF follows the strict protocol established by NERC with review from the state and local law enforcement agencies. All prescription drugs are positively identified and counted by the pharmacist, and inventoried. Personal care products (PCP); vitamins, herbals, and over the counter (OTC); and non-controlled drugs are disposed of as a pesticide by the waste hauler (43 gal non-controlled and 64 gal OTC and PCP). The officer takes possession of all controlled pharmaceuticals for observed incineration (3 gal 6-21 & 3 gal 8-16 at LRHHPF, 3 gal 9-13 in Alton). Medications remain in their original container when placed in the drums for disposal as required by DEA guidelines.

Non-member communities represented at the 2008 medicine collections were: Brookfield, Center Harbor, Moultonborough, Sandwich, Tamworth, and Tuftonboro. A token fee of \$5/HH had been charged for non-members. As the 3 year program has become a permanent service of LRHHPF, costs have been evaluated and the fee adjusted to \$25/HH to cover the costs of additional personnel and disposal for this specific program.

d. Alton On-Site Collections

A recent change in state law has exempted towns from strict liability in the unlikely event of an accident while transporting product in a town vehicle. This change has allowed us to conduct satellite collections. The concept is that an area town could conduct a one day collection within their town and then transport product to our permanent facility. This would allow area towns to offer collections locally and more than once per year. This concept would require DES training of Town personnel.

Because of the dramatic increase in participation by Alton households at the 2007 collections, the Joint Board continued the on-site collections in 2008. Added to the member services provided directly to Alton was the first on-site medicine collection. The 2nd Saturday in July and September have been established as future on-site collections dates starting in 2009 with self-transport to LRHHPF. Medicine collections will be held on the fall date. The advantages of established dates to create routine disposal have been demonstrated over two decades by the LRHHPF schedule and prior 1-day collections.

e. Facility Improvements

No specific improvements were made in 2008. The member towns agreed to continue to set aside funds each year for the future construction of a cover over the collection work area for protection of personnel on collection days. There have been several collection days with heavy rain which limited attendance and also made the essential data collection process very difficult. At the end of 2008 an additional \$1,765.58 was set aside bringing the total up to \$9,765.58.

3. Financial Data

- a. In 2003 the LRHHPF finances were managed by the Town of Wolfeboro. For the year 2004 the Town of Alton took over the financial accounting for the facility with the Town's finance officer acting as LRHHPF finance manager. A special revenue account, under the control of the Alton Town Treasurer, was established for the facility. This same accounting approach has been continued through 2008. A summary of the financial data is shown in table 2.

REVENUES:	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Deposit to open bank account	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$0.00			
Carryover adjustment from prior year				\$324.24		-\$1.67
Contributions from Alton	\$6,087.10	\$8,755.00	\$10,466.00	\$11,505.55	\$18,500.00	\$16,347.28
Contributions from Wolfeboro	\$16,006.97	\$30,477.00	\$23,026.00	\$25,493.00	\$19,970.00	\$22,291.75
Contributions from State of NH	\$4,280.00	\$4,428.20	\$4,205.87	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,128.15
Receipts from Non-member Participants	\$1,100.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,520.00	\$2,140.00	\$2,515.00	\$3,719.00
Interest from Bank	\$0.00	\$137.17	\$59.67	\$344.65	\$376.94	\$521.22
	\$27,474.07	\$45,422.37	\$39,277.54	\$39,807.44	\$41,361.94	\$47,005.73
Overpayments as of end of year:						
Alton Overpayment	\$0.00	\$346.24	\$5,458.87	\$1,630.08	\$1,141.03	\$696.64
Wolfeboro overpayment	\$0.00	\$12,313.72	\$9,410.46	\$3,997.68	\$4,593.20	\$2,136.09
EXPENSES:						
Wages	\$4,365.30	\$5,810.13	\$5,302.63	\$6,688.90	\$6,483.63	\$7,844.63
Fica & Medicare	\$333.95	\$444.46	\$405.65	\$511.69	\$489.47	\$594.15
Dues/Fees				\$140.00	\$0.00	\$20.00
Mileage	\$652.17	\$459.00	\$408.31	\$919.65	\$803.88	\$1,446.13
Office Supplies	\$195.59	\$104.21	\$128.92	\$147.47	\$134.48	\$276.08
General Supplies	\$180.00	\$27.00	\$9.12	\$49.91	\$140.83	\$101.10
Legal Fees	\$2,576.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Telephone	\$841.55	\$839.19	\$1,045.57	\$1,210.64	\$1,152.65	\$1,167.20
Outside Services	\$18,057.29	\$18,836.98	\$14,200.28	\$20,570.13	\$21,590.96	\$29,973.54
Professional Services	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$140.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$175.00
New Equipment	\$0.00	\$5,569.10	\$1,443.88	(\$256.92)	\$244.95	\$0.00
New Equipment funds reserved for cover				\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$1,765.58
Equipment Maintenance	\$0.00	\$193.29	\$954.66	\$124.80	\$162.19	\$312.77
Unemployment	\$19.21	\$27.00		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$24.11
Workers Comp.	\$196.44	\$276.00		\$0.00	\$298.17	\$392.68
Electricity	\$56.57	\$76.05	\$67.70	\$73.41	\$76.50	\$80.03

Table 2. Financial Summary

b. Net Cost to Member Towns

Net operating costs are the expenses after all outside revenues have been subtracted from gross expenses. The expenses are then born by the member towns on a prorated basis based on each town's household visit data. The 2008 net costs are shown in Table 3.

2008 net cost	
Total Operating Expenses	\$42,407.42
Equipment funds reserved	\$1,765.58
Total Facility expense	\$44,173.00
Total Income (including 2007 carry over)	\$47,005.73
(Alton Payments YTD plus 2007 carry over)	\$16,347.28
(Wolfeboro Payments YTD plus 2007 carry over)	\$22,291.75
Net Outside Income	\$8,366.70
Net Facility Expenditures	\$35,806.30
2008 Use Data	
Alton Households	259.00
Wolfeboro Households	341.00
Total Member Town Households	600.00
Alton % use	43.17%
Wolfeboro % use	56.83%
Alton Vehicle Fee	
259 vehicles @ \$0.75	\$194.25
Total Alton Cost including vehicle fee charge	\$15,650.64
Alton overpayment to be carried over	\$696.64
Total Wolfeboro Cost including vehicle fee credit	\$20,155.66
Wolfeboro overpayment to be carried over	\$2,136.09

Table 3. Net Member Town Costs

- c. In 2006 a significant increase in cost per household was primarily due to: Setting aside \$4,000 for future capital improvements each year and loss of State grant funding which was \$4,205.87 in 2005. In 2007 \$4,000 was again set aside for capital improvements as was \$1,765.58 in 2008. State grant money was earned in 2007 but not received and credited until 2008. In 2007 and 2008 the cost of medical collections was carried as an overall facility expense. In 2009 member town medical collection costs will be allocated as two medical households being counted as one hazardous waste household.

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Gross Cost/HH	\$75.90	\$68.40	\$50.05	\$69.61	\$60.59	\$65.92
Net Member Town Cost/HH	\$67.36	\$59.31	\$40.57	\$68.80	\$59.74	\$59.68

Table 4. Cost per Participating Household

4. 2009 Projections

a. Wolfeboro Schedule – open to all Towns

The facility will be open 8:30 AM to 12:00PM on the following six Saturdays with Medical Waste collection on two dates:

May 16 Household Hazardous Waste
 June 20 Household Hazardous and Medical Waste
 July 18 Household Hazardous Waste
 August 15 Household Hazardous and Medical Waste
 September 19 Household Hazardous Waste
 October 17 Household Hazardous Waste

b. Alton satellite collections – Alton residents only

Collections will be at the Alton Solid Waste Facility from 8:30 AM to 12:00PM on the following days:

July 11 (Saturday) Household Hazardous Waste
 September 12 (Saturday) Household Hazardous and Medical Waste

c. Fees for non-member town households at the Wolfeboro facility for hazardous waste will remain at \$40 for up to 5 gallons and \$80 for between 5 and 10 gallons. (Note: this fee remains unchanged since the Facility was opened.) Fees for medical waste collections will be \$25 per household to cover actual cost per household.

d. Estimated 2009 Member Town Costs

LRHHPF may not receive any State grant funds for the 2009-2010 state fiscal year. Based on estimated gross facility expenses of \$45,757 and assuming the same other outside income as 2008 of \$4,242, no State grant funds and the same 43/57 split is facility use, the estimated 2008 net expenses are:

Alton \$17,851 minus \$696 carryover = \$17,155 to be billed.
 Wolfeboro \$23,664 minus \$2,136 carryover = \$21,527 to be billed.

The LRHHPF has experienced one decrease (2003) and one increase (2007) in setup fees and no changes to disposal costs since the opening of the facility in 2002. Because of rising disposal costs for the waste hauler, there has been a 4% increase for the Facility in 2008. Previously the Facility has not paid any Recovery Fee which is based on insurance, security, and energy costs based on monthly DOE average diesel prices which has been as high as 20% in 2008. The Joint Board has been able to negotiate no further changes in disposal and setup fees for 2 years with a 4% increase in disposal fees the third year. Recovery fees will be 3% for 2008, 6% 2009, and 9% in 2010, still substantially lower than the current 13.5%.

It is increasingly important to educate the public to the availability of less hazardous alternative products to prevent increases in Facility disposal costs as the unit prices rise over time. Such education is a required component of the NHDES Grant application. It will likely be necessary for the Facility to generate alternative product pamphlets as cuts in funding for DES and UNH Extension Service publications have eliminated those resources used in the past.