

## DUMP FEES ON CAPE COD

### Report of Spring 2003 Survey conducted by Truro Recycling Committee

#### Fees for households

All Cape towns rely primarily on license or sticker fees to cover the costs of accepting and disposing of solid waste generated in domestic households. The range of the fees is strikingly large, from \$35 to \$110 per yr., with a mean slightly over \$71. (It should be added, however, that in the town with the highest fee, half-priced stickers are available for those with low incomes.) A few respondents also reported that increases are being planned or considered. Orleans, which charges year-round residents only \$35 for unlimited use of the dump and includes beach access in that minimal fee, raises the fee to \$75 for seasonal users. Most towns handled the problem of what to charge for briefer periods by setting per-visit fees, between \$2 and \$10, most commonly \$5 per entry. Fees for a second car range from \$2 to \$40, averaging \$13.50.

An interesting footnote on fee-setting: Brewster explains that they based their fees on published data indicating that the national average solid-waste disposed of by households is 1.25 tons/yr. They multiplied that figure by the town's cost to get rid of the waste (\$68/ton). *If those figures are generally applicable, most Cape transfer stations are not covering costs for their disposal services to households.*

#### Fees for Commercial Users

There is even greater diversity in setting fees for businesses and refuse haulers. Seven towns sell annual stickers for trucks, charging from \$25 to \$190; one town allows no commercial users, and the remaining four towns rely on the tonnage charges. A small fee is often charged for the use of the scale. The average of the fees per ton is just over \$75. Four towns also supplied rates by the cubic yard in case the scale is not working; the range is from \$14 to \$30/cy, averaging \$20.25. (Truro has no scale, and charges less for uncompacted trash.)

All but three towns were asked if they require trash haulers to be licensed by the local Board of Health; only two do not. Annual license fees were ascertained from six towns, with such a surprisingly wide range (\$25--\$500) that an average would be meaningless.

Nine towns' dumps accept construction and demolition waste (C&D), charging from \$100 to \$200/ton; the mean is \$140.78. All but Truro accept bulky items (like mattresses and furniture), usually charging \$10 per item, whether brought by businesses or by householders to the transfer facilities.

Seven towns accept old boats for disposal, the fee being always charged by the ton, from \$100 to \$200, averaging \$152.40. Because of a lack of systematic inquiry, it may well be that the charge more generally varies with the composition, as was volunteered by a few respondents. For example, it was said that cut-up metal boats would be charged at the scrap metal rate (usually less than wood or fiberglass).

### Recycling fees

Most towns do not charge a fee to enter their recycling centers and to drop off the most commonly recycled materials (e.g., bottles, cans, newspapers). Traditionally, however, there are fees to accept a number of items, even when there is a net gain for the transfer station.

- Tires: Only Mashpee does not charge to accept tires of any size. Other towns generally take \$2 for a tire of up to 17 in., and varying amounts for larger ones, from \$2 to \$20. Generally fees are at least double for tires with rims.
- Car batteries: Though most of the 10 towns reporting do not charge. In three towns the fee is \$2, and in one town the fee is \$5.
- Tanks: In most of the towns reporting, at least one of the four types asked about is accepted without charge, though it is sometimes specified that they must be empty and clean.
- White goods: These large appliances always cost the consumer to dispose of, an average of a little over \$11 each, plus \$8 if it contains freon. Notice, however, that seven towns do not ask for this extra amount.
- Scrap metal: The range per ton ranges from nothing to \$100. A number of towns charge less for light items that are readily shredded, or extract a fee only for the largest, heaviest metal objects. 50-gallon steel drums are usually treated like scrap, though two towns mentioned a \$5 fee. (Probably half of the respondents did not mention them because they assumed it would be understood they are treated like other scrap metal.)
- Brush and wood: Though the six towns that do accept them probably chip these materials, only three mentioned a fee, from \$40 to \$70/ton.
- CRTs: Only one town charges nothing; the most popular fee is the highest, \$10, while in six towns it runs from \$2 to \$8. Five towns specified higher charges to accept large TVs, from \$10 to \$30.

Finally, nine towns were asked if they had considered changing to variable rates for householders depending on use, a system often called pay-per-bag or Pay As You Throw. In two towns it had been taken up and rejected; in five towns, there had been discussion but no definite decision; and in one it is currently being tried out. Only one town had not had it under consideration at all. Barnstable's pilot program will be watched with interest in most other places.

**---Dump Fees and Policies for Cape towns, 2003---**

	Sticker fee	2 <sup>nd</sup> car	Recy- cling fee	Per- day entry	<u>Commercial</u> sticker fee	per ton	<u>Trash Haulers</u> license	annual fee	C&D per ton	Bulky items	<u>Recycle tires</u> car 17"	truck >17"	Auto bat- teries	<u>Tanks</u> fuel oil	gaso- line	pro- pane	hot water
<b>Town</b>	(res.)																
<b>Barn</b>	\$110	\$15	free	\$7	none	\$65	---	---	\$125	\$10 ea	\$1-\$2	\$3-\$6	---	---	---	---	---
<b>Bou</b>	\$10	\$85	free	\$10	none	\$60-\$85/t	yes	\$75	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
<b>Brew</b>	\$85	\$15	free	\$10	none	\$68-\$85	yes	\$75	\$100 <sup>i</sup>	\$10	\$2	\$15	\$2	(split, in metal)	\$45	(metal)	
<b>Chat</b>	\$80	\$15	\$1	\$2/\$3	\$80	\$65	yes	---	\$125	\$2-\$10	\$2	\$6	free	(free if empty)	\$3-\$10	(free)	
<b>Den</b>	\$90	\$30	free	\$10 <sup>ii</sup>	\$80	\$90	no, have own	---	\$117	\$11-\$20	\$6	\$20	\$2	by wt.	by wt.	\$6	\$20
<b>East</b>	\$70	\$5	free	\$3 <sup>iii</sup>	\$100	\$70	---	---	\$200	\$10	\$3	\$5	\$5	\$25	---	\$5	\$10
<b>Fal</b>	\$20 <sup>iv</sup>	\$5	free	\$10	none	by load <sup>v</sup>	yes	\$500	by load	\$15	\$2	\$10	free	---	---	---	metal
<b>Har</b>	\$70	\$2	\$10	\$5	none	\$75	yes	\$40	\$100	\$5-\$10	\$3	\$15	free	---	---	\$5	---
<b>Mash</b>	\$55	\$10	free	\$10 <sup>vi</sup>	no comm.	<sup>vii</sup>	yes	\$500	not accep.	\$10	free	free	free	free	free	\$2-\$10	free
<b>Orl</b>	\$35/75 <sup>viii</sup>	\$5	\$1 seas.	\$5	\$25 <sup>ix</sup>	\$75	yes	\$25	\$200	\$10	\$2	\$2	free	free	free	free	\$15
<b>Ptown</b>	none	none	free	---	\$150	\$55/t <sup>x</sup>	yes	\$150	no	no	no	no	no	\$20	---	---	\$20
<b>Sand</b>	\$95	\$10	(incl.) <sup>xi</sup>	\$10 <sup>xii</sup>	\$190	\$20	---	---	not accept.	free <sup>xiii</sup>	\$2	---	---	free	---	free	free
<b>Well</b>	\$45	\$10	free	\$3 <sup>xiv</sup>	\$85 <sup>xv</sup>	\$65	yes	\$100	\$200	\$10-\$20	\$2	not accep.	Free	\$30	not accep.	Free	\$5
<b>Yar</b>	\$80	\$40	---	\$5 <sup>xvi</sup>	none	\$150 <sup>xvii</sup>	yes	\$75	\$100	\$15	\$1	\$2 w/ rim	free	by wt.	by wt.	free	\$5
<b>Tru</b>	\$40	\$5	free	\$5	\$40	\$10/cu yd	---	---	not accep.	not accep.	\$2	\$1-\$12 <sup>xviii</sup>	\$2	\$20	\$5	free	\$5

\$15 compacted

<sup>i</sup> Handyman debris; does not accept commercial construction/demolition debris

<sup>ii</sup> \$3 per bag/ \$10 minimum

<sup>iii</sup> Book of 5= \$15

<sup>iv</sup> \$40 for a 2-year sticker

<sup>v</sup> Pickup or utility trailer \$180; 4 x 8 trailer \$230; single axle, 6-wheel truck; 1-ton truck \$350

<sup>vi</sup> \$5/day for resident or property owner without sticker

<sup>vii</sup> Haulers must take waste to Upper Cape Regional Transfer Station- landscapers permit = \$150 for yard waste, plus per trip fee (\$10-\$20)

<sup>viii</sup> Seasonal renter, dump only: year-round fee includes beach access

<sup>ix</sup> Plus \$35 per vehicle

<sup>x</sup> Business trash \$2/ton

<sup>xi</sup> Included in cost of sticker; no recycling without sticker

<sup>xii</sup> Same for single load in pickup or trailer; \$20/load, one ton; all of these for households

<sup>xiii</sup> But no entry for any reason without sticker (before 7/1/03, \$10 each)

<sup>xiv</sup> Up to four bags per entry

<sup>xv</sup> Commercial vehicle stickers: cars, station wagons and small trucks \$55; > 1 ton = \$85

<sup>xvi</sup> \$50 for book of 10 coupons

<sup>xvii</sup> Plus \$5 for use of scale

<sup>xviii</sup> \$30 for a larger machine tire. Prices are same with or without rim.

---Dump Fees and Policies for Cape towns, 2003---

Town	White goods with freon:		Scrap metal /ton	50 gal. drum	Brush and wood	Boats	CRTs	Large TV's	Considered PAYT?
	no	yes							
<b>Barn</b>	\$5	\$15	\$25	---	no <sup>a</sup>	---	\$5	\$10-30	Trying it now
<b>Bou</b>	---	---	---	---	yes <sup>k</sup>	yes <sup>k</sup>	---	---	no
<b>Brew</b>	(metal)	+8	\$100	scrap	\$70/t	\$100/t	\$8	\$12-\$30	no
<b>Chat</b>	\$10		\$40	scrap	yes <sup>b</sup>	\$150/t	\$10		
<b>Den</b>	\$20		\$43		\$40-70/t <sup>c</sup>	\$112/t	\$7	\$14	yes, undecided
<b>East</b>	\$5—\$15	\$20	\$40	scrap	no	no	\$5	\$10	yes, undecided
<b>Fal</b>	\$10-\$20	?	\$10	\$10/t	no <sup>l</sup>	no	\$15		no
<b>Har</b>	\$10	\$15	\$60	\$40-60/t <sup>d</sup>	yes <sup>e</sup>	\$2	\$10		no
<b>Mash</b>	\$10		free		no <sup>f</sup>	no	\$5		will discuss soon
<b>Orl</b>	\$15		\$40	scrap	no <sup>g</sup>	\$200/t	\$10		
<b>Ptown</b>	\$15/\$25	no	\$40		\$10/load		yes		
<b>Sand</b>	\$12 <sup>a</sup>		\$40		no		no		
<b>Tru</b>	\$15		\$15	\$ 5	no	no	\$10		somewhat
<b>Well</b>	\$5		\$40	\$5	yes	\$200/t <sup>h</sup>	\$10		yes, not favorably
<b>Yar</b>	\$65/t	\$8ea	\$65		yes <sup>i</sup>	yes <sup>j</sup>	\$10		yes

<sup>a</sup> Leaves & grass: \$20/load

<sup>b</sup> \$8/carload, 32/pickup or trailer, 48/1-ton truck

<sup>c</sup> Commercial compost material (wood chips, mulch) \$40/ton, \$25 min.; yard waste \$70, \$5 min.

<sup>d</sup> Commercial leaves \$40; brush \$60

<sup>e</sup> Charge/ton varies with material.

<sup>f</sup> Yard waste (leaves, grass, shrub trimmings) accepted

<sup>g</sup> Residential only: free except "utility trailer" \$5/load, truck (<1 ton) \$10/load.

<sup>h</sup> Free for cars with sticker

<sup>i</sup> Free except wood chips: \$20/ton, \$10 minimum.

<sup>j</sup> Metal \$65/t; wood/fiberglass \$100/t.

<sup>k</sup> Not recycled, charged as regular trash

<sup>l</sup> Residents may put leaves and yard waste on compost pile; no charge.