

Lakes Region Household Hazardous Product Facility 2009 Annual Report

1. Facility Summary

- a. The Lakes Region Household Hazardous Product Facility (LRHHPF) is a permanent facility where households can dispose of household hazardous waste (HHW) such as oil based paint, pesticides, toxic cleaners and solvents. The facility was conceived as 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 method of cost sharing, officers, etc. The agreement also has provisions for other towns becoming members. The officers during 2009 were: Steve McMahon Chair/Treasurer/Alton Selectman/member rep and Sarah Silk Vice-Chair/Secretary/Wolfeboro Selectman/member rep. Paid employees are: Sarah Silk, site coordinator and Paulette Wentworth (Town of Alton Finance Officer) as the facility finance manager. Brenda McBride, a licensed Pharmacist, continues her 4th year for medicine collections. In addition, Shanna Chase performs as a survey taker on collection days, and Amy Capone-Muccio is the part-time paid data entry personnel for required medicine collection inventories. These tasks are completed at the permanent site and the satellite site for consistency in recording essential cost allocation data.
- c. In 2006, Northeast Recycling Council (NERC) and LRHHPF implemented New Hampshire's first ever waste collection of unwanted prescription drugs held during an HHW event. Two medical waste collections were held at the facility in 2007. In 2008, two medicine collections were held at the permanent Facility and one at the satellite collection in Alton.

Since its initiation in 2007, two "satellite" household hazardous waste (HHW) collections per year have been held at the Alton Solid Waste center with outstanding attendance.
- d. LRHHPF is able to arrange direct-pay disposal between the waste hauler and small quantity generators with prior notice. The Facility assists NH DES with compliance by providing appropriate disposal while avoiding substantial mobilization costs to the individual or business. Negotiations are underway to facilitate a pesticide disposal primarily for farmers by the Pesticide Control Div of the NH Dept of Agriculture in 2010.

2. Summary of Operations

a. Usage Data

Overall attendance was consistent in 2009. Alton participation continues to be high due to the satellite collections held in Alton.

Member Towns	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Alton	97	140	121	142	287	259	244
Wolfeboro	231	308	338	314	261	341	332
Non-Member Towns							
Canterbury				10			2
Contoocook							1
Center Harbor					1		
Farmington							3
Franconia							1
Franklin	7						
Freedom	1						
Gilford			1		2	1	
Gilmanton	5						2
Holderness	1						
Laconia			1		1		33
Lee						8	
Manchester						2	
Meredith						1	
Moultonborough	4		2	8	2	5	3
New Durham						1	
New Hampton		2				1	
Northwood							1
Ossipee		2			5	9	2
Rochester				1			
Sandown						2	
Sandwich		12	6	1	1	13	2

Strafford							1
Tamworth						2	
Tuftonboro	16	15	12	15	28	25	41
Total	362	479	481	491	588	670	668

Table 1. Attendance by Households

b. Procedures for Use by Member and Non-Member Towns

Residents of member towns of Alton and Wolfeboro first pick up a pass at their respective solid waste facility and then transport up to 10 gallons per pass of hazardous products to the permanent collection facility in Wolfeboro on one of the six monthly collection dates the third Saturday of the month May thru October. The June and August collections include the special pharmaceutical collections. (Both towns allow more than one visit of 10 gallons of HHW per year).

Residents of Alton may also transport HHW products to the Alton Solid Waste Center on the two scheduled satellite collection days held the second Saturday in the months of July and September. September is the Alton medicine collection. HHW products are self-transported the following week to the permanent facility for consolidation by the waste hauler. Non-controlled pharmaceuticals are self-transported immediately to the locked LRHHPF facility.

Residents of any non-member 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. For pharmaceutical waste a fee of \$25 per non-member household has been charged since 2009 to cover the actual costs specific to this program.

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

c. Medicine collections

In addition to the threat to communities via inappropriate ingestion or diversion, groundwater 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.

Some medicines are classified as hazardous waste in both state and federal regulations. Increased inappropriate use of pharmaceuticals has led to a substantial rise in drug deaths caused by prescription medications rather than the stereotypical street drugs. Because of the severity of the problem nation-wide, public service announcements have appeared on major television networks increasing public awareness of the danger of prescription drugs, but giving little direction in proper disposal options. Mixed messages come from governmental sources as to proper disposal routes.

The Lakes Region Household Hazardous Product Facility offers the longest running program in NH for disposal using NERC best management practice protocols with a pharmacist, police officer, and registered hazardous waste hauler present to comply with state and federal regulations. Controlled medications come under the custody of the officer, with all items disposed of in their original containers after positive identification and a count of all prescriptions. Non-controlled items primarily go as a pesticide solid with the waste hauler.

LRHHPF Site Coordinator, Sarah M Silk, presented a SWANA (Solid Waste Assoc. of North America) Technical Training 9-15-09 on medicine collections with DES personnel and DEA trained Lt Rondeau from the Wolfeboro Police Department. She continues to attend the NH Legislative Sharps Study Committee regarding the safe disposal of lancets, needles and other devices for injection of drugs.

Since 2006, those attending the medicine collections continue to bring an average of 1 gal/HH of: controlled and non-controlled prescription medications; pet medications; herbals; vitamins; over-the-counter remedies; lotions; drops; salves; sprays; etc.

d. Alton Satellite Collections

A few years ago, a change in state law exempted towns from strict liability in the unlikely event of an accident while transporting HHW products in a town vehicle with a town employee. The possibility of a costly hazardous waste cleanup often dissuaded a community from utilizing the self-transport option for HHW collections. This exemption has fostered a higher level of comfort for local officials enabling LRHHPF to conduct satellite collections in Alton. The concept is that an area town could conduct a one day collection within their town and then transport product to a permanent facility. This would allow NH towns to offer collections locally and more than once per year. This concept would require DES HHW Solid Waste Operator Training of town personnel operating the town-owned vehicle.

Alton's participation rate has risen from 27% to as high as 52%. The dramatic increase can be solely attributed to the added convenience of disposing of their HHW and unwanted medicines at the same time and place as a solid waste trip with no additional travel distance or time.

e. Facility Improvements

The major improvement to the Facility in 2009 was the much needed sanding, priming, and painting of the entire exterior of the metal hazmat building. Within 9 months of arrival, it was necessary for the manufacturer to ship supplies to address failed paint with spot repairs being made by a local professional painter.

The member towns continue to set aside funds each year for the future construction of a cover over the work area for protection of personnel on collection days. There have been several collection days with heavy rain which made the essential data collection process very difficult. By the end of 2009, \$9,765.58 has been set aside.

3. Financial Data

- a. In 2003 the LRHHPF finances were managed by the Town of Wolfeboro. Beginning in 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 2009. A summary of the financial data is shown in table 2.

REVENUES:	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
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	\$18,271.27
Contributions from Wolfeboro	\$16,006.97	\$30,477.00	\$23,026.00	\$25,493.00	\$19,970.00	\$22,291.75	\$23,245.51
Contributions from State of NH	\$4,280.00	\$4,428.20	\$4,205.87	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,128.15	\$2,972.00
Receipts from Non-member Participants	\$1,100.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,520.00	\$2,140.00	\$2,515.00	\$3,719.00	\$5,094.32
Interest from Bank	\$0.00	\$137.17	\$59.67	\$344.65	\$376.94	\$521.22	\$188.91
	\$27,474.07	\$45,422.37	\$39,277.54	\$39,807.44	\$41,361.94	\$47,005.73	\$49,772.01
Overpayments as of end of year:							
Alton Overpayment	\$0.00	\$346.24	\$5,458.87	\$1,630.08	\$1,141.03	\$696.64	\$2,202.10
Wolfeboro overpayment	\$0.00	\$12,313.72	\$9,410.46	\$3,997.68	\$4,593.20	\$2,136.09	\$1,812.91
EXPENSES:							
Wages	\$4,365.30	\$5,810.13	\$5,302.63	\$6,688.90	\$6,483.63	\$7,844.63	\$7,462.87
Fica & Medicare	\$333.95	\$444.46	\$405.65	\$511.69	\$489.47	\$594.15	\$570.90
Meetings							\$456.98

Dues/Fees				\$140.00	\$0.00	\$20.00	\$250.00
Mileage	\$652.17	\$459.00	\$408.31	\$919.65	\$803.88	\$1,446.13	\$968.90
Office Supplies	\$195.59	\$104.21	\$128.92	\$147.47	\$134.48	\$276.08	
Reference Mat.							\$135.55
General Supplies	\$180.00	\$27.00	\$9.12	\$49.91	\$140.83	\$101.10	\$23.05
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	\$1,028.11
Outside Services	\$18,057.29	\$18,836.98	\$14,200.28	\$20,570.13	\$21,590.96	\$29,973.54	\$30,750.78
Professional Services	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$140.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$175.00	\$250.00
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	\$2,416.24
Equipment Maintenance	\$0.00	\$193.29	\$954.66	\$124.80	\$162.19	\$312.77	\$2,811.75
Unemployment	\$19.21	\$27.00		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$24.11	\$33.57
Workers Comp.	\$196.44	\$276.00		\$0.00	\$298.17	\$392.68	\$453.73
Electricity	\$56.57	\$76.05	\$67.70	\$73.41	\$76.50	\$80.03	\$113.89

Table 2. Financial Summary

Non-member households from other towns and referrals to the Facility by NH DES pay in cash or check. HH are charged \$40 per 0-5 gal increment. Other disposals are charged full cost by the Facility (disposal plus recovery fee) so that there is no impact to the member communities or the annual budget. The pass-thru for 2009 for referrals totaled \$1,969.32.

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 borne by the member towns on a prorated basis based on each town's household visit data. The 2009 net costs are shown in Table 3.

2009 net cost	
Total Operating Expenses	\$43,340.76
Equipment funds reserved	\$2,416.24
Total Facility expense	\$45,757.00
Total Income (including 2008 carry over)	\$49,772.01
(Alton Payments YTD plus 2008 carry over)	\$18,271.27
(Wolfeboro Payments YTD plus 2008 carry over)	\$23,245.51
Net Outside Income	\$8,255.23
Net Facility Expenditures	\$37,501.77
2009 Use Data	
Alton Households	244
Wolfeboro Households	332
Total Member Town Households	576
Alton % use	42.36%
Wolfeboro % use	57.64%
Alton Vehicle Fee	
244 vehicles @ \$0.75	\$183.00
Total Alton Cost including vehicle fee charge	\$16,068.75
Alton overpayment to be carried over	\$2,202.52
Total Wolfeboro Cost including vehicle fee credit	\$21,433.02
Wolfeboro overpayment to be carried over	\$1,812.49

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. In 2007 and 2008 the cost of medical collections was carried as an overall facility expense. In 2009 it was determined that member town medical collection costs will be allocated as two medical collection households being counted as one hazardous waste household.

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Gross Cost/HH	\$75.90	\$68.40	\$50.05	\$69.61	\$60.59	\$65.92	63.91
Net Member Town Cost/HH	\$67.36	\$59.31	\$40.57	\$68.80	\$59.74	\$59.68	60.29

Table 4. Cost per Participating Household

4. 2010 Projections

a. Wolfeboro Schedule 2010 – open to all Towns

The facility will be open 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM on the following six, 3rd Saturdays with medicine collections on two dates:

May 15 Household Hazardous Waste
 June 19 Household Hazardous and Medical Waste
 July 17 Household Hazardous Waste
 August 21 Household Hazardous and Medical Waste
 September 18 Household Hazardous Waste
 October 16 Household Hazardous Waste

b. Alton satellite collections – Alton residents only

Collections will be at the Alton Solid Waste Facility from 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM on the following two, 2nd Saturdays with medicine collection on one date:

July 10 Household Hazardous Waste
 September 11 Household Hazardous and Medical Waste

c. Fees for non-member town households

Non-member HHW fees continue to remain unchanged from 2002 at \$40 for each 0-5 gallon increment scanning the cans (\$80 for 10 gallons). Fees for medicine collections will be \$25 per household to cover actual cost per household. The towns of Moultonborough, Sandwich, and Tuftonboro have continued reimbursement for the first \$40/year.

d. Estimated 2010 Member Town Costs

It is uncertain if State grant funds will be available for state fiscal year 2010-11. Based on estimated gross facility expenses of \$46,149 and assuming similar outside income of \$4,000, no State grant funds and the same 42/58 split is facility use, the estimated 2009 net expenses are:

Alton \$17,703 minus \$2,202 carryover = \$15,501 to be billed.
 Wolfeboro \$24,446 minus \$1,813 carryover = \$22,633 to be billed.

The Facility recovery fee will be 9% for 2010. Fees for 2011 will be negotiated with the waste hauler.

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.