

Lakes Region Household Hazardous Product Facility 2023 Annual Facility Report

1. Facility Summary

- a. The Lakes Region Household Hazardous Product Facility (LRHHPF) is a permanent facility providing disposal of household hazardous waste (HHW) such as oil base paint, automotive fluids, 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 founding member Towns of Alton and Wolfeboro 2002-2022 and Tuftonboro 2013-16. For detailed information on what the facility does and does not accept, see the colored brochure. The facility is open every third Saturday 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM, May through October at the Wolfeboro Facility, and additional second Saturdays in July and September in Alton.
- b. During 2022, the 21st year of the Inter-Municipal Agreement, member towns consist of Alton and Wolfeboro, NH with Wolfeboro continuing as host municipality. Operation of the facility is governed by a 10-year Inter-Municipal Agreement that spells out the method of cost sharing, officers, etc. The agreement also has provisions for other towns becoming members. The Joint Board members during 2023 were: Ryan Heath Chair/Treasurer/Alton Town Admin/member rep; Sarah Silk Vice Chair/Secretary/member rep/Site Coordinator.
- c. Paid (permanent part-time) employees are: Sarah Silk, site coordinator and Laura Parker, Town of Alton Finance Department as the facility finance manager. Seasonal part-time employees administer surveys. These personnel perform their duties at the permanent and satellite sites for consistent recording of essential cost allocation data.
- d. 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 and one at the satellite collection in Alton. A mid-winter medication-only collection the 3rd Saturday of February was initiated in 2018. The mid-winter collection was continued until 2020 when covid-19 caused the venue to become unavailable.

As of 2024, LRHHPF will no longer hold collections due to the unprecedented rise in HHW disposal costs, decreased quantities of medications and alternatives now existing in member towns. Wolfeboro Police Dept participates in the DEA drop offs April and October and has 24-hour access to a drop box mounted in the Police Dept lobby. Alton also accepts pharmaceuticals in a box mounted in their lobby whenever their Police Department is open.

- e. LRHHPF continues to arrange direct-pay disposal between the waste hauler and small quantity generators with prior notice. The Facility assists NH Dept of Agriculture and DES with compliance by providing appropriate disposal while avoiding substantial mobilization costs to the individual or business. A successful pesticide disposal, primarily for farmers, for the Pesticide Control Div of the NH Dept of Agriculture, Div. of Markets and Foods was held June 12, 2010. The first such collection conducted by the state of NH in twenty years. An EPA grant enabled the farmers to attend at no cost. The Site Coordinator has been in contact since 2017 with the NH Agriculture Commissioner and various others in the Pesticide division as they seek grant funding to enable another collection.

Lakes Region Planning Commission (LRPC) has shown interest to incorporate such a collection in a Dept. of Agriculture grant program.

2. Summary of Operations

a. Usage Data

Overall member attendance was 663 households (HH). Alton 2023 participation was 154 HH (13 less than 2022) and Wolfeboro 379 HH (20 less than 2022) plus 90 non-member HH. The numbers below reflect households for HHW only (medicine collections not on this chart).

Member Towns	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Alton	188	217	190	185	178	167	154
Wolfeboro	377	349	464	355	389	399	379
Non-Member Towns							
Alexandria					5		2
Andover					6		
Barnstead		1		4		10	6
Barrington			6				
Bartlett				4	9	6	1
Belmont					3		
Boscowan							
Bridgewater		2					
Bristol				4			
Brookfield	4	1			2		
Campton				5			
Canterbury						4	1
Center Barnstead					3		
Center Harbor				1	1	1	1
Chichester		1	3		1		3
Concord				1			
Danbury					3		
Deerfield						2	
Deering		1	4				
Derry	9	1			3		
Dover	1						
Dunbarton			6			1	
Durham							
Effingham				1			1
Epsom		1			7		2
Exeter				3		2	2
Farmington				5			
Franconia			1				
Franklin					3		
Freedom				6			17
Gilford		2	3	17	1		2

Gilmanton		1		1	4		
Grantham				1		11	
Groton							2
Hebron				6			2
Holderness			5		1		1
Hopkinton				3	1		3
Intervale							
Laconia		1	1	1	3	5	14
Lee							
Londonderry	1						
Madison				3	1		
Manchester		1			7		
Meredith		3		9	15	3	1
Milton		1					
Moultonborough	9	16	21	11	12	10	8
Nashua							2
New Durham		1			3	3	
New Hampton			1				
Newmarket	2	3					4
Northfield					2	5	2
Nottingham							1
Ossipee	3	2		1	6		7
Pembroke						1	
Pittsfield					1	1	1
Plymouth						1	
Rochester				2			
Rollinsford							
Rye							
Salisbury		1		1			
Sanbornton		4		2	1		1
Sanbornville				1			
Sandwich		16	12	9	3	5	1
Seabrook		1					
Somersworth		4					
South Sutton							
Strafford				1			
Stratham							
Tamworth	1	6	3	11	4		
Thornton			1				
Tilton						2	
Tuftsboro	11	15	10	8	14	3	2
Wakefield						3	
Warren		5					
Total	606	657	732	662	692	645	663

Table 1. Attendance by Households

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

Residents of member towns of Alton and Wolfeboro prior to collection day, pick up a pass at their respective solid waste facility and then transport up to 10 gallons of hazardous products per pass to the permanent collection facility in Wolfeboro on one of the six monthly collection dates the third Saturday of the month May thru October. All member towns are allowed more than one visit and one pass (valid for 10 gallons) such that all members receive the same services.

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. HHW products are self-transported to the permanent facility for consolidation by the waste hauler.

Residents of any non-member town may use the Wolfeboro facility utilizing a "pay at the gate" fee basis for **\$50 (starting in 2024) for each 0-5 gallon increment** (scanning the cans, not measuring the ounces within them). Multiple 5 gallon increments are accepted with \$50 payment per each increment.

Please see new 2024 brochure, (currently being printed) for more information on how households in all communities can utilize the facility.

Due to a large increase in the first year of the 2024-2026 waste hauler contract, the charge for non-members had to be adjusted so they continue to be self-supporting. New brochures will be emailed and hand-delivered to regional towns, LRPC and web sites to be updated.

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c. Medicine collections:

The Lakes Region Household Hazardous Product Facility offered the longest running program in NH, 2006-2023. Households will now be directed to drop boxes at local Police Department lobbies. There pharmaceutical waste may be safely and anonymously disposed of at no charge.

The 2022 revised brochure by LRPC and LRHHPF for disposal of sharps, lancets, pen needles, syringes and other devices for the injection of drugs, a revision of the original collaborative document continues to be in use at hazardous waste collections and at solid waste facilities.

Of the **41 HH for medication in 2023:** Alton had 13 and Wolfeboro had 27, plus 1 from Moultonborough. The total of 61 gallons was comprised of: 3.5 controlled, 25.75 non-controlled prescriptions and 31.75 over-the-counter or personal care products. Twice the number of Alton HH in 2022 as compared to 2021, fewer from Wolfeboro, with more gallons of controlled and non-controlled drugs.

d. Alton Satellite Collections:

State law exempts 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 with DES HHW Solid Waste Operator Training of town personnel operating the town-owned vehicle.

Convenient access has shown to be the most important factor for substantially increasing attendance, securing safe and appropriate disposal.

e. Facility Improvements

Member towns (Alton & Wolfeboro) continue to set aside funds each year for the future construction of a cover over the Facility work area for protection of personnel on collection days. Collection days with heavy rain make the essential data collection process very difficult and render consolidation of HHW products subject to potential site contamination and the introduction of rainwater in the drums. A dry environment is essential when collecting and identifying pharmaceuticals.

In 2014, the Facility haz-mat building dry chemical tank needed replacement because of rusting to meet fire regulations and the issue of peeling paint continues. The haz-mat building paint problem commenced immediately after delivery and several types of paint and paint prep methods have been used to no avail (touchups again in 2019). Roof treatment on the haz-mat building was completed in 2015. A ceramic material similar to truck bed lining is being explored.

Because of the unprecedented post-pandemic rise in the cost of materials, the build date for the Facility cover has been postponed with the result that the two small building roofs were re-shingled in spring 2022. Repainting and repairs to the wooden buildings are planned for 2024.

After 21 years of service the 30-yard dumpster cover failed due to UV ray exposure. A replacement was installed in 2023.

3. Financial Data

- a. In 2003 the LRHHPF finances were managed by the Town of Wolfeboro (employees are under Wolfeboro). Beginning in 2004, the Town of Alton took over the financial accounting for the facility acting as LRHHPF finance manager. A special revenue account, under the control of the Alton Town Treasurer, was established for the facility. This successful working relationship remains in place. A summary of the financial data is shown in table 2.

Table 2

REVENUES:	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Contributions from Alton	\$17,500	\$19,947	\$20,041	\$24,210	\$27,524.92	\$26,944.50	\$27,567.90
Contributions from Wolfeboro	\$39,858.06	\$46,564	\$48,395	\$56,490	\$64,224.80	\$62,870.50	\$64,325.10
Contributions from the State of NH	\$3,393	\$4,166	\$0.00	\$3,185	\$2,569	\$0.00	\$2,666
REVENUES	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Receipts from Non-Member Participants	\$2,800	\$6,320	\$5,717.09	\$8,260	\$10,281.97	\$7,086.49	\$7,224.77
Cost of Pesticide Collection	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Interest from Bank	\$208.92	\$222.87	\$244.21	\$701.60	\$1,023.76	\$1,211.18	\$1,762.82
Total	\$63,759.98	\$77,219.87	\$74,397.30	\$92,846.60	\$105,624.45	\$98,112.67	\$103,546.59
Year End Carry-overs							
Alton Carry-overs	\$-174.29	\$-3,733.08	\$-1,683	\$3,494.82	\$8,281.51	\$4,739.88	\$6,702.72
Wolfeboro Carry-overs	\$20,084	\$22,662.85	\$21,734	\$13,411.29	\$49,563.94	\$8,745.41	\$10,511.58
Total	\$20,258.60	\$18,929.77	\$20,051.35	\$16,906.11	\$57,845.45	\$13,485.29	\$17,214.30
EXPENSES:							
Wages	\$11,950.72	\$13,773.59	\$14,550.41	\$14,284.76	\$15,208.99	\$16,539.23	\$20,524.84
FICA & Medicare	\$919.08	\$1,028.36	\$1,099.25	\$1,080.07	\$1,142.71	\$1,257.14	\$1,570.13
Meetings	\$155.00	\$110.00	\$53.26	\$109.97	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$70.39
Dues / Fees	\$1,086.58	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Mileage	\$970.78	\$725.43	\$964.40	\$809.10	\$870.73	\$863.87	\$1,495.40
Office Supplies	\$63.19	\$173.14	\$250.44	\$0.00	\$586.13	\$126.67	\$303.68
Reference Materials	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
General Supplies	\$181.40	\$38.54	\$36.77	\$112.61	\$107.18	\$61.35	\$121.30

Legal Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Telephone	\$991.02	\$1,010.32	\$1,041.98	\$1,073.22	\$1,040.33	\$1,079.89	\$1,502.69
Medicine Collection	\$2,158.00	\$2,751.00	\$3,114.39	\$2,496.00	\$2,208.00	\$2,539.00	\$2,380.00
Outside Services	\$38,491.30	\$49,549.32	\$51,195.33	\$53,151.10	\$54,287.57	\$59,122.73	\$62,366.35
Professional Services	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$405.63	\$49.70	\$55.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
New Equipment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,950.00	\$2,022.12
New Equipment funds reserved for cover	\$4,000	\$4,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Equipment Maintenance	\$0.00	\$243.59	\$0.00	\$8.99	\$1,497.69	\$171.58	\$7.96
Unemployment	\$95.00	\$105.00	\$110.00	\$107.00	\$125.00	\$107.00	\$0.00
Workers Compensation	\$924.00	\$1,024.00	\$0.00	\$1,088.08	\$1,005.00	\$739.00	\$0.00
Electricity	\$103.51	\$218.64	\$96.95	\$80.91	\$100.08	\$69.92	\$86.72
Encumbered Bldg. Expense	\$0.00	\$218.64	\$525.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	\$62,099.58	\$75,131.77	\$73,642.80	\$75,940.21	\$76,736.72	\$84,627.38	\$93,151.58

Table 2. Financial Summary

Ninety non-member HHW households from non-member towns (including referrals to the Facility by NH DES) paid in cash or check. HH had been charged \$45 per 0-5 gal increment for HHW. The total collected for 2023 was \$7,224.77, \$138 over 2022.

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 prorated to the member towns based on each town's actual household visit data. The 2023 net costs are shown in Table 3.

2023 Net Cost	
Total Operating Expenses	<u>\$93,151.58</u>
Total Facility Expenses	\$93,151.58
Remaining 2023 funds from 3-7000-201 for roof fund	<u>\$4,000.00</u>
Total Facility Expenses including funds saved for Roof repair	\$97,151.58
Alton Payments YTD	\$27,567.90
2022 Carryover for Alton	\$4,739.88
Wolfeboro Payments YTD	\$64,325.10
2022 Carryover for Wolfeboro	\$8,745.41
Contributions from Grant for Alton – grant received 02/2023 48%	\$1,279.68
Contributions from Grant for Wolfeboro- grant received 02/2023 52%	\$1,386.32
Interest for 2023	\$1,762.82
Outside Income	<u>\$7,224.77</u>
Total Income	\$117,031.88
Net Member Expenditure	\$88,163.99
2023 Use Data	
Alton Households HHW & Medications	167
Wolfeboro Households HHW & Medications	406
Total Member Town Households	573
Alton % Use	29
Wolfeboro % Use	71
Alton Vehicle Fee 50 Vehicles @ 0.75	\$37.50
Total Alton Cost @ 29% and vehicle fee	\$25,605.06
Alton over payment to be carried over	\$6,702.72
Total Wolfeboro Cost @ 71% minus Vehicle Fee	\$62,558.93
Wolfeboro to be carried over	\$10,511.58
Estimated Alton Payment 2024 @ 30%	\$27,568.00
Estimated Wolfeboro Payment 2024 @ 70%	\$64,325.00

Table 3. Net Member Town Costs

4. 2024 Projections

a. Wolfeboro Schedule 2024 – open to Alton and all Towns

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

May 17	Household Hazardous Waste
June 15	Household Hazardous Waste
July 20	Household Hazardous Waste
August 19	Household Hazardous Waste
September 21	Household Hazardous Waste
October 19	Household Hazardous Waste

b. Alton satellite collections – Alton residents only

Collections will be at the Alton Transfer Station from 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM on the following two, 2nd Saturdays:

July 13	Household Hazardous Waste
September 14	Household Hazardous and Medical Waste

c. Fees for non-member town households

Non-member HHW fees will be **raised to \$50 in 2024** for each 0-5 gallon increment scanning the cans to compensate for the increase in the contracted fees for the 3-year waste contract. (The towns of Moultonborough, and Sandwich have continued reimbursement to their households for the first \$45/year and Freedom added the procedure in 2023. As they have honored the \$40-45 increase in the past, it is expected the \$5 increase will be honored as well. Contact will be made before the May collection.)

The 2024 Facility recovery fee will be variable with a base of 10 %, varying with the cost of fuel (0.5% with very 10 cents per gallon increase on diesel greater than \$3.90/gallon.) Setup and disposal fees thru 2026 have risen greatly +15% 2024, +10% 2025, +10% 2026 (increased from 4.5% in 2018, 3% 2019 and 2020, 10% in 2021, 3% 2022 and 2023).

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 disposal unit and recovery fee prices rise over time. Such education is a required component of NHDES Grant applications. (The amount of grant money per capita has been changing, lowering the amount to the Facility.)

Quarterly state-wide Site Coordinator meetings are facilitated by Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning. Review of standardized messaging for educating the public, exchanges of information from RFP responses by waste haulers, and performance of contractors at events, are topics of interest to the group.

LRHHPF will continue researching possibilities of legislation for Paint Care to remove the cost of oil based paint disposal. Paint Care also collects latex paint, removing the weight of the paint and the kitty litter/speedy dry, used to solidify the liquid, from the solid waste stream and the cost of tipping fees. It would be a double benefit to the budgets of HHW and solid waste, be environmentally sound, and only the users of paint would pay a small amount at time of purchase. Paint Care handles all pick-ups.

Reusable latex paint can then be remixed and sold for about \$11/gal (\$50-75/gal new @ retail.) NOTE: The Site Coordinator has testified and attended Environment & Agriculture Committee hearings and work sessions during 2024 regarding HB1504 relative to Paint Care. Contact with DES personnel regarding HB 1504 has shown some willingness to find solutions for necessary rules changes. The bill will then go to the Senate with a recommendation to be determined 3-19-24.

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