



Case Studies

Bristol Town Council Workshop

2.20.13

Smithfield, RI: No Bin, No Barrel
Middletown, RI: PAYT

Recycling.
Make it second nature.

Case Study: Smithfield, RI

- 7,400 households
- 21,800 residents
- Median household size: 2.73
- Median income: \$55,600
- Municipally contracted curbside collection; \$350K annual contract (FY06-07)



Smithfield program basics (FY07)

- Weekly Curbside collection
 - Trash
 - Recycling
 - Leaf & Yard debris
 - White goods (by appointment, monthly)
 - Bulky items



Smithfield Numbers-FY06, FY07

- Recycling stuck at 18%
- 25% of households eligible for residential program weren't recycling
- FY06, town paid \$49,000 in 'over-the-cap' fees; Unbudgeted expense
- Pressure to get to 35% diversion by 2012



No Bin, No Barrel Program

- At least one bin of recycling, with items in it, must be set out with the trash for the trash to be collected.
 - No Exceptions!
- No ordinance enacted
 - Enforcement tool implemented as a policy adjustment to enforce existing mandatory recycling law.



No Bin, No Barrel Timeline

- Eight weeks-\$5K materials, \$5K staff
 - Educational material development: 2 weeks
 - FAQs, Cover letter, Public notice
 - How to Recycle flyer provided by RIRRC
 - Printing: 2 weeks
 - Mailing: 2 weeks
 - Direct mail house
 - Provided wheeled bins to Smithfield Seniors on AF-RI waiting list
 - Residential customer care: 2 weeks prior to implementation, 2 weeks after implementation



Results

- MRF recycling rate climbed from 18% to 24% in two months; FY09 Rate at 26.5%
- Sold over 1000 recycling bins in four weeks
- Avoided \$25K in over-the-cap fees in FY07
- Tipping fees down to \$245K in FY08 vs. \$350K for FY06 (before program implementation)
- **Saved \$90K in FY08** (avoided projected \$50K over-the-cap fees; saved \$40K by staying under the cap by 14%)



Contacts

- Recycling Coordinator at Implementation:

Sarah Kite

sarahk@rirrc.org

942-1430 x 112

- Current Recycling Coordinator:

Lori Gagnon

233-1034 x 105,

lgagnon@smithfieldri.com



Rhode Island Resource Recovery

Recycling. Make it second nature.

Case Study: Middletown (FY05-06)

- 5,200 households
- 17,000 residents
- Median household size: 2.55
- Median income: \$51,075
- Transfer station and subscription service



Middletown

- In 2005, US Navy informed Middletown that it was closing the transfer station
- Between 2005-2007, Town conducted a study, held public hearings, and decided PAYT with automated carts was best option
- Grant from RIRRC helped offset costs of carts



Middletown

- Weekly curbside collection
 - Trash every week; blue cart one week, green cart the next week
- Automated collection; 65-gal carts
- Voluntary participation
- Subscription service available
- Access to Newport transfer station



Middletown resident costs

- \$75 annual program user fee
- \$2.00/33-gal. bag; \$1.75/15-gal. bag
- No bag needed for recyclables
- \$15-\$30 per bulky waste item (sticker required)
- \$14/min; \$90/ton at Newport Transfer Station



Middletown

- Recycling rate FY07 — 14.5%
- Recycling rate FY08 — 43%
- 75% Middletown residents participate in the PAYT program
- All Town Council members who voted for PAYT retained their seats in the 2008 election



Contact

- Recycling Coordinator:
Will Cronin
wcronin@middletownri.com
824-6136



Rhode Island Resource Recovery

Recycling. Make it second nature.