

**MATERIALS RECOVERY FACILITY WORK GROUP  
QUESTIONNAIRE REGARDING THE FUTURE OF WASTE MANAGEMENT ON MADELINE ISLAND**

Waste management is changing. The cost of removing our waste has and continues to go up. Also, the ability to recycle plastics, such as plastics 3-7, has changed due to decreasing demands and value for certain plastics. With this in mind we would like your feedback on what is important to you in regards to recycling and waste management. At this time, we are not supporting one position or another but want to poll the community to consider a lot of options to help us formulate a path forward for the Town Board's guidance.

Please answer the questions below in I. and II. using the scale at the top of the columns. A circled answer of 1 means the statement is not at all important to you; an answer of 5 means it is extremely important to you. If you feel somewhere in between, circle the number that best fits.

- I. Please circle a number based on your feeling about the statement.
- |  | <b>Not at all<br/>important</b> |  | <b>Somewhat<br/>unimportant</b> |  | <b>Neither<br/>important<br/>nor<br/>unimportant</b> |  | <b>Somewhat<br/>important</b> |  | <b>Extremely<br/>important</b> |
|--|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|--|--|--|-------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|
|--|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|--|--|--|-------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|

1. Recycling is important to me.	1		2		3		4		5
2. I don't mind separating my recyclables.	1		2		3		4		5
3. Studies show that the average household generates four pounds of food waste a day. I am willing to compost my food waste.	1		2		3		4		5
4. I would like to see the town set up an island wide compost and I would be willing to bring my food scraps to it.	1		2		3		4		5
5. I am willing to bring my useable items to the Exchange so as to keep it out of the landfills.	1		2		3		4		5
6. I am willing to find second uses for things verses throwing them away.	1		2		3		4		5

- II. Please indicate how important of a role local government should take in each of the following:

Educate residents about the importance of waste reduction and recycling.	1		2		3		4		5
Support the development and comprehensive waste reduction and recycling programs.	1		2		3		4		5
Develop progressive programs to expand waste reduction and recycling on Madeline island.	1		2		3		4		5

III. How willing are you for the Town to increase inconvenience and handling costs in order to assure that every user pays fees that exactly match the costs of the waste disposal services they are making use of?

(Check only one answer)

- 1. VERY unwilling. It should be as streamlined as possible.
- 2. Unwilling. We should lean toward streamlining.
- 3. Ambivalent. No strong feelings either way; I can see both sides.
- 4. Willing. We should lean toward matching behaviors to user fees.
- 5. VERY willing. The more the better -- this will give people an incentive to pay attention to the real cost of the waste they generate.

IV. How willing are you for the Town to try new approaches to waste management, even if that will require us to lay out some money to learn and there will be some trial and error? (Check only one answer).

- 1. VERY unwilling. Prefer to keep it as is.
- 2. Unwilling. We should change as little as possible.
- 3. Ambivalent. No strong feelings either way; I can see both sides.
- 4. Willing. I'm generally optimistic about trying something new.
- 5. VERY willing. Money spent learning how to manage waste well is a valuable investment in our future.

V.

Apart from wanting an efficient and cost-conscious operation, how willing are you for the Town to prioritize making the waste management system on Madeline Island 'super low impact' environmentally? (Check only one answer).

- 1. VERY unwilling. This shouldn't be a factor.
- 2. Unwilling. This shouldn't be a factor as long as we're compliant with the law.
- 3. Ambivalent. No strong feelings either way; I can see both sides.
- 4. Willing. I feel we should be better than the average in this respect.
- 5. VERY willing. It is a top priority for me; we should set an example of excellence.

VI. Please check YES or NO to the following statements with an "X".

YES

NO

I am willing to help pay the costs to provide alternative landfill disposal.				
I support public policies that lead to improved waste reduction and reuse.				
I support public policies that lead to improved recycling programs.				

VII. Please check YES or NO to the following statements with an "X".

YES

NO

1. I would like to see the town of La Pointe businesses have incentives for bringing your own bag.				
2. I try to re-use as much as I can before recycling them.				
3. I always recycle everything I can.				
4. It is important to me that the MRF continue to recycle everything possible.				
5. Having a place such as the Exchange at the MRF is important to me.				
6. I would like to see the Exchange expand so that more items can be re-purposed.				

VIII. Please check YES or NO with an "X" to what best reflects your economic values.

YES

NO

1. I think tourists should pay at the parks to dispose of their garbage.				
2. I am willing to pay more to dispose of my garbage to offset the cost of the loss of many recycling streams.				
3. I would be in favor of an Exchange just for construction materials.				
4. I am in favor of a volunteer donation for tourists to help defray the additional expense of hosting tourists on an island with unique challenges for disposing of waste.				
5. I am in favor of a visitors use fee for vehicles arriving on the island to help defray the additional expense of disposing of waste.				
6. I would participate in a junk car removal program.				
7. I have ___(insert number) vehicles for removal.				
8. I will donate any proceeds from junk car removal to a non-profit on the island.				
9. I am willing to help defray the cost of junk car removal.				
10. I am willing to help others remove their cars in kind trade (for example, volunteering).				
11. I have a tractor or flatbed trailer I am willing to donate it for use in a junk car removal program.				

IX. If you recycle, why do you recycle? (Check all that apply).

- (1) Conserve natural resources
- (2) Conserve energy
- (3) Prevent pollution
- (4) For future generations
- (5) Conserve landfills
- (6) Help the economy
- (7) Community pride/improvement

X. What prevents you from recycling or recycling more than you currently do? (Check all that apply).

- (1) Nothing, I recycle everything possible
- (2) I do not think it is necessary to recycle
- (3) I do not know what I can recycle
- (4) Recycling takes up too much room
- (5) It is too much work/ not physically able

XI. What comments or thoughts do you have?

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The Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) Work Group was initiated by the Town Board in November 2019 with the assignment of studying the MRF operations, budget and finances. Work Group members are Michael Childers, Chair, Michael Brenna, Gwen Smith Patterson, Joe Scarry, Chuck Irvine and Norm Castle. The Work Group will make recommendations to the Town Board. This survey is designed to gather information from MRF users for the Work Group's consideration and possible recommendations. March 2020.

**RESPONSES DUE TO THE TOWN HALL BY APRIL 30, 2020**