



Recycling at the Transfer Station reduces town taxes

2018 was a very busy year at the Tuftonboro Transfer Station, especially for construction debris. For the third year in a row, with an improved economy, the construction debris (C/D) total weight collected in 2018 has been well over what was shipped out the previous year. This will necessitate an increase in requested funding for the C/D budget line for 2019.

The new Transfer Station Stickers 2019-2020 are available for purchase at the Transfer Station or the Town Offices. The valid stickers are orange in color with white lettering and they are \$5 per sticker. Please make sure you have the current sticker displayed on the front window of any vehicle you drive to the Transfer Station. This helps us ensure that only Tuftonboro residents are using the facility, and that our taxpayers are only subsidizing Tuftonboro solid waste and construction debris.

Recycling procedures changed at the Transfer Station this year due to the collapse in the mixed paper

market. Mixed paper now goes into the household trash compactor. We still recycle glass; glass bottles and jars are dropped off by residents into a 30-yard container outside the recycling building. More families are recycling which shows an awareness in residents to the benefits of recycling, both in "direct revenue" increases and in "avoided costs" increases. The cash revenue generated by collecting fees for disposal of certain items added up to approximately \$94,380 for 2018. However, the collapse of the mixed paper market, increased charges for transportation, and lower commodity prices are a constant challenge to our bottom-line. Our best avenue to offset these challenges is to keep improving the percentage of our residents that recycle.

Please assist in reducing taxes by recycling plastic, tin cans, aluminum cans, glass, and corrugated cardboard. Residents that continue to throw recyclables into the compactors are just throwing tax

dollars down the drain and costing everyone more money in taxes. The more material we keep out of the household waste compactors, the more tax expense we avoid.

Following is a chart showing materials shipped from the Transfer Station during 2017 and 2018.

Material	2017	2018
Solid Waste	1060 tons	1105 tons
Construction Debris	800 tons	985 tons
Plastic	28 tons	25 tons
Paper	70 tons	23 tons
Glass	52 tons	70 tons
Cardboard	45 tons	67 tons
Steel/tin cans	7 tons	12 tons
Electronics	15 tons	12 tons
Car batteries	3,957 lbs.	2,050 lbs.
Freon items	214 units	184 units
Metal scrap	104 tons	107 tons
Propane items	80 units	98 units
Tires	16 tons	6 tons
Used oil	450 gallons	835 gallons
Recycled batteries	148 lbs.	146 lbs.
Fluorescent bulbs	3,504 linear feet	2,084 linear feet

Clayton Gallagher
Supervisor

Fire & Rescue Dept. warns of black ice, carbon monoxide

The Tuftonboro Fire & Rescue Department wishes everyone a safe, healthy and prosperous New Year. The winter of 2018/2019 started early with snow for Thanksgiving and skating on the ponds a few weeks before Christmas. All the snow storms have been quite manageable, and no ice storms have happened yet. So please keep your fingers crossed for the rest of the winter. The total calls for the Department for 2018 are more in line with past years. 2017 was unusually busy with 609 calls. A complete breakdown of department activity will be in the annual town report.

The ice on the lakes came in early this year. There are already numerous ice houses on the bays. Please use caution when going out onto the ice. There are areas that never freeze enough to support your weight and reefs (pressure ridges due to the ice expanding) can open up at any time. Falling into the cold water can be deadly at worst, costly at the least if you're in a vehicle that falls in. If you are not familiar with local conditions, please ask someone who is before venturing out onto the ice. I am sure most people who enjoy the ice on a regular basis will be more than happy to share their knowledge if you ask.

Please use caution when traveling on the roads; black ice can occur when the temperatures fluctuate between above and below freezing. The pavement may look wet, but it may be ice. Allow a few extra moments to drive to your destination so that your windshield is properly thawed and you don't have to rush on slippery roads. I realize this is plain "common sense" to most folks, but we continue to respond to

calls that could have been easily prevented by using plain "common sense." Thanks for giving me the chance get these reminders out.

Please keep an eye on your neighbors, especially ones that are not able to get out much due to the fact it is harder to keep up with the cost of heat and electricity. Often time houses are kept very cool to conserve money. Because of this many people live in a constant state of near hypothermia. When the power fails or the heat goes out for some other reason, these houses cool very rapidly putting these folks into full hypothermia very quickly. This can cause problems for many reasons such as compounding preexisting medical conditions or making poor decisions because of impaired mental function (one of the first signs of hypothermia is impaired mental function.) This can be very minor or as major as forgetting to take the correct medication on time. Hypothermia, if allowed to go on, can result in death on its own. So again please stop by and visit any one you may feel falls into this situation, if nothing else it may make their day having a little company.

Every house should have at least one working carbon monoxide detector near the sleeping areas. Carbon monoxide (CO) is a colorless odorless gas that is the result of the incomplete burning of carbon-based fuels. It is a normal by-product of your furnace, woodstove, gas dryer, or other gas appliance. It can enter the home by a malfunctioning appliance/furnace, a blocked chimney, or an exhaust vent that is too close to a window. CO is deadly if present in

sufficient quantity. It is known as the silent killer due the fact it is almost impossible to notice the effects of the gas until the levels are beyond safe limits. Please call 911 immediately if your CO detector goes off. Unlike smoke detectors, you will not be able to see or smell the presence of the gas. The fire department has specialized meters that detect the presence of the gas as well as the amounts of gas present. It may be a faulty detector, but, better safe than sorry when it comes to this silent killer. CO is probably not more common now than ever before, but the modern houses are much more air tight than those in the past due to modern building practices and better building materials. Because of this, the air in today's houses "doesn't move," and the toxic CO gets a chance to build up. Also CO detectors are more prevalent due to availability and lower cost than in the past.

2019 is the 81st year that the Tuftonboro Fire Rescue Department has been serving the community. I would like to thank all the past and present members for their dedicated years of service. It is humbling to be part of this department with its history of dedicated community service.

The Department and I look forward to continuing the best possible service to the community in 2019 and beyond. We encourage you to call or stop by if you have any questions or concerns you would like to bring to our attention.

Be safe.

Caleb Pike, Capt.
Tuftonboro Fire & Rescue

Candidates Night to be February 19 at the Town House

The Tuftonboro Association is once again sponsoring a "Candidates Night" where townspeople can hear

the views and ask questions of those seeking elective office. The date is Tuesday, March 19, 2019, and it

will be held at a new venue: the Tuftonboro Town House, 247 Middle Road, Tuftonboro at 7:00 p.m.