

AGENDA
SCARBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL
THURSDAY – MAY 1, 2019
WORKSHOP RE: THE RECYCLING PROGRAM 6:00 P.M.

Item 1. Call to Order.

Item 2. Those Present.

Item 3. Discussion on the Recycling Program.

Item 4. Adjournment.



MEMO

To: Scarborough Town Council
From: Mike Shaw, Public Works Director and Jami Fitch, Sustainability Coordinator
Date: April 25, 2019
Re: May 1, 2019 Recycling Workshop

Changes in global recycling markets are having a significant impact on Scarborough. The biggest impact is on our budget.

In January 2019, ecomaine began charging owner communities for contaminated recycling loads. A load of recycling is considered contaminated if it contains too much non-recyclable material. These contaminated loads have to be processed as municipal solid waste at ecomaine's waste-to-energy plant, at a cost of \$70.50 per ton. In January, Scarborough had 52 loads of recycling rejected because of their contamination levels. The disposal cost for these rejected loads was more than \$10,000.

Many communities are struggling with the challenge of contaminated recycling. Scarborough is partnering with ecomaine, the Towns of Windham and Falmouth, and the City of South Portland to develop and implement a community outreach program aimed at improving recycling habits. We will provide an overview of the program at the workshop. In addition, we have invited a representative from ecomaine to attend the workshop to explain the changes they are implementing in response to the global recycling markets.

Thank you for taking the time during this busy budget season to meet with us about recycling in Scarborough.