

ATTENTION HEATH RESIDENTS!

AS OF JULY 1, 2017 THE HEATH PAY-AS-YOU-THROW SOLID WASTE PROGRAM WILL BE EFFECTIVE.

On April 28, 2016, the Board of Selectmen voted to transition to a Pay-as-you-Throw (PAYT) solid waste program. Effective **July 1, 2017**, the Town of Heath will **require** the use of town “trash bag stickers” for disposal of household trash at the Transfer Station. Permits for use of the transfer station will cost \$15. Cost per trash bag sticker will be \$1.50. Stickers and permits can be purchased at the Heath Post Office during regular hours beginning in June. Residents may use any color or brand of bag they wish – “cinch” bags, “ultra flex,” scented, feed, etc. Bags must be secured and the trash bag sticker wrapped around the “neck” of the bag. Per sticker limit will be 33 gallons or 25 pounds – one 33 gallon bag or two small, 15 gallon kitchen bags tied together with sticker affixed to the neck. Bags larger than 33 gallons and “contractor bags” will not be allowed.

In a PAYT solid waste program, residents pay a per-unit fee for disposal of the solid waste that they generate. MassDEP has found that PAYT is the most effective mechanism for encouraging real waste reduction at the municipal level. Towns using a Pay-as-you-Throw program, dramatically reduce trash disposal, increase recycling, save money, and help the environment.

In the 145 Massachusetts municipalities with PAYT, solid waste tonnage was reduced by 25-50% through a combination of increased recycling, diversion to reuse, repair, donation, composting, and other methods of disposal.

(<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/recycle/reduce/pay-as-you-throw-payt.html>)

BENEFITS

- Reduced landfill disposal costs
- Reduced trash hauling costs
- Increased revenue from recycled materials
- Fair way to pay for trash
- Convenient and easy to participate
- Longer Mass. landfill life (most will close in 5 years)



RECYCLING

Recycling is required and mandatory in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (310CMR19.017). All glass, metal, plastic, paper, including cardboard, are prohibited from trash disposal and must be recycled. Almost 50% of household trash can be recycled. The Town of Heath recycles the following materials:

- Paper (clean paper only)
- Newspaper
- Cardboard (please flatten boxes)
- Plastics (containers smaller than 2 gallons)
- Glass
- Tin, steel and aluminum
- Milk and juice cartons

For a complete list of what can be recycled visit www.springfieldmrf.org or call the Franklin County Solid Waste District at 772-2438. Also, refer to transfer station brochure.

BULKY ITEMS

If you have bulky items (mattresses, upholstered furniture, wood furniture, toilets, sinks, and carpet) that you are unable to transport to the Greenfield Transfer Station (year-round) or to the Franklin County Solid Waste Management District's May and October Clean Sweep events, there are local companies that you can hire to pick up and properly dispose of the items.

You will be contracting directly with the private hauler and will be responsible for paying any pickup and disposal fees that are charged. This is NOT a service provided by the Town of Heath. You are making a private arrangement with a private company to perform a service, and the Town does not control the fees that are charged. This list is not intended to be an exhaustive list of all companies that may provide this service, and does not constitute any endorsement or recommendation by the Town of Heath.

Don Bascomb, 413-625-8386
M&M Removal, 413-773-7384

For information about using the Greenfield Transfer Station or the Clean Sweep collections, visit www.franklincountywastedistrict.org or call 772-2438.