

# Town of Bowdoinham, Maine

## Solid Waste and Recycling Rules

### INTRODUCTION

In accordance with Bowdoinham's 2024 Solid Waste Management Ordinance the Solid Waste and Recycling Rules are rules the Select Board enacts and may amend from time to time to further the purposes of the ordinance and to govern day-to-day operations of the Transfer Station, the Municipal Recycling Facility, and the Town's trash collection program, including, but not limited to applicable fees for collection and disposal of solid waste and commercial hauler permits, acceptable materials to be included in trash collection and for disposal at the Transfer Station and Municipal Recycling Facility, hours of operation of the Transfer Station and Municipal Recycling Facility, and trash collection schedules.

Also, in accordance with Bowdoinham's 2024 Solid Waste Management Ordinance, the Select Board and/or its delegate(s) are granted authority to administer and enforce the provisions of the ordinance.

Prior to enacting or amending the Solid Waste and Recycling Rules, the Select Board shall consult with the Solid Waste Director and/or Solid Waste Committee and shall conduct a public hearing, with the text of said Rules or amendment to be posted on the Town's website at least 10 days prior to the public hearing. The Solid Waste and Recycling Rules shall be on file in the Town Office and published on the Town's website.

### TRASH REMOVAL

Program description: Bowdoinham will provide curbside collection services. Collection will be performed only along accessible public roads within the Town. Residents or businesses on private roads can receive trash collection by bringing their trash to the junction of the nearest public road, or as directed by the Town.

Collection schedule: Regular curbside trash collection is scheduled for Thursdays; the collection day may change for a holiday or due to the weather. Any trash bag/container disturbed by animals, or other forces, prior to collection by either Municipal or Commercial hauler shall be cleaned up by the resident/business whose trash was disturbed.

Private ways: The Town's curbside trash collection program will only be collected from accessible public roads within the Town from lots with an occupied residence or business and an occupancy permit. Residents or businesses on private roads can receive trash pickup by bringing their trash to the junction of the nearest public road, or as directed by the Town. A public road may be deemed inaccessible if identified as such by Municipal Hauler and approved by Select Board.

Acceptable trash collection containers: Trash bags used shall not exceed twenty-five (25) pounds in weight or thirty (30) gallons in volume. Trash exceeding these parameters may be

## Solid Waste and Recycling Rules

eligible for bulky waste as described below. Each bag must have a valid trash tag attached. Fees for trash tags are outlined below and are available at the Town Office, the Municipal Recycling Facility and/or some local businesses.

Waste not subject to trash collection: The following will not be eligible for trash collection as outlined in this section shall be deemed to be Non-Standard Waste: motor oil, antifreeze, liquid paint, or other toxic liquids or toxic materials. These materials may be disposed of in accordance with Recycling or other methods as outlined below or as governed by State and Federal laws.

### RECYCLING PROGRAM

One purpose of Bowdoinham's Solid Waste Management Ordinance is to enhance and maintain the quality of the environment, to conserve natural resources and to prevent water and air pollution. Additionally, in accordance with the State's policy to actively promote and encourage waste reduction measures (38 M.R.S. §2101(2)) the Town shall operate a recycling program. Please refer to the Recyclable Material List on the Town's website for acceptable items.

Program description: Bowdoinham residents and businesses may bring properly separated recyclable materials to the Municipal Recycling Facility located at 121 Pond Road.

Hours of operation: The Municipal Recycling Facility shall be open to accept recyclables as follows:

- Tuesday from Noon (12:00 PM) until 6:00 PM
- Thursday from 8:00 AM until 4:00 PM
- Saturday from 8:00 AM until 4:00 PM

The facility may be closed from time to time due to inclement weather or other circumstances. Notice of closures will be posted on the Town's website.

Recyclable material separation: While the majority of recyclable materials may be co-mingled, corrugated cardboard and metals should be separated by the resident/business and be deposited in the areas designated for these materials.

Compostable materials: Compostable materials acceptable through the recycling program includes organic waste that can disintegrate into non-toxic natural elements at a rate consistent with similar organic materials. No material that may be considered hazardous or toxic will be accepted. Currently lawn waste is not accepted as compostable materials.

Bulky Waste: Bulky waste is accepted twice per year, as allowed by the State.

Permit: Each vehicle used by resident or business must display a Resident Disposal Permit. Permits are available at the Town Office or the Municipal Recycling Facility. The permit fee and duration is outlined below.

- Duration: As of the enactment of these rules permits do not have an expiration.
- Permit Fee: As of the enactment of these rules permits are available at no fee.

### SOLID WASTE FEES

All fees pertaining to Solid Waste shall be set by the Select Board.

## Solid Waste and Recycling Rules

Commercial Hauler: Any person or business, excepting the Municipal Hauler, who is engaged in the collection and transportation of solid waste shall pay an annual fee as follows:

- Commercial Hauler who engages in regularly scheduled collection:  
\$100/Year
- Commercial Hauler who engages in ad hoc collection services:  
\$100/Year

Trash Tag: Each bag left curbside for collection must have a valid trash tag attached. The cost of trash tags shall be set at a level projected to cover all costs of trash collection, transportation and disposal.

- Trash Tag pricing:  
~~\$3.00/bag~~ \$3.25/bag

Note: The Town may establish and maintain a subsidy program for citizens who meet certain criteria. Please contact the Town Office for more information on this program.

Bulky Waste: Bulky Waste item fees are set for each item as listed below. If you have an item of Bulky Waste that is not listed below contact the Solid Waste department for applicable pricing:

- |  |           |
|--|-----------|
| • Twin size box spring or mattress   | \$ 5.00   |
| • Full size box spring or mattress   | 8.00      |
| • Queen size box spring or mattress  | 10.00     |
| • King size box spring or mattress   | 15.00     |
| • Carpet - priced on the lesser of the size, e.g. 5' x 8' will be charged for 5' | 2.00/foot |
| • Chair  | 5.00      |
| • Recliner chair   | 10.00     |
| • Small couch  | 10.00     |
| • Large couch  | 14.00     |
| • Pull out couch   | 15.00     |
| • Recliner couch   | 15.00     |
| • 1/4 yard of construction debris*   | 30.00     |
| • 1/2 yard of construction debris*   | 50.00     |

\*Larger quantities of construction debris can be taken to a commercial site, including:

- Grimm Industries in Topsham
- Pine Tree Waste in West Bath
- Maine Waste to Energy in Auburn

For further information please contact:  
Solid Waste & Recycling Department  
Phone: (207) 666-3228  
Email: [recycling@bowdoinham.com](mailto:recycling@bowdoinham.com)

## Solid Waste and Recycling Rules

~~Approved Amended and signed this 26<sup>th</sup> day of November 2024 May 2026~~ by the Bowdoinham Select Board:

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Joanne Joy, Chair

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Mark Favreau, Vice-Chair

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~~Peter Feeney~~ Shelly Hooper

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Allen Acker

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Jason Hodde

## Self Sustaining Trash Tag Calculations For FY27 Pricing - 7/1/26 Effective Date

### SOLID WASTE ORDINANCE LANGUAGE

7.1.2 Fees: The Town shall fund trash program through a usage based fee. This fee shall be established by the Select Board in the Solid Waste and Recycling Rules, as may be amended from time to time, and shall be set at a level projected to cover all costs of trash collection, transportation and disposal.

DATA SET - based on 2025 actuals and FY27 pricing:

Annual Tonnage: 232.99 Tons  
Annual Trash Tags Redeemed:  $\approx 30,674$   
FY24 Hauler fee: \$2.35/bag  
Maine Waste to Energy FY25 disposal fee<sup>1</sup>: \$110.00/ton  
Estimated Administration and Oversight: \$2,500<sup>2</sup>

### SELF SUSTAINING CALCULATIONS:

Disposal costs - Maine Waste to Energy:  $232.99 \times \$110.00/\text{ton} = \$25,628.90$   
Hauler costs:  $30,674 \times \$2.35 = \$72,083.90$   
Administration and Oversight: = \$2,500  
TOTAL:  $\$100,212.80 \div 30,674 = \$3.27/\text{tag}$  [ROUNDED TO **\$3.25**]<sup>3</sup>

*For administrative purposes recommend costs be rounded to nearest \$.025*

### NEXT STEPS per Solid Waste and Recycling Rules

Prior to enacting or amending the Solid Waste and Recycling Rules, the Select Board shall ... conduct a public hearing, with the text of said Rules or amendment to be posted on the Town's website at least 10 days prior to the public hearing. The Solid Waste and Recycling Rules shall be on file in the Town Office and published on the Town's website.

All fees pertaining to Solid Waste shall be set by the Select Board and may be amended from time to time.

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<sup>1</sup> Based on renewal notification from vendor. Current cost \$93.93, contract allows for 2% - 4% based on CPI - increase is 17.1%. Vendor has stated they will finalize the \$110/ton by July 1.

<sup>2</sup> Estimate to cover incidental costs, e.g. tag printing and oversight by Solid Waste Director

<sup>3</sup> Cost of tags has been \$3.00/tag since 7/1/2022

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Joanne Joy, Chair

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