

Do you have any additional comments about the future of the recycling program?

Yes. 1) Tires should be returned to the tire shop or store. They have a recycle program! We don't want to be handling, storing and then there's the fire danger. 2) Brush, leaves and compost disposal is labor intensive. Requires a lot of space and expensive chippers, windrow turners, covered process area? 3) We should have/offer a drug/Rx turn in program 2x year. to help keep medicines out of the groundwater.

Yes, not at the Barn any longer its not safe. And a waste of town money

Yes, Consolidate the Public Works Facility. Do not Spend a CENT on old Recycling Barn!

Would NOT like to see it continued at "The Barn" location, but at a newer, easier to access building with better parking accomodation and clearly marked recycling drop areas.

Would love to see the program continue at the Recycling Barn. Thanks for creating this survey!

Would like to see more Special Drop Off Days for large items like mattresses, electronics, hazardous waste, but only ONCE per year!

Would like to continue using the recycle barn (on post road) if it can be reopened to pass the safety building code at a worth while cost

Would be willing to pay to divert recycling-best possible recycling

Willing to pay annual fee for access to building but hope curbside remains the same cost. Annual fee may deter many from bringing recycling so will see less recycling & more dumping, polluting.

Willing to continue to pay for furniture, hazardous waste and electronic disposal.

Will the town continue to landfill our recyclables if there is no market for them? Will we move to a waste to energy model before landfilling recyclables?

Why did the town shut down the Barn??? It is a great deal. This is a total waste of time.

Why are we paying for 3 employees to man dumpsters?

Why are private dumpsters a cheaper option for most? Why is private pickup cheaper than trash tags? Can people with dumpsters get a tax break? The town lacks the ability to dispose of trash.

When we opened the barn it was very well done, today it's a mess. Whomever is responsible for the condition we are in today should have no part in a future facility or planning. We have to many employees cut employees. There is no need to reinvent the wheel many towns do a great job. Freeport, Yarmouth are towns I have used and both do a great job.

We'd like to see the continuation of single-sort recycling pick-up and/or drop-off. If a good curbside program is implemented, a drop-off facility would be less critical (and vise-versa)

We should own our own building.

We should be able to handle (recycle or reuse) any product that can be recycled, regardless of "easy markets". In some cases this may mean storage ability/capacity until a commodity may be sold or moved. It also may mean we lose some money directly- as opposed to losing in tipping fees. The current limited program is an embarrassment to those of us who started the program which for years was the state leader in the "R's" Reduce, Reuse, Recycle.

Single mix recycling is a great way to minimize personal responsibility, it yields more contaminated product and makes us more a slave to someone else's market choices.

Re Hours: Fine as is for "austerity mode" additional days would also be okay.

We really miss the "gift shop"! The books, clothing, gently used items, antiques. <3

We need to reinstate what was successful recycling, waste mgmt program for the town. It does not [need] to be redesigned-simple put back in place. I believe the existing complement of staff should be replaced with a group supporting the existing program.

We need that barn!

We need it, all the stuff i used to recycle is going in trash bags and is too much, that fills up a bag fast.

We need a Town owned facility and we need to be nimble based on the market for recyclables. We must not pay to support recycling in the material is simply being land filled once it leaves town.

We need a spot we can dispose of trash. Leaving trash late at night for pickup does not work for my family. I currently use my works dumpster for a service the town should provide.

We need a new facility. It makes sense to build it at the same location as the PW. It makes sense to own our facility as opposed to leasing a location indefinitely.

We need a good recycle program, thank you for all your work making it happen!

We moved to Bowdoinham 4 years ago, and the Recycling Barn was one of my favorite aspects about the town. I am so disappointed and saddened at where the town's recycling and disposal services currently are. I hope I have it wrong, but somehow it also feels very political. Whether or not the Barn is repaired or the program is moved to a different location, I hope we can come together as a community and find a way to divert items from going into the landfill.

Also, I want to note, that while some of the services are not important to our household (curbside pickup, composting, etc), I marked them as a 1 because I think it is important to have the option for those who can't or don't have the ability to take their own recycling or have the space to compost.

We miss y'all & what y'all do for the community. Hoping to see y'all open up again. Thank you so much for all the work y'all do. It doesn't go unnoticed. :)

We liked the barn with the "boutique" and want it to return there, it worked VERY WELL>

We have missed this program and support it opening again.

We have been fortunate to have this program. Please do all that you can to maintain it.

We have an environmental crisis, and the town should be addressing the issue with passion, foresight, and ingenuity. We should be investigating new avenues and processes to allow us to minimize our impact on the land and sea and air. I would be happy to pay for recycling if this occurs.

We do sincerely hope it can be continued

We cannot afford a new recycling building at this time. taxes have gone up 2 years in a row and the way the economy is right now we as a household cannot afford to pay more Taxes. We think the town should try harder to work with Mr.Berry and find a solution there. Even if it is for a short term until the world has stabilized to a reasonable level.

Visit other towns' facilities and see what works well for them and might also work for us. A suggestion is the town of China, similar demographics. We had a better set up for the "Store" than they have, but the ease and accessibility of unloading recyclables is great especially for older folks. It has garbage disposal too. Demolition debris is weighed and charged for by the pound. It has easy to use brush, grass and leaf drop off. I would think the financial information would be available as well.

Town needs to have a town owned facility. We must move on from the "temporary" solution the recycle barn provided 30 years ago. People need to recognize the recycling world has changed significantly in 30 years and will continue to change. We need a facility that will allow us to be flexible with future change.

Timely implementation.

This need for the town's citizens should have been at the forefront of planning given the obvious visual conditions of the barn and not an afterthought (when other officials took notice, etc.). And until a permanent plan is in committee, goes for vote, site picked, plans drawn up, actual plans put into action...etc etc...how can the Town add a day to the current recycling if it has to be closed for "Winter Maintenance"? Many families can't do the curbside (timing being a big factor). Having our program so inaccessible in the past 2-3 months is disappointing and an inconvenience.

Time doesn't matter.

This survey is slanted very much towards recycling and wasteful spending. We have two groups of people who have spent 50k in the last year with no results. We cannot put our trash or recycling anywhere. The whole SLC or whatever acronym should be embarrassed.

This should be treated as a priority.

This is being overthought, all town needs: Recycling containers for recycling, That's it no buildings, open lot with containers.

This is a really important program for the trash, especially as people are shopping online etc. I'd like the town to continue to be a leader in trying to save the planet.

they should hire more employees

The town needs to come together and realize the importance of a central recycling location. For years we've benefited from the convenience of a privately owned facility which has allowed the costs to remain low to town residents. I think there needs to be a town vote on the construction of a new facility. The town is growing and we can set a great example to the rest of the state with a modernized and up to date facility and program. I think the people would be willing to entertain that.

The Team at the Barn is always great!!!

The recycling program and the barn are two different entities.

The recycling barn was a great place in town to run into people in the. Going there was a community event. Part of the fabric and culture of our town. We hope any recycling project will include those aspects that made the barn special.

the recycling barn is a staple in the community & what helps to make this town unique. Sometimes all the bells and whistles of a new facility are worth it in the long run.

The recycling barn has been a wonderful asset to our town. We need to set aside politics and fully assess financial and operational pros and cons of different proposals, including remaining in the barn, or moving to a new location. I suggest that the town bring an impartial mediator to facilitate the discussion, like good group decisions, so cooler heads can prevail.

The possibility of sharing with Bowdoin and/or Richmond to save on overall costs.

The people running the facility are fantastic I hope everyone can come up with a great plan that will help all and encourage more people to recycle!

The future should be the same as the past. it was working well and never should have changed.

the future of the program should be based on today's facts and figures and what is best for the whole town

The current location is convenient.

The cost is too high at 100k and we lack basic trash drop off.

The Comp Plan Vision included the Recycling Barn prominently. Keeping "the barn" itself may be more important for the community. By that I mean - considering long term what a restored barn could hold for community values, continuity, identity, etc. not just the better \$\$\$ value unless of course the differences between restore and build new it too large to justify.

The central location currently is convenient.

The Barry Barn is unusable. We need a new facility for Bowdoinham residents only.

The Barn is so important. It is beneficial to low-income families and removes trash from yards.

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The barn is outdated, it served the purpose for many years with a thank you to Mr. Berry, but time to move on with a new facility at Public Works

Environment is the hot word today, Grant money should be available to reduce cost of a Brand new operation, that Bowdoinham can take pride in and show off. In closing, not another dime spent at the Barn, To repeat, Time to Move On

The barn has worked well for us. Is it no longer possible to keep it? I wouldn't normally object to raising money for a new state-of-art facility but (1) the current international economics of recycling makes such an investment questionable and (2) I bet we couldn't afford the spaciousness of the current barn, which so many people value for allowing the "store" as well as for space to store recyclables until they accumulate into something marketable. A smaller less expensive efficient new building might not serve all those needs.

The 'Barn' has been so much more than a recycling center over the years. It is a place where our unique community comes together.... where we run in to neighbors and friends, where information is gathered and passed along, where we see and interact with members of our community whom we might not otherwise.

Thanks for your work on this!

Thank you for doing this survey! Recycling is so important!

Thank you for being so thoughtful about this. Just want to reiterate my concerns about turning people who cannot afford extra from recycling. The unintended consequences of that would negate positive environmental impacts (at best) and perhaps even worsen them. I'd welcome more creative ways to cover the costs of such a program.

Thank you for all your work to keep the recycling program going.

Thank you for all your efforts, I look forward to a permanent solution for our recycling system!

test

test

Stop spending money on old chicken barn build a small facility at Bowdoinham owned land

Staff are doing a great job!

Some recycling is better than none. It doesn't need to be so hard.

shut the whole thing down get a dumpster Tax payers shouldn't have to pay to provide a place for "social interaction" Take stuff you don't want to goodwill and the salvation army.

Roll back the clock.

Residents should single sort the materials that can earn the town money.

Regarding the old location-I don't feel we should be putting money into a building that the town does not own. It may be cheap per square footage but we aren't utilizing the entire building anyways. It makes sense to invest in a location/building that is more tailored to our needs- even look into a partnership with bowdoin for shared program to be more cost effective. I also don't feel we should pay per bag for recycling or pickup- our taxes are high enough and the recycling program should be run out of the current budget

Refurbishing the "Barn" seems more Eco-friendly than building new

Recycling is vital to the town and to our environment. It absolutely must continue in conjunction with: education on reducing consumption, proper handling of recycleables (identification, cleaning, etc.) and efficiency improvements on curbside pickup. I would be willing to buy two rolling bins at \$100/ea to collect paper, and mixed bottles/cans instead of bagging recycles. I would use curbside more if it were easier. I use the barn for odd items that don't go in with regular recycling (lightbulbs, paint, oil) returnables for donation and the "store" AND when it feels silly to get a big new empty trash bag to bag huge amounts of milk jugs and paper for curbside. The "swap shop" or "store" aspect of recycling is also very important to reducing waste of items with very high embodied energy. It also fosters a sense of community. I have lived in many towns, and used many recycling programs and the barn has been BY FAR the most pleasant recycling experience I can imagine. It is almost all contained within one building, it's dry, out of the wind, does not smell, items do not blow around, and you can use it in inclement weather. I want to see investments by both the town and owner of the barn to continue operations.

Recycling is very important to us! We love seeing neighbors at the barn!

Recycling is important if there is an end-user. It doesn't make sense to recycle if recyclables just end up in a landfill. I think we should focus more on providing access for disposal of bulky, electronic wastes, batteries, etc and then those items that there is not a market to recycle. The facility could always be expanded later if the recycling market opens up in the future.

Recycling is a very important program and should be fully implemented ASAP. A more central location such as adjacent to the fire department should be considered. Also propose a "build to suit" option in return for a long term lease by the town; could include current "barn" after repairs or a new private built facility.

Recuse/Remove the decision process from select board members that have the perception (non necessarily the reality) of personal agendas in regards to the present recycling program (e.g. Recycling Barn)

Really important to have a robust program!

Re Hours: Any two days fine- Would like 1 day to extend into the evening.

RE Electronics, bulky waste, and tires: Are there other places Bham residents can take these things? If not, we'd like to have it here. But no need to duplicate services.

Re Book Store: As long as they are not allowed to get musty
Such a shame that there are no facilities that recycle glass.

Rather use barn than expensive new facility

Put more money into the old recycling barn to get it up and running. Would be cheaper than building a new one.

Please stay at public works

Please Restore the barn for reuse- so WASTEFUL to build new!

Please read the minutes of the last committee to do this. At meetings 90% of the people wanted the current barn to be the recycling center. I have used the barn for years and never felt unsafe. return the recycling program to the barn where it belongs

Please make needed repairs to Post Road facility - thank you!

PLEASE keep the program going. Would like to keep it in present location and not build something new.

Please keep it at the "chicken" barn & spend the requisite money to upgrade it as necessary. Recycle the Recycling barn. We dont need another new building - enhance the "old" one.

Please keep any costs to use trash & recycling low so that people dispose of them properly.

Please get it back and Thankyou for your time and effort

Please don't dump any money into Dave Berry's barn. The place is a disaster

Please consider how additional expenses would be a financial burden on those with fixed incomes or unemployed. Do the right thing for Bowdoinham and the climate - recycling should in encouraged. Thanks

PLEASE BRING IT BACK!!!!

Please bring curbside back!

Please be better about notifying or publishing hours and closings. I put items our curbside 2 weeks in a row only to have to load and bring back to the house, then I loaded same items to bring to the facility and had them closed due to plow operations, but it was not snowing so I wouldn't have known they were closed for plowing and again had to bring them back and unload them at the house.

Placement of bins for deposit of newspaper and magazines places close to large entry door. This expedites disposal - [Allows] a couple to enter the barn rather than just one! *Mask required!

Peter Lewis should recuse himself from any further decisions regarding the recycling program. Regardless of whether or not there was any impropriety in recent developments with the recycling barn, there is a perception and that's enough.

Our recycling program was a model for many years and was easy and enjoyable to use. Recognizing that things change (such as prices for materials), I continue to believe that our program is best for our environment. Climate change is a real thing. We must do everything we can to support the most sustainable forms of waste disposal.

Our barn was utterly unique. In a town that has foregone many typical gathering places over the generations, the barn was a vital hub in that way.

Other towns have seemed to be successful with their programs. I honestly think if it was kept to the basics and done right Bowdoinham could be successful. Take a look at neighboring towns

Not at this time
Nope. Thanx for good work. i like how you run the place.
No particular additional days but another weekday operational time would be wonderful for us weekend workers.
No
No
New facility on town property
Need more access time.
My son lives in Dresden & they have a great recycling program. Maybe you've already looked into it. Worth a look if you haven't already.
My family has taken part in the Bowdoinham Recycling Program for decades, but if it becomes a service that we have to pay for, we will no longer be able to recycle. Recycling is extremely important to us, but we cannot afford to pay for it on our budget.
More updates from the town(and not selectmen or state reps) would be great. And not just via Facebook/Online methods. Not everyone is as "plugged in" as others and I've seen some people still putting out bags of recycling on Thursdays for pickup in November/December.
Many people have known about structural condition of the Recycling Barn for many years. The current crisis was manufactured and avoidable but alas, the genie is out of the bottle and the issues need to be addressed. The leader of the Recycling Operations reminds me a lot of our recent Town Manager. I hear a lot of statements about, "what we can't do" in regards to our recycling program, but I do not hear a lot of statements about "what we can do."
Make sure our working staff are safe, can keep warm and have a decent restroom(s)!
make an instagram page and hire more employees!
Lets not change our exemplary recycling program; Bowdoinham's wonderful recycling history is a great example for other towns!
Let's fix our great barn and get back to what worked. And NO fancy new expensive buildings or single sort!! This is not Falmouth or Scarborough, thank goodness.
Let's buy the barn and make the program the town wants! There was no reason to shut the barn down - let's move forward!
Keep what we have had. It was the best in Maine if not the US.
Keep the Pond Rd. Location
Keep the keep barn in good repair and or be ok for the next year(David will do: Doing Parking, Roof, Floors)
keep mostly the same
Keep it going!
keep it going!
Keep it at the barn.
Keep it at the Barn
Keep it affordable or people will drop their trash where ever they can, causing another problem.
keep bowdoinham recycle barn!
Keep barn

I've lived in many towns and Bowdoinham is the best and most encompassing system I've encountered!

I've also never lived anywhere I've had to "bag" my recycling. Most places provide you with a curbside recycling bin.

It's time for a new recycling building on Town property.

It's so important to take as much out of the waste stream as possible, as long as it can be viably recycled and reused.

It's really important. (and one weekday besides Saturday, any weekday)

It's incredibly important to me as a citizen that I have a space to properly dispose of waste, recycling, and compost in the most environmentally friendly way possible. My favorite thing about Bowdoinham is its natural waterways, forestation, biodiversity, and greenspaces, and I am passionate about continuing to have a facility that offers a wide range of services that protect Bowdoinham's environment. I am willing to pay money for the continuation and improvement of these services.

It's important to our town ethos and reputation!

It's important to continue a recycling program.

Its a valuable option for disposal of unwanted items vs having them dumped in the woods or building up on properties.

It should be at public works, paying rent is just paying someone else's bill. recycling shouldn't be dictated by sentimental feelings toward the recycling barn.

it should be a safe place for the worker , WHICH THE BARN IS NOT !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

It is time for the town to own its recycling center and stop spending tax dollars on a building we do not own. It just does not make sense to pay for a building you do not own, would you make roof repairs on a house you rent. . . no you would not .

It is an essential service

It is a vital program!

Important to have a town recycling program

If you make us pay for recycling it will only [end up] in back yard's and there are to many junk yard's in Bowdoinham now.

If the town decides to charge for this service make sure it cost less to recycle than to toss it in the trash

if the curbside pick-up is by fee only, less residents will participate. Our taxes should cover the cost!

If paying a yearly fee, maybe there's a way to give access to the people that pay.

If curbside recycling is available, there should be a way to identify the address associated with the recycling. If non-allowable items are included in the recycling bag, the responsible party should initially be informed and warned, with subsequent violations that party should be charged a fee and/or lose the privilege of curbside recycling.

I'd like to see the old recycling barn returned to use. Why should a recycling barn have to adhere to perfect, ideal structural engineers standards? I don't think single stream recycling is a good solution either. Betsy Steen's Article said it all, that a trip to the barn was a nice opportunity to socialize with Bowdoinham Folks that you don't see otherwise. The Public Works barn is horrible and cold. David Berry's scheme of storing recyclables until a price point was reached and then selling it was good.

i'd like to see glass return as an acceptable item to recycle

I would prefer not to pay to recycle. I believe less people would recycle if they had to pay. I think the program and its options was perfect as it was prior to COVID.

I would potentially be willing to pay for a fee to use the recycling program depending on how much- currently do pay property taxes so am already contributing. I do feel it is very important to have however. Thank you.

i would only pay for a bag curbside OR access to a recycling center...not both

I would love to see it continue at the Recycling Barn on Post Rd.

I would love to have someone in charge of communications for the recycling program. I think a lot of the contamination happens due to a lack of information. As people move to town, we need to make it easy for them to learn what can and can't be recycled (and where it needs to go). I always forget to ask when I'm actually at the recycling facility when I have questions, so having someone who takes and publishes FAQ's in the Bowdoinham news or something would be very valuable. Also knowing what happens to each of our different recyclable categories downstream. Who does Casella sell them to? Are they shipped off to China? The more informed we are, the better we can take care of the environment.

I would like the Town to do what is most fiscally responsible, without funding private improvements to a private citizens property. I believe the program to an entity that is not attached to a location.

I worry that once a program is paused, it's hard to get the ball rolling again. I think that it's very important to have a physical building where residents can recycle, exchange goods, and just catch up with each other. I liked how the program was working pre-pandemic - especially with the addition of the clothing exchange. What could be better than getting clothes to people who need them while reducing the town's cost of disposing surplus materials? I know that some have voiced their concerns about how much the overall program costs, but I think it's worth it as a service to our town (and the planet.)

I think we should have a cafe at the recycling facility.

I think we should go back to the way it was before. As little rent as we pay to use the facility, it seems like we could contribute some tax dollars to help maintain the building.

I think the town should have been preparing for this for years!

I think the town needs to look at Harpswells small facility and how it works. I do not feel the town needs a huge building to make recycling work.

I think the reuse ideas (the store and clothing exchange) are really good! Also, taking as many types of things as possible out of the trash is good.

I think residents of other towns would like to be able to use our recycling center and would gladly pay an annual fee. I'd like to see this offered to at least Bowdoin residents since they do not have a similar facility.

It would be nice if we could also bring and drop off regular household trash at the same time as recycling.

I also think the egg carton recycling is great and should be kept.

I think it is really important to have a program like this in our community. I love the idea that you can take basically anything you need to dispose of to the barn and pay little to no cost to dispose of it. Of course I am speaking in terms of when the barn was operating on Post Road. It is hard to find a recycling program like this in any other town. I definitely take advantage of this program. I can't even imagine how much trash I would have if I didn't recycle. I can only imagine how much more trash the trash guy would have to pick up if we didn't have a program like this. Bringing my recycling to another town is also impossible because most towns require you to be a resident of that town in order to use their services. I think the select board and everyone else who is involved need to take a serious look at the options and figure something out. This town needs a recycling facility. If you need evidence of it then take today. The recycling facility had to close at 2:30 because the silver bullets were too full to stay open for business. This only shows just how many people, other than myself, take advantage of this program.

I think it is important for a town to commit to recycling and foster the practice in schools and town entities as a way of being good stewards for our part of the planet.

I think a new facility will of necessity be much smaller than the present facility and will make for a less robust recycling program. I'm hoping the present facility can be improved to provide for the future allowing for Bowdoinham's once impressive recycling program to begin again.

I strongly oppose using Casella, we need to really recycle

I sincerely hope it continues to operate some where (no preference) and in a well organized manner.

I seriously hope curbside recycling can be brought back. The easier we make it to recycle the more people will do it.

I see the recycling program as a service to the town, just like the fire department or the post office, so I feel that we should not be paying more than the cost of the service/ not for profit.

I rely on the clothing store to get clothing for the kids. I also go to the church for clothes but using both was super important to me. I also use the store to have them pick some books and toys that they want. It's important for me and other low income people.

I refrain from answering the bag tag cost due to having a dumpster.

I really hope we can get back to a similar set up. It is a good thing for our community. I know I am missing it a lot. Taking recycling back became more of a ritual and less of a chore. The staff was always so friendly and helpful.

I miss the barn! I miss bringing my used items and seeing them in the hands of happy people before I left, and I loved that there was no shame in scoring great stuff there. It was part of what this town is about: thrift, environmental awareness, community, and resourcefulness. Part of what made the barn work is that there was a lot of square footage for not much money. If we build new, just large enough for what is required to dispose of materials, you lose the magic of the barn. If I wasn't subscribed to the newspaper, I would go there for papers to start my fires. I could get egg cartons for backyard hens. I would bring home a few magazines to read. We built a greenhouse from discarded windows. My sister-in-law would make mittens out of discarded wool sweaters. My kids would bring old toys and come home with new ones. If Bowdoinham pays new construction prices for a recycling facility, we lose all of those things. None of those things are absolutely necessary, but they add so much richness to the town and allow us all to consume less and share more.

I loved the open bins for newspaper, so people could leave theirs and others could take some home for mulching the garden, starting woodstoves, etc. Ditto the open bins for magazines where you might find something fun to take home and flip through or cut up, that someone else had finished with. To be honest, all the open bins were great for if you needed empty milk jugs or some scrap wood or some cardboard for a project of some kind. (I'm a teacher - we use a lot of recycled things for school crafts and projects)

I love the family feeling of the barn... would be nice if we could capture that feeling

I love the Barn but am interested to see an apples-to-apples cost comparison between the necessary improvements there and building a new facility that can accommodate our needs.

I liked the old format when David Berry was running it!

I liked it just how it was and where it was

I like the old existing barn! It has more parking, also. RE Hours: Any Afternoons

I just want to say THANK YOU to my neighbors who are volunteering their time to serve as voices and advocates for the people of Bowdoinham. I don't know how Bowdoinham was before the Recycling Barn was here. All I know is what it has been like to live in a town with a robust and low-cost waste and recycling program. I don't think I am alone in saying that I value and treasure the program we have had all this time dearly and trust you do too.

I hope there is one - pat it out to citizens before you spend the money _to reconstruct_ town matter-

I hope the recycling barn maintains a positive relationship with the elementary school. Field trips to the location are very informative and engage youths.

I hope the lessor (Dave Berry) & the lessee (the Town) can resolve their differences so that we can use the recycling barn again.

I hope it can stay in Bowdoinham.

I hope the town can support those of us who want to INVEST our time and money into recycling program. Help us build back a program that works.

I highly look forward to being able to recycle again it makes me feel like our most awesome town is even greater.

I have found the way the recycling barn operated to be very useful. Adequate parking is important as well as easy access from car to drop off areas. I certainly would like to see Bowdoinham offer a recycling program that is close to as comprehensive as the town recycling barn has been.

I have always LOVED going to the recycle barn-my kids too! It has shown them the importance of recycling and how it can enrich a community. PLEASE bring it back :) Thank you!

I felt that the program we had running previously at the barn was serving the needs of the town sufficiently. It would be nice if it were open more than two days per week. My biggest concern at this point is that I don't want the town to be spending money unnecessarily because some think that we should have a brand new facility. I grew up in this town, and I am proud of its history banning together and volunteering to get things done and helping your neighbors etc. I don't like the mind set of throwing money at a "problem" and I don't believe a new facility is the answer. If the old had legitimate problems then let's tweak it and move on. I also feel that David Berry has done much for this town in his involvement in the recycling program and should be shown the appropriate respect for where he now stands and for what he is still willing to offer our town.

I feel that Bowdoinham should invest in something that is owned rather than having future generations having to with the mess we're now.

I don't know how much the lease is on the current building, but if its cost effective i would like to continue suing the current building, understanding that Mr.Berry needs to do whatever is necessary to get the building up to safety standards.

I do not think we should charge residents individually for recycling services. I think it is important that those services are accessible. Things that are difficult to dispose of are likely to be abandoned in woodlands or roadsides by people who do not feel they have the financial resources to dispose of them properly. I do not believe the health of our ecosystem should be dependent on fees that may be inaccessible to many or even a deterrent to people who may only marginally care. A free recycling service acts as incentive for people to recycle in order to save money on trash tags. That encourages the desired behavior, recycling.

While I understand the costs must be recovered I would prefer it to be born on the people in this community that can afford to bear it. As a person who is in that group of people able and willing to contribute I would be happy to pay a yearly fee for the services that would contribute to the entire program. But I would not want to see low income residents forced to pay more in taxes or fees for recycling as I believe it will reduce the likelihood of participation. I find participation to be more important than ensuring people pay for their own usage.

I do agree with per bag fees for trash as that encourages recycling. But I do not believe there should be any financial barrier on anyone's ability to recycle goods. For that same reason I also believe curbside pickup is important. But if it were down to charging fees for curbside or providing a free dropoff point I would prefer the latter as I believe it would result in higher participation rates than a curbside pickup for a fee. Perhaps if that fee were significantly lower than the trash fee the incentive would remain.

Overall I do not wish to see our community littered with trash because people feel they cannot afford to dispose of it properly. I suspect there are enough people in this town that want to see our streets and forest clean that could and would be happy to contribute to those costs.

I believe, as put forth in the 2014 Comprehensive Plan, the town should buy the building and improve it so that it is up to code. Any excess space could be used for town storage, or as rental storage for townsfolk. It could also be leased to people/ groups which need space for large scale activities. (Boat building class, Restoration of antique car, Play scenery painting, We should make use of this historic building. A recycled building for the recycling program.

I believe that a new building is needed for the recycling program.

I believe in recycling materials and we are willing to pay extra for it!

I am open to finding the best facility for the program and am not attached to the current barn. Owning the facility would be helpful.

I am hopeful that the recycling program will continue. I am all for reduce, reuse, recycle even at a cost to me.

I am a senior citizen with mobility issues so i really miss the curbside pick up, also i don't drive much. I'm older but still have things to recycle. Thank you.

Having an easily accessible recycling station was one of the bonus factors we considered when moving into this area.

Glad to hear that the location is at Public Works.

Get somebody to run the recycling like the previous recycling director.

get back to barn

focus the recycling program only on items that can be recycled and in a safe environment for both employees and residents

Find a way to use the recycle barn. Thanks

Even just having self sort dumpsters, hopefully the town can generate revenue for corrugated cardboard and metal.

each of the services listed is completely integral to the success and spirit of this town. Bowdoinham has always lead the way and shown innovation and integrity toward its residents. Lets maintain that and create a dignified experience for all who look to manage waste and resources properly. Thank you!

Dumpster - per bag or weighed & so much per 20 lbs for non recyclables right now i share the cost of a dumpster and it is expensive.

Don't spend money on that old barn!

Don't be a** hats and do it right this time please.

Do not pay for repairs to a building the town doesn't own.

Do not mix use the new public works building. Create a separate area with roll offs and maybe a garage built around 28' x 32' with one office and the remaining space used in a controlled manner such as recycling items to other facilities when over stocked.

Currently public works feels crowded, needs a better flow for drop-off

Curbside was a benefit, however was not successful due to contamination and not addressed. It is particularly helpful for older population IF it could be managed properly. Would like to be able to drop off my own "waste"- not enough to save for a "trash" tag bag, but would take with my recycles.

Curbside recycle should be eliminated, people are putting too much trash in their recycling.

Could put returnables container from various groups (scouts, clubs, classes, teams etc) near facility no \$ or time from town. I hate just dumping stiff, its a waste.

Could add a driveway at public works and keep recycling where it is _in back of public works garage. A separate entrance would not interfere with PW operations. [I am] opposed to continuing [to] lease a barn! Too much money-we need to decrease expenses. Sentimentality doesn't pay the bills!

Concerning payment for curbside or for entrance to a facility: if the idea is to encourage recycling, I do not think that individuals should have to pay to recycle. Unlike trash, recycling benefits the community as a whole. I fear that charging a fee would discourage recycling -- so much easier to just throw it in the trash, especially if you have to pay anyway. (I wholeheartedly support the per bag fee for trash collection.)

Can we partner up with a neighboring town to share the costs?

Can dumpsters be added to allow for waste the center will not take?

Bring back the old barn

Bring back the barn

Bowdoinham needs to lead the way in recycling and waste reduction as our town has historically done. Whether we find a way to make the post road barn compliant or relocate the program it should not even be a consideration to close or reduce a program so important and so valued with in our community. The limitations of single stream does not make it an acceptable replacement.

Bowdoinham has been a recycling leader and champion for years. I want our program to continue to be such a comprehensive plan as it has in the past. I find this current situation unacceptable.

Bowdoinham has a long history of leading other towns with our progressive recycling program. Let's maintain this success!

Based on my long experience (27 years) as a user of the Barn i can say that customer service needs improvement. This should start at the top, Leadership by example.

Questions to the SW Committee:

Are there any SW success stories in other towns?

Can they be brought to BHam?

Can Maine Municipal Assn. be of help?

Can the SWC encourage residents to bring scrap metal to the RC?

(If that is the \$\$ maker)

How much space is really needed going forward?

Can the Town lease less space at the Barn after June?

What is the appropriate staffing level going forward? (What do they do on Mon, Wed, Fri?)

I have visited SW/RC facilities in other Maine towns and some out of state. They all seem to run more efficiently with less people and less building square footage.

How about moving the books to the library and the clothes, shoes etc. to the merry meeting hall basement?

Can there be better cooperation between PW personnel and the SW in sharing the space and efficiently delivering town services?

Also- I do like people being able to go and look over the magazine "bin" and pick out a few mag. to enjoy

A yearly, pile your stuff at the curb and have it removed. Costs would limit, I am sure.

A waste of money, for the service provided

A small metal building could be constructed at the 80 acre site on Pond Rd (with a small heated office for staff) for a very reasonable price.

A new building on town property- with its own access- makes the most sense for the future.

A comprehensive recycling program is integral to who this town is. Bowdoinham was a leader in recycling. We can be so again!

a "swap shop" is very important!

1.) WE like the texting alerts re TRASH & RECYCLE- continue. 2.) Recycle sticker- please decide where it goes on the vehicle & have that info ON THE sticker. 3.) When the final lists are made please have good detail as they had with the 2019 one.

[The Book section was] musty and gross. - Like many people i have a different option [for glass bottle collection] - It is important that we know there is a difference between our "trash" and our "recycling". If folks think it is all going to the same place, there will be no support. Clarify, Clarify!

*I would not want anyone denied service due to lack of funds. Some of our poorest citizens probably need the Barn the most. - I would like to know more about what gets recycled, how, at what cost to the town, and for what purposes. In a general briefly worded way I'm not looking for a yearly, lengthy document, but a monthly or quarterly chart, with a few comments. A longer yearly document might also be worthwhile, actually, but serves a different purpose. Regular brief updates might be motivating. Occasional in depth information might give us broader, longer-term perspective on what we're trying to do. I'm sure the answer change over time and I imagine some may be unattainable, but I often wonder as i sort recyclables, is this really getting recycled? Does it reduce the human carbon footprint to recycle it? Are there other benefits? What material is most worthwhile to recycle?

*I would be willing to pay for curbside recycling if the stuff was really being recycled, not just collected and dumped like trash.

* Regarding the store: please keep windows and doors.
Keep it going.

* I would pay up to 100 per year BUT there would need to be a way to make the facility accessible for those who cannot afford it. I believe it should be for residents only with a sticker. If non residents are allowed they should definitely pay and more.

**In regards to hours: A couple of days per week seems helpful. Any two days are ok with me- no preference. I hope we can get past the town politics and get our great program back.

* A lot of non residents shop [at the store]
Get OUT of the old, dilapidated Chicken Barn! Our employees deserve MORE THAN THAT!

While I believe it is important for individuals to be charitable, I am not sure that it is appropriate for the town. If the town is looking for ways to make the recycling program affordable, it should consider keeping the deposits from returnable bottles and cans to defray costs. Keeping costs down so everyone can afford the services is, in a way, a charitable act.