

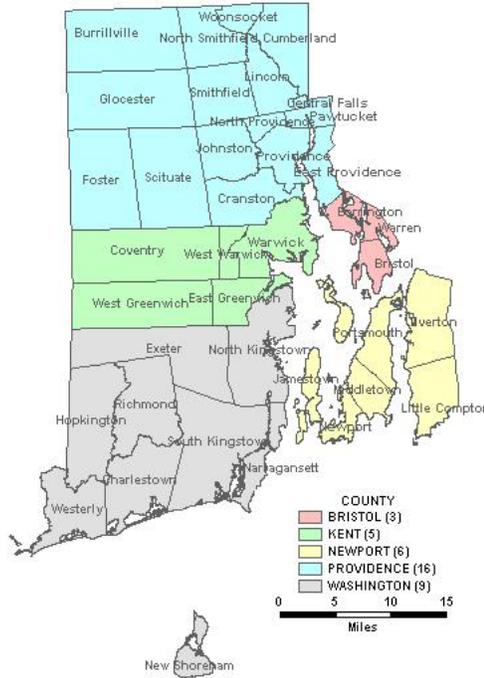
Hard to Dispose Report Recommendations

The Narragansett Bay Commission (NBC) and Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation (RIRRC) contracted with the Affiliated Offices of Nicholson & Sands, LLC to research long-term solutions to ensure the proper disposal of “hard-to-dispose-of” items.

Surveyed All Cities and Towns

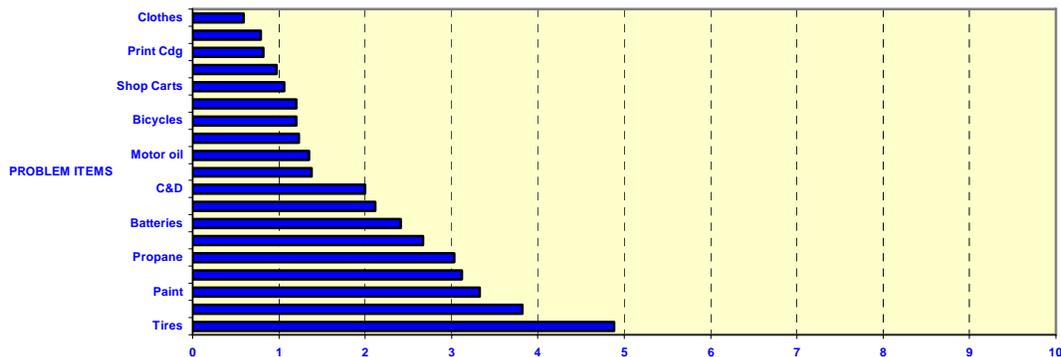
Completed the Survey

- Burrillville
- North Smithfield
- Cumberland
- Glocester
- Smithfield
- Lincoln
- Central Falls
- Pawtucket
- North Providence
- Providence
- East Providence
- Johnston
- Foster
- Cranston
- Coventry
- West Warwick
- Warwick
- West Greenwich
- Barrington
- Bristol
- Warren
- Tiverton
- Portsmouth
- Little Compton
- Newport
- Narragansett
- South Kingstown
- North Kingstown
- Hopkinton
- Charlestown
- Westerly
- Jamestown



Survey Results

"HARD-TO-DISPOSE-OF" ITEMS



Findings & Recommendations

AVERAGE SCORE
 BASED ON A
 SCALE OF 1 TO
 10, 1 BEING A
 MINOR PROBLEM
 IN THE TOWN, 10
 BEING A MAJOR
 PROBLEM

The findings of their report indicate that the resolution to the “hard-to-dispose-of” issue must include a commitment from State government, all 39 municipal governments and the private sector, as well as non-profit organizations. The report states that by forging a partnership between the aforementioned entities, and by working to enact the following recommendations, a solution to the illegal dumping of “hard-to-dispose-of” items will emerge, and the significant problem facing our State today can become inconsequential and provide for a cleaner Rhode Island:

- Currently any funds received from the “hard-to-dispose-of” items are placed in the general fund. Segregate these revenues collected and litter control tax funds/fines to implement programs for clean-up efforts.
 - The State should mandate weekly or monthly collections by the municipal Department of Public Works, and allow for temporary storage of items collected and fund through the use of revenues currently collected for “hard-to-dispose-of” items.
 - The State needs to provide technical assistance to municipalities and provide grants to clean-up.
 - State and municipal enforcement must be enhanced, including increasing fines or considering the criminalization of illegal dumping.
 - Update existing Rhode Island General Laws to consolidate all laws related to “hard-to-dispose-of” items. The laws are old (1989) and the definition of “hard-to-dispose-of” items is limited and should be expanded.
 - Implement the *Hard-to-dispose material control and recycling oversight commission* to meet at least once per quarter to review tax revenues collected and expenditures of the program, to evaluate the effectiveness of the program, and to make recommendations to the governor and legislature regarding the appropriateness of the taxation rates, as indicated in the RIGLs.
 - The State should seek to enter into contracts with identified re-users / recyclers of certain materials that can be collected locally at municipal centers and implement pick up “*milk runs*” by the contracted companies on a periodic basis
 - Implement a statewide internet link to every municipal website detailing proper disposal practices, laws and enforcement, and fines.
 - Improve the dissemination of information and educational efforts on disposal and recycling programs and facilities. Increased awareness will instill a sense of ownership and pride in the lands in Rhode Island. These informational materials should be multi-lingual to ensure the entire population can have access to the materials.
-
- According to the EPA’s State Scrap Tire Program Quick Reference Guide (dated 1999), 64 million scrap tires are landfilled, stockpiled or illegally dumped, representing 24% of scrap tires generated. Few states, including Indiana, Maine and Nevada, appear to have addressed the issue of a tire manifest system, either on the retailer or hauler. The State of Rhode Island should further explore what other states are doing and develop and implement the best system for tire disposal possible.

- Convenient access to the disposal site was listed as a primary concern. Satellite collection facilities should be set up to support the need, especially in highly urbanized areas, including the Olneyville and Elmwood sections of Providence and also in Central Falls.
- RIRRC should adopt pertinent recommendations from this report into their Comprehensive Plan. This would include endorsing the recommendation for state mandated municipal collection sites in every community for hard-to-dispose-of items, implementing “*milk-runs*” to pick up the items and to provide technical assistance to municipalities to properly set up such collection facilities.

While there are currently many local efforts and programs, there are too many to fully assess the impact being made by these individual efforts or to analyze the related costs. There is a potential that if several groups work together, and consolidate their efforts, they could provide for less expensive methods of educating the public and conducting such programs.