

Presentation by Don Chute, Recycling/Transfer Station/Safety Coordinator, gave a brief presentation on the recycling rate for the Town of Pittsfield for 2008.

Coordinator Don Chute was present to explain the new recycling rate for the Town. We are very fortunate in these times of decreasing rates to be one of the communities with an outstanding recycling rate in the State of Maine: 68.91%. Donnie noted that the residents of Pittsfield have again gone above and beyond to keep our numbers down. There were a few major businesses that left Town, and this shows in the numbers.

Councilor Fotter wanted to commend Don Chute on doing such a great job. Mayor Nichols wanted to echo Councilor Fotter's comments. Don is doing a great job along with all of the crew at the Transfer Station.

The Town Manager noted everyone should be very pleased and proud of their accomplishments – all of the staff, the Recycling/ Transfer Station/Safety Coordinator, town officials, committee members, businesses and the community. It took everyone's participation and commitment for this great achievement.

The Town's Recycling Rates have been as follows: **2006:** 61.31%, **2007:** 71.80%

4. **PUBLIC HEARINGS/OLD BUSINESS: None**
5. **REPORTS: TOWN MANAGER, FINANCE, ORDINANCE & RECYCLING COMMITTEES:**

Town Manager's Report: Town Council Meeting of 07/07/2009:

1. The FYI Folder: The FYI Book contains the following items this week: See List

2. Paul E. Bertrand Community Swimming Pool Hours: READ Hours and Adult Early Bird Swim Times.

3. Pickin' & Picnic In The Park: Come down to Hathorn Park for some good old-fashioned pickin'. Bring your guitar, banjo, fiddle, accordion, wash board, a song and other instruments to make music. The event will start with a picnic at 5:30 p.m. and end at dark. This will involve a wide variety of musicians and a family atmosphere. Everyone is invited. The first event will be held on Thursday, July 16, 2009 with a rain date of July 23, 2009. The next events will be held on August 20 and September 17, 2009. For more information contact Hazel Mitchell at 207-257-2312.

4. The Night of the Chairs: The Town Councilors have been invited to The Night of the Chairs, a wine and cheese gathering of the artists that painted the Adirondack chairs donated by Walpole and other businesses. The event will be held at 7:00 pm on Friday, 07/10/2009 at Bill and Jean Bradshaw's home on Arbor Lane (3rd hours on the left before the intersection).

5. Pinnacle Park LEARN TO FISH: The Sportsman's Alliance of Maine will be at the Pinnacle Park on Saturday, July 11, 2009 from 10:00 am to noon to teach anyone who wants to

know how to fish and the rules. The Pinnacle will be raffling off two fishing poles for the children. Open to everyone. Bring the children and learn where we will be building the fishing platforms for later use.

6. Central Maine Egg Festival: The 37th Annual Egg Festival is right around the corner. Mark your calendars for Tuesday, July 21 – Saturday, July 25, 2009. The Town has copies of the Egg Festival Marketplace Application Form and copies of the Central Maine Egg Festival Scholarship Pageant Applications at the Town Office. Applications are also on-line at the Central Maine Egg Festival site which is linked to the Town of Pittsfield website.

7. Census 2010: Remember that Census workers are out collecting information in the community. The individuals should have signs on their vehicle and proper Census identification.

8. Main Street Railroad Tracks: Pan Am Railroad has spent some time to extensively patch the area by the Main Street Tracks so crossing the area is much better.

9. 214 Somerset Avenue: Merlon LaSalle closed on the property at 214 Somerset Avenue on Friday, June 06, 2009. He has started hauling away debris from the property as best as one can during all the rainstorms. The first load of demolition materials from the burnt out sections of the house were removed this weekend. This is a large undertaking.

10. Town Budget and Revenues: Calculations of the draft reconciliation for the end of June 30, 2009 which is one-half of the year shows the following: Expenditures: 41% municipal; 56% water; and 33% sewer. Revenues: 33% municipal; 37% water and 32% sewer. Our main revenue producers excise tax and state revenue sharing are at all time lows for this time of the year during the last several years. The Town has been on an unofficial budget freeze for 2 months and an actual budget freeze for 2 months except regular bills, regular payroll, and maintenance/emergency items. The Departments are all getting letters to recommend cuts to their budgets to save money to make up for revenue loss. Items that the departments can do will take place this month for the remainder of the year or until revenues increase. If we can not make up the shortfall internally, this will come to the Town Council with recommendations on how to address this in August. In addition, we will be reviewing service fees as these fees cover our cost of doing business. They were last reviewed in 2006 and we review them every 2-3 years. Revisions to these, if any, will also come to the Council in August. The Engineer is still working on the water rate increase as these rates are for the Town for several years. Important to all this will be the July, 2009 State Revenue Sharing check.

11. Farmshare Program: Seniors who qualify can receive up to \$50 in free local produce during the summer growing season. This is a partnership between the Maine Department of Agriculture and farmers throughout Maine. The State is still accepting applications.

12. Pittsfield Farmers' Market: The Farmers Market at Hathorn Park is available Mondays and Thursday from 2:00 pm – 6:00 pm until October 29, 2009.

Finance Committee: Met tonight prior to the meeting. The Cemetery Trust Fund was discussed. It seems to be OK for the moment. The revenue shortfalls were also discussed.

Ordinance Committee: No Report.