

## Gilmanton Transfer Station Update- 08-15-2023

We want to take some time to relay all the changes taking place at the Transfer Station and to communicate the facts & correct misinformation that is being discussed throughout the community.

**Timeframe- None at this time:** The Transfer Station has experienced a significant change since April 19, 2023, working on the facility for a total of 117 days and counting. At this time there are still too many unknowns and variables to give the public a firm date of when we will be fully open. The hope is by the end of the Fall but nothing is confirmed.

**Stickers- Get one:** Transfer Station stickers are required and issued at the Town Clerk/Tax Collectors Office. Please see the link below for the application process.

- <https://www.gilmantonnh.org/transfer-station/webforms/transfer-station-permit-application>

**Website-Use it:**

- The Town's website is <https://www.gilmantonnh.org/>

All transfer Station updates have been and will continue to be posted through our website and linked to our Town's Facebook page. Updates are also posted at the post office and provided at the facility.

**E-News-Sign Up:** Anyone can subscribe to E-News on the website's home page by clicking the link on the blue button under the Gilmanton Resources section. This is vital for people that are interested in specific topics.

**Local Agency Alerts:** The Fire Dept. has a platform they use for urgent updates called Nixle, lots of residents use this currently, if you don't please consider it. All Transfer Station closings will be posted there and you will receive the update automatically.

- Check out the link <https://www.nixle.com/>

**Facility Hours:** The standard hours are listed below but as it has been stated many times since April, there may be intermittent times of closure due to staff or capacity limitations.

**Wednesday- 7:00 A.M. – 6:00 P.M.**

**Saturday- 7:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.**

**Sunday- 12:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.**

**Community Reminder:** We would also like to remind residents that the Transfer Station is an issue that we are all dealing with. This affects residents but what you need to remember is that most of our staff members are residents as well and are people. Taking out your frustrations on members of the staff is not appropriate or condoned in any way.

**Illegal Dumping- Don't do it:** Illegal dumping in any area of Gilmanton or at our facilities will not be tolerated.

**Treat it like you own it because you do:** Ruining town equipment or facilities will not be tolerated and does not help in working on a solution to the issue. We take pride in using taxpayer dollars for the projects that benefit us all and are deeply conscious of how and where we use those funds.

**Compliance-Centered:** Our focus has been to bring the facility back up to compliance so we can open the facility to the public as soon as possible. If our focus is on behavior that is not conducive to a solution then the facility will take that much longer to open for public use.

**Facility – Areas Completed/Work in Progress:**

- The perimeter of the facility has been completed.
- The office and bathroom have been deep cleaned which has made a considerable difference and should be useable at this stage but future renovation will be required. The office should be set up this week and a computer reinstalled.
- We will be working on the process of taking credit cards and checks. The Board has determined that cash will not be accepted at the facility.
- The location was mapped out last Tuesday and we are waiting for the results to use for our website and our facilities operation plan. This will help meet DES standards regarding the written plan that we are required to have in place, and their standards for traffic flow as it relates to the RTE. 107 and the pattern/layout within the facility.
- Coordinating the efforts for Single Stream Recycling due to the lack of staff, making it so we could no longer use the sorting method of recycling but still providing an option for recycling to the public.

This step has been frustrating for all of us, not just for the lack of capacity but for the additional coordination efforts this requires. The solution that Waste Management has offered is an open container that is covered or a third compactor. Due to the labor shortage obtaining a quote or a contractor able to take on the project has proved difficult at best, and quotes have yet to be received at this point. We are moving on to the next plan of action and are gathering quotes for a lease option and a purchase option for a third compactor.

- The Board will schedule a public hearing in the near future to accept the unanticipated funds from Belknap County. The Belknap County- Board of Commissioners has decided to share a portion of the County's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding with the City and each of the towns in the County. One of the allowed uses of ARPA funds is the provision of public service. The Board of Selectmen believes the funds will best serve the community at the Transfer Station and will be discussing this at the public hearing once a date has been determined.

**Vendors**

**Dept. of Environmental Services:** We have been working with the Dept. of Environmental Services to work towards a state of compliance. The last update was submitted on 08-04-2023. DES is reviewing our submission to see if we have met the requirements cited during the 04-24-2023 inspection. Please see the link below for the details.

- [https://www.gilmantonnh.org/sites/g/files/vyhlif4451/f/news/solid\\_waste\\_facility\\_inspection\\_report\\_-\\_des.pdf](https://www.gilmantonnh.org/sites/g/files/vyhlif4451/f/news/solid_waste_facility_inspection_report_-_des.pdf)

**Waste Management:** We have been working tirelessly with Waste Management to coordinate the excess clean-up efforts that were cited in the DES facility inspection.

Our request for a larger container for Compactor #2 was denied. Currently, we have a 42 yard and we requested a 50 yard to match the size of Compactor # 1.

**Extra Funding:** The Board will be having a public hearing in the near future to accept the unanticipated funds from Belknap County. The Board of Commissioners has decided to share a portion of the County's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding with the City and each of the towns in our County. One of the allowed uses of ARPA funds is the provision of public service. The Board believes the funds will best serve the community at the Transfer Station and will be discussed at the public hearing once a date has been determined.

**Updates and Transparent Information:** The dates listed below is information that has been provided to the public through the website, public discussions at monthly Selectmen's meetings, Q & A sessions specific to the facility, postings at the facility, and the Post Offices. This does not include all the postings that have gone out on the Town Facebook page, smaller updates that have been placed through the regular course of business and the packet of public information that goes out to the public in advance of the Board of Selectmen Meetings posted under the agenda portion of the website, all meetings are listed under there scheduled date.

**Plan for Trash, Recycling, Brush, and Demo- Home Page on the website under News**

04-25-2023	05-19-2023
04-26-2023	05-25-2023
05-01-2023	06-08-2023
05-03-2023	06-15-2023
05-04-2023	07-06-2023
05-11-2023	07-06-23
05-12-2023	07-20-2023
07-17-2023	

**Board of Selectmen information on Transfer Station:**

11-03-2021-FD Inspection Report	
11-12-2021-Building Inspection Report	
01-17-2022	
04-26-2023	06-19-2023
05-01-2023	07-17-2023
05-15-2023	08-07-2023

**Conclusion:**

We are working overtime to ensure that the facility is our priority so that the full benefit of a safe, compliant, and working facility can be used by the residents. If you have any questions please call or email the Town Administrator or your Board of Selectmen for details.

Thank you to our dedicated employees for all your efforts and to all the residents that have reached out personally during this transition for facts, encouragement, and kindness.

We see you, hear you, and appreciate you!

Thank you,

Heather Carpenter  
Town Administrator