



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: July 28, 2008

Town of Hull re-joins the South Shore Recycling Cooperative

At Hull's Spring Town Meeting, voters unanimously approved a resolution sponsored by local activist and former Board representative Nancy Kramer to re-join the South Shore Recycling Cooperative (SSRC). Voters also authorized Board of Selectmen Chairman Joan Meschino to sign the Cooperative's Intermunicipal Agreement reauthorization, which expired June 30. Hull had been a member from 2001 until 2007, when a tight budget forced the town to pull out temporarily.

Hull will again enjoy the benefits of working with the other fifteen member towns on issues relating to trash, recycling, yard waste management, and hazardous product disposal. The town has held a joint Household Hazardous Product collection with Cohasset using the SSRC's assistance and contract with Clean Harbors every spring since 2002. The SSRC has also produced a town-wide mailing detailing the Recycling Center's program in 2003, and provided technical assistance on its recycling contracts, an investigation of a town-wide recycling and trash collection contract, and ordinance requiring waste haulers to provide recycling services.

(Jan quote?)

The SSRC now consists of the towns of Abington, Cohasset, Duxbury, Hanover, Hanson, Hingham, Holbrook, Hull, Kingston, Marshfield, Norwell, Plymouth, Rockland, Scituate, Weymouth and Whitman, with a collective population of about 360,000. It was established in 1998 after several towns, which had considered forming a solid waste district since 1990, decided not to go that route. In the process though, the towns saw the benefits of working together on solid waste issues while maintaining program autonomy. The SSRC's mission is to help member towns improve their recycling programs and reduce the amount, toxicity and cost of disposal.

Using the SSRC's regional Household Hazardous Product Collection contract alone would offset the \$4,500/year cost of membership, while also giving residents the flexibility to attend another twelve regional collections each year.

Other benefits to membership include networking at monthly meetings with the other members' solid waste managers, access to regional contracts, and the services of Executive Director Claire Sullivan, who acts as a regional solid waste consultant to the member towns. She helps them maximize their use of grants and market information, provides public outreach, and keeps up to date with a rapidly changing trends, laws and regulations. The Cooperative also has a voice on Beacon Hill and at DEP, and is consulted regularly by legislators and regulators on solid waste issues. That voice will be a little louder now with the addition of Hull to the fold.

For more information, go to ssrc.info.

###