

## February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Town Administrator Update:

### Grant research

A team of us met over zoom to meet our new MVP Coordinator Emma Samms and to discuss next steps for an MVP grant. The RFR will come out in early March and be due in late May/early June. As you are aware, the current MVP grant was supposed to be a two-year cycle and was compressed into a one-year grant. Because of this, the GZA and FRCOG team does not feel it will be able to have all the information together on two identified projects in time to apply for the next permitting phase of flood mitigation for Conway Center. Therefore we met to discuss what ideas might float to the surface for a regular grant application this spring. I asked the group about the potential for an MVP grant for engineering funds to hire a hydraulic engineer to design a system to manage the stormwater issues around Pine Hill, Upper Baptist, Emerson Hollow and Shelburne Falls Rd, which would also include educational materials for residents about how to manage stormwater on their own properties. This idea was well received, although it was pointed out that the DEP 319 grants which are also coming out soon may be a better match for the engineering portion of the idea. We will meet with DEP to get feedback. If it works out this way, then 319 could be used for the engineering design, and MVP could be used for an educational guide on residential stormwater management.

This fall, Conway will have to apply for the two-year MVP 2.0 grant in order to be able to continue in compliance with MVP.

I attended a couple of other grant related webinars on the Community One Stop program and EOED offerings.

### Departments

#### **Transfer Station**

Conway currently has **\$7,504.18** left in the Recycling Dividends Program fund.

Here is a short list of eligible RDP fund expenses. If there are any you wish to explore more, please let me know. The items in bold are already paid through the RDP revolving fund.

1. All special wastes: electronics, freon removal, propane tanks, lamps, tires, oil, batteries, shredding events
2. Any product with at least 30% recycled content (**copy paper**, office supplies, et
3. **Recycling bins** and the town's share of the District's 2 new recycling rolloffs (invoiced in July)
4. **Pay-as-you-throw** (PAYT) bags or stickers
5. **Compost bins, kitchen compost pails**, organics collections at the transfer station (or curbside)
6. Up to \$3000 per calendar year for the District assessment
7. Up to \$5000 per calendar year for new items for the town's lending library (usually through the public library)
8. Up to \$4000 per calendar year for a town-sponsored repair event.
9. Household hazardous waste collection costs
10. Some transfer station improvements.

The town also has a recycling revenue fund, which currently stands at **\$12,519.61**. This is the fund we can use to make improvements to the transfer station, such as upgrading the attendant's shed, extra lighting, etc. and comes from scrap metal revenue and transfer station receipts.

Several issues which have come to light since the new decal program was instituted are:

- What is the policy on lost decals?
- What is the policy on landowners who have no house but want a decal?
- Does a home business get two decals, one for the home and one for the business?
- Some folks have asked for a pro-rated decal price when they are purchased in May or June.