

enhanced private opportunities for Plainfield students to attend the academy. Key to this effort will be identifying school alumni who are willing to contribute to such an effort. To provide just an additional \$10,000 of annually available assistance would require a scholarship endowment of approximately \$200,000.

Because the continued progress in all aspects of the complex town/school relationship, a majority of the committee, again this year, supports the approval of the KUA tax exemption.

Given that the current funding arrangement requires annual voting approval at town meeting, the committee recommends that its focus next year be broadened to consider other possible long-term funding solutions.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Bartles, Susan Plummer, Douglas Cogan, Gordon Defoe, Stephen Halleran, Diane Rogers, Michael Schafer, Bradford Atwater

Kimball Union Academy Study Committee

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

In response to warrant articles at the 2005 and 2006 town meetings, this Solid Waste Committee was tasked with developing a proposal for solid waste management for the town of Plainfield beginning July 1, 2007. At that time, the New Hampshire/Vermont Solid Waste District's 20-year contract with the Wheelabrator incinerator expires. Plainfield sends about 900 tons of its annual 1,150 tons of solid waste to the incinerator. Another 125 tons are recycled at curbside, and another 130 tons are recycled at the drop-off shed.

Plainfield currently pays \$91/ton to dispose of material sent to the incinerator, or about \$82,000 per year. Plainfield does not pay any processing fee for materials picked up curbside for recycling. Northeast Waste Services charges the town \$125,000 per year, plus a fuel surcharge, for weekly curbside collection. In 2006, the surcharge totaled about \$7,400. The town's user fee system for trash generates about \$125,000 per year, leaving around \$82,000 to be raised from local property taxes. The tax rate impact is about \$.40 on a rate of \$24.50.

Major Developments in 2006

- On the committee's recommendation, the Selectmen and Town Administrator negotiated a contract with the Lebanon Landfill to dispose of Plainfield's solid waste from July 1, 2007 – 2011. The first year's tipping fee will be around \$70.
Two key reasons cited by Lebanon officials for allowing Plainfield to use their landfill were our recycling program and curbside collection program.
- On the committee's recommendation, the Selectmen and Town Administrator negotiated a contract with Northeast Waste Services to continue curbside collection of Plainfield's refuse and recycling through 2011.
- The committee held the first annual Pre-Father's Day Recycling & Clean-Up Extravaganza. The event resulted in the recycling of:
 - 1 ton of electronics
 - 5 tons of tires

- 7 tons of steel
- and disposal of:
- 3,4 tons of large household items.

Recommendations

- Continue membership with the Greater Upper Valley Solid Waste Management District and sever ties with the NH/VT Solid Waste District. The Lebanon Landfill is the end facility for the Greater Upper Valley Solid Waste Management District. The town also participates in the Greater Upper Valley Solid Waste Management District's twice per year household hazardous waste collection days.
- Make the Pre-Father's Day Recycling & Clean-Up Extravaganza an annual event.
- Update the recycling shed to conform to new waste disposal practices and inform the public about those changes.
- Increase, by 2010, recycling to 50% of our tonnage and reduce waste generated by the town. Our community's greatest opportunity for waste disposal savings is to reduce the amount of waste sent to the landfill.
- Inform citizens about solid waste issues and reenergize them to reduce, reuse and recycle.



First Annual Father's Day weekend clean up day sponsored by the Solid Waste Management Committee. Photo: Russ Kelley