

# Trash Co-op Cancels Plan For Single-Stream Plant

By Ben Leubsdorf  
Concord Monitor staff

From the May 18 Monitor

Organizers have pulled the plug on a plan to build a single-stream recycling plant in Penacook, unable to move forward with the \$15.6 million construction project after Concord withdrew from the venture last month.

The joint board of the Concord Regional Solid Waste/Resource Recovery Cooperative [of which Andover is a member] decided last night, on a voice vote without opposition, to terminate contracts with outside communities that had pledged to send material to the plant. The board also voted to rescind bid awards to three companies that were to build the facility, provide equipment, and build a road to the site off Whitney Road.

Those votes effectively killed the project, which had been in the works for more than half a decade and had already cost the co-op roughly \$3 million. The group was preparing to close on financing and begin construction this spring when Concord, which had previously supported the project, decided to pull out, calling its latest projections too risky.

"We've been at this for about seven years now, and it was discouraging. It was depressing.... But, always look forward," said Jim Presher, the co-op's director.

The co-op isn't giving up on the concept of single-stream recycling, which processes materials without pre-sorting. The board voted without opposition for Presher to begin discussing possible alternative projects with co-op members, outside communities, and private companies.

Such a project could be a better option than each individual town or city going its own way, said Brian Sullivan, Franklin's municipal services director.

"There's been a lot of good work done, and there is an organization that's in place, and many communities are still interested in pursuing something," Sullivan said. "From Franklin's perspective, I think that we're better off as a group – somehow, some type of group – rather than working alone."

Last night's actions were recommended by the co-op's operating committee, which met at the Bow town offices just ahead of the joint board's meeting.

## Balancing Risk

The co-op, which has 25 member communities, began looking into building a single-stream recycling plant in 2005. Concord signed on to the plan in 2009 and reaffirmed its support last year, lifting several conditions so the project could move forward.

Thirteen co-op members [including Andover] were signed up to par-

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# FIRECRACKER 5K FUN RUN

By Tom Frantz  
Friends of the Northern Rail Trail

The Andover Fourth of July Committee, in conjunction with the Friends of the Northern Rail Trail in Merrimack County, is holding a 5K race/walk on the Northern Rail Trail as one of Andover's Fourth of July activities. The out-and-back event will start at 9 AM on Wednesday, July 4, at the Blackwater Park off Lawrence Street in Andover. Registration will begin at 8 AM.

Last year's race drew 130 participants. The majority of the runners were from the area, but runners from as far away as Florida, Indiana, and California competed for prize money and for the gold, silver, and bronze spikes that were awarded to the top three finishers in each age group.

Last year's overall male winner was Sam Burke, 17, of Westfield, Massachusetts.

sets in a time of 17:13, followed by Michael Hoffman, 24, of Rochester, New York with a time of 17:16. The top female finisher was Lindy Heffernan, 17, of Sutton Mills, New Hampshire with a time of 21:54.

The out-and-back race is held on the rail trail that passes through Andover. The course is flat, fast, and scenic. T-shirts will be given to the first 100 entrants. As in past races, each top male and female overall finisher will receive \$50. Gold, silver, and bronze railroad spikes will be presented to the top three male and female finishers in each age category.

More information is available by calling 735-6490 or by visiting the Friends of the Northern Rail Trail in Merrimack County at FNRT.org.

Please join us for this Andover Fourth of July tradition.



## Dozens Turn Out For Town Clean-Up Week

Town of Andover press release

up after the wintertime paid off.

Once again, we have been quite successful with the Andover Town Clean-Up Week. We hope everyone can see the spectacular difference that all the volunteers made in returning Andover from its winter mess to its spring freshness. All the efforts of everyone to clean

up after the wintertime paid off. We want to thank all those special volunteers who participated and brought Andover back. Andover would never look so wonderful if we didn't have all the fabulous volunteers to clean it up.

Although many roads were not officially signed up for this year, you can see by the results that it's catching on, and we town folks like having our piece of town nice and clean. That is quite evident as you drive along the many roads here in town. Take a leisurely drive around and you can see for yourself how beautiful our town looks.

A big "Thank you!" goes to Road Agent Jon Champagne's crew at J&B Landscaping for capturing those blue bags we received from New Hampshire the Beautiful. Many of our volunteers also helped by taking their blue bag pickings directly to the Transfer Station.

So again, a great big "Thank you!" to all who helped make Andover beautiful again. It's wonderful to see everyone take such pride in our town. Hope to see you next year.



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