

PLEASE READ THIS DOCUMENT

4/2/2025

TOWN OF SOUTH THOMASTON DEMOLITION DEBRIS DISPOSAL FACILITY COMMONLY KNOWN AS THE STUMP DUMP EXPLANATION OF OPERATIONAL CHANGES

Background

The Town of South Thomaston (hereinafter Town) operates a transfer station for the disposal of demolition debris, brush and yard waste **generated within the boundaries of the Town** and as defined below.

The Town is implementing several operational changes as summarized as follows and more fully described immediately below and in the Demo Debris Facilities Manual February 11, 2025.

- Increasing the two-year sticker fee from \$10 to \$20.
- Modifying the debris deposit limitations.
- Requiring stickers be affixed to the depositing vehicle.
- Instituting a fee system including a bulk permit fee.
- Requiring property owners, as opposed to a contractor, to directly purchase a voucher if a voucher is required.
- Minor modifications to Acceptable and Non- Acceptable Material.
- Instituting a process to suspend the privilege to use the facility.

Definitions

- The word **debris** shall mean all items denoted below as “acceptable waste” excluding brush and yard waste.
- The word **brush** shall mean brush including tree limbs and branches not exceeding (6) inches in diameter and/or (8) eight feet in length.
- The words **yard waste** shall mean grass clippings, leaves, potted plants, reedy plants, seaweed, clean hay/straw and clean sawdust.

Rationale

The Town is receiving an increasing amount of tonnage at the Demo Debris Facility (hereinafter Facility). From April 1 to September 30 the total tons, excluding brush, in 2023 and 2024 were 164, and 246, respectively. That is a 50% increase this year versus last!

Personnel associated with the Facility's operations strongly believe that a large portion of the increase in tonnage results from the fact that it has become common knowledge that South Thomaston's Facility does not charge a fee on a per load basis as all surrounding towns do. Consequently, the belief is that debris is being hauled in from out of town and evidence to support this exists.

Rockland, Thomaston, Warren, St. George and Owls Head all charge a fee for demolition debris and most do for brush as well.

This increased tonnage, coupled with rising disposal costs and other factors, is increasing the cost to operate the facility to rise with little of the cost being absorbed by the primary users.

Source of Debris, Brush or Yard Waste

The source of the debris, brush and yard waste accepted at the Facility shall only be from within the boundaries of the Town. Each time debris, brush or yard waste is deposited the user shall enter into a log book, which shall be provided by the Attendant, the following information:

- Name of User
- Physical street address of source of debris or brush
- Name of property owner of debris or brush source
- Email and phone # of property owner
- Vehicle plate number
- Sticker and/or fee voucher number

If the debris, brush or yard waste deposited by a Bulk Permit holder is from more than one source, the information required above must be provided for each source by physical street address.

Permit Stickers

All users of the Facility, including residents of the Town, nonresident property owners and resident and nonresident contractors, as well as Bulk Permit holders are required to display a current permit sticker in order to deposit debris, brush or yard waste. **Stickers shall be affixed to the windshield or other window of the vehicle.** Stickers are not transferable. Stickers may be purchased at the Town Office. The cost for 2025/2026 is \$20.

Fees

Prior to depositing debris, brush or yard waste all Facility users, including residents, non-resident property owners and resident and nonresident contractors, must pay a user fee in accordance with the below schedule.

All user fees must be paid at the Town Office. Upon payment of the fee the user will be issued a numbered voucher that must be presented to the Attendant and entered into the log when debris or brush is deposited at the Facility.

Contractors may not pay the fee and obtain vouchers directly for debris or brush generated from property they do not own. The property owner must pay the fee directly to the Town Office in the form of cash, check or by credit card. The property owner may authorize the Town Office to release the vouchers directly to a contractor. Excess vouchers exceeding the estimated number of vouchers required may be returned for a refund, but may not be used by the contractor to deposit debris from an alternative site.

Contractors may purchase vouchers directly for debris, brush and yard waste that is generated from property they own in South Thomaston.

Fee Schedule: Effective May 1, 2025 for Debris and May 1, 2026 for Brush

Vehicle and Trailer Fee Schedule for Debris and Brush

- Small amount transported by car or SUV or less than ½ pick-up truck \$0
- Pick Up Truck ½ load or more \$15
- 1 Axle Trailer, 8 Ft or less \$25 --½ or less load \$15
- 1 Axle Trailer greater than 8 ft \$30 – ½ or less load \$20
- 2 Axle Trailer \$40 – ½ or less load \$25
- 1 Ton Truck \$30 – ½ or less load \$20
- Single Axle Dump Truck \$40 – ½ or less load \$25

Larger vehicles are not accepted

Other Fees Effective Immediately:

Mattresses, box springs, stuffed chairs, rugs/carpets	\$10
Yard Waste	\$0

Bulk Permits

Residents and nonresidents may apply for a Bulk Permit. Holding a valid Bulk Permit will enable the holder to forgo payment of user fees and the purchasing of vouchers. Additionally, the Bulk Permit will enable the holder to deposit debris, brush and yard waste from more than one source in a single load; provided all sources of the debris, brush and yard waste are entered into the log sheet.

The source of the debris, brush and yard waste accepted at the Facility shall only be from within the boundaries of the Town.

The initial annual fee for a Bulk Permit shall be \$4,000 and shall run from January 1 to December 31. The annual fee must be paid in advance, but may be paid in quarterly payments of \$1,000 prior to April, July, October and January. The annual fee may be prorated to the nearest quarter past. Example: Fee paid on April 25 shall be prorated to \$3,000. Three quarters times \$1,000. No refunds, prorated, or otherwise, will be granted.

The Facility Operator may suspend a Bulk Permit, for a period of up to one year, upon finding that a permit holder has violated the Facilities rules as set forth in this manual and for other reasons including, but are not limited to, non-compliance with directives of the Attendant and/or Facility Operator, failure to promptly pay the annual fees, lack of transparency as to the source of debris, brush or yard waste being deposited and not fully and accurately completing the log sheet at time of disposal. The Facility Operator may choose to issue a written warning for a first violation.

The suspension and/or the length of the suspension issued by the Facility Operator, may be appealed to the Selectboard. The appeal must be submitted in writing within 10 days of the issuance of the suspension and state the reasons for the appeal. The decision of the Selectboard regarding the appeal shall be final.

Acceptable Waste

Examples of acceptable waste include:

Wallboard, asphalt shingles, windows, doors, furniture, mattresses/box springs, ropes, insulation, carpeting, lumber, wood chips, wood shavings, plywood, concrete form work, clean saw dust as well as brush, including tree limbs, and branches not exceeding (6) inches in diameter and/or (8) eight feet in length and grass, leaves, potted plants, reedy plants, seaweed, and clean hay/straw.

Unacceptable Waste

Unacceptable wastes are materials not considered acceptable, reclaimable, or specially approved by the Town for disposal at the facility.

Examples are as follows:

Junked or abandoned vehicles including metal parts of vehicles, recyclables such as cardboard, plastics, glass, asbestos and asbestos containing wastes, contaminated soils, medical and other potentially infectious or pathogenic wastes, sand blast grit, liquid wastes, waste, wastewater, paper mill or tannery sludges, dredge spoils, inert fill, agricultural wastes, sewage, industrial process wastes, hazardous or special wastes including: fluorescent tubes, thermometers, mercury switches, batteries, and explosives, appliances such as: refrigerators, freezers, white goods, water heaters, stoves, washers, dryers, or any enameled appliances, metals such as: iron, steel, aluminum, copper, brass, sheet metal, wire, cable, and cable fencing, TVs, CRTs, computers and other electronic devices, stumps, waste that could cause transportation problems, unclean hay or straw of any kind and other wastes designated by the Town or the Maine DEP.

Miscellaneous

The Facility will typically be open year-round Wednesday and Saturday 9am - 4pm. It may be closed for major holidays.

If there is a difference between this notice and the Operations and Maintenance Manual, the Operations and Maintenance Manual shall be deemed as controlling.

The Town Office phone number is (207) 596-6584.