

ALL TOGETHER NOW





Togetherness is the foundation of ecomaine.

In 1976, at the very beginning of ecomaine's forebearer, Regional Waste Systems, four communities came together to find a better way forward. Decades and dozens of additional member communities later, ecomaine is still working all together now on these efforts of sustainable waste management. There are plenty of examples from the past year:

Working collaboratively to manage 215,000 tons of recyclables and solid waste for more than 450,000 Mainers in 73 communities.

Teaming up on policy change that has Maine on the right course away from landfills and toward reduction, reuse, recycling, organics management, and waste-to-energy. I am thankful to have worked closely with Sen. Brenner and Rep. Tucker and the rest of the ENR Committee to raise more revenue in Maine to promote the higher rungs of our waste hierarchy and save our valuable landfill space for waste that can't be recovered any other way.

Capitalizing on increases in pricing for every single commodity we worked to keep out of Maine's landfills in FY22.

Undertaking periodic turbine maintenance outage this year for the first time since 2015. This 11,000-pound piece of very sensitive equipment is key to our energy generation from Maine's waste and requires a big job—with many people, businesses, and moving parts—to take care of it.

Building for the future with ongoing succession planning efforts. Through formal programs like ecomaine's Young Professionals Workgroup or using "pop up" learning opportunities like our massive turbine replacement project, ecomaine's future strength comes from today's experienced workforce working together with our next generation's leaders.

Connecting with our communities ecomaine added seven member communities in FY22 and reached more than 73,000 people with its educational outreach.

Though these accomplishments are impressive—and I hope you share in my pride—the challenges to sustainability remain significant, too. From labor markets and economic pressures to changes in disposable materials in everyday life, they will keep coming. But ALL TOGETHER, we will achieve greatness!

Kevin Roche



BOARD

OFFICERS

William Shane
President & Chairman
Cumberland

Erik Street
Vice Chairman
Yarmouth

Anne Bilodeau
Treasurer
Portland

Caleb Hemphill
Secretary
Falmouth

Matthew Frank
Past Chairman
Harrison

MEMBERS

Anthony Ward
Casco

Dave Durrell
Hollis

Dennis Abbott
Waterboro

Ephrem Paraschak
Gorham

Heidi Richards
Pownal

James Hager
Gorham

Jarrod Maxfield
Windham

Jim Gailey
South Portland

John Cloutier
Scarborough

Katie Johnston
Gray

Linda Boudreau
South Portland

Linda Cohen
South Portland

Mike Murray
Portland

Rob Wood
North Yarmouth

Robert Peabody
Bridgton

Rodney Regier
Freeport

Steve Kelley
Limington

Timothy Reiniger
Cape Elizabeth

Tom Hall
Scarborough

Troy Moon
Portland

OUR MISSION



ecomaine provides comprehensive, long-term solid waste solutions in a safe, environmentally responsible, economically sound manner, and is a leader in raising public awareness of sustainable waste management strategies.



IN MEMORIAM

Chris Branch, 1955–2022



In 2022, we said a sad farewell to Chris Branch, who passed away after a battle with cancer. Chris served as Public Works Director for the City of Portland he was a force on ecomaine's Board of

Directors during that time, using his real-world experience to provide great perspective.

That Chris was a major driving force for city services in Maine's two largest cities (Portland and Lewiston) is no surprise—Chris was always on the move, working around the clock to make a difference.

And this is no less true when he was “off the clock.” A great swimmer in his youth, Chris was also a dedicated swim coach for decades, as he cultivated some of the best athletes Maine has ever produced, alongside his wife, Laura. In fact, Chris was just as well known in competitive swimming circles as he was in the world of engineering and public works.

It is with heavy hearts that we will have our first year on the Board in some time without Chris's impressive presence.

Glen Dyer, 1962–2022



We bid a sad farewell to Glen Dyer, who passed away on January 23rd, 2022, of complications from COVID. A driver here at ecomaine and for the Portland Metro,

Glen also had his own business, Fallbrook Home Maintenance, and was working toward his bachelor's degree from Husson University – he was proud of his education and learning new things. Those who knew Glen knew that he was funny, a good storyteller, and full of interesting knowledge, including genealogy and cooking. He will be missed, and we offer our condolences to his wife, Jane; his kids, Morgan and Gregory; and his many other family and friends, including several of us at ecomaine.



CONTRACT
MEMBER
COMMUNITY

OWNER
MEMBER
COMMUNITY

ASSOCIATE
MEMBER
COMMUNITY

MEMBER COMMUNITIES

ecomaine welcomed seven new contract member communities in 2021! Welcome to the family, Alfred, Brunswick, Blue Hill, Brooklin, Brooksville, Surry, and Sedgwick.





FOCUSED ON OUR FUTURE



SUCCESSION PLANNING AT ECOMAINE

As with any industry, waste managers must look to the future while meeting the challenges of today. To keep our operations running efficiently, to pass along vast amounts of institutional knowledge, and to ensure ecomaine’s place as a leader in sustainable waste management, members of ecomaine’s Young Professionals Workgroup work together to develop the next generation of our leaders through cross-departmental learning. This group communicates within and between departments to instill best practices and explore new ways of serving ecomaine’s member communities.



ecomaine's drum feeder replacement will help kick off the single-sort process and make it more efficient.

RECYCLING FACILITY

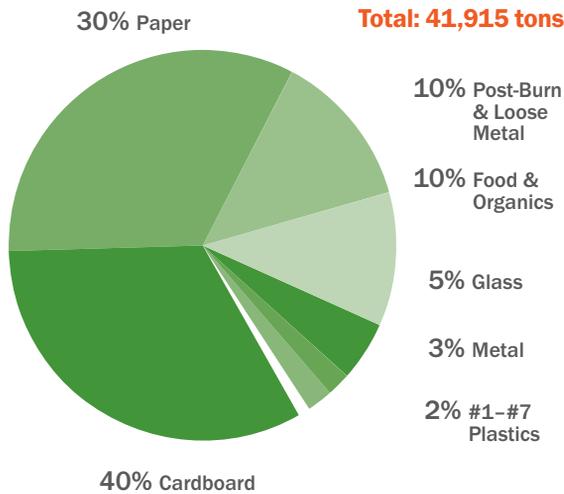


ecomaine

Why would we put 5 million dollars in a landfill?

2022 was a booming year for recycling markets! All materials showed exceptional market pricing. Thanks to community efforts committing to landfill diversion, recycling tonnage was consistent and prosperous in FY22.

THE RECYCLING TON 2022



PRICE PER TON FY21

<p>↑ Mixed Paper</p> <p>FY21 \$11/TON</p> <p>FY22 \$63/TON</p>	<p>↑ #1 PET Plastic</p> <p>FY21 \$182/TON</p> <p>FY22 \$606/TON</p>
<p>↑ Cardboard</p> <p>FY21 \$84/TON</p> <p>FY22 \$156/TON</p>	<p>↑ #3-7 Plastic</p> <p>FY21 \$57/TON</p> <p>FY22 \$195/TON</p>
<p>↑ Aluminum</p> <p>FY21 \$952/TON</p> <p>FY22 \$1,547/TON</p>	<p>↑ #2 HDPE Natural Plastic</p> <p>FY21 \$1,437/TON</p> <p>FY22 \$1,548/TON</p>
<p>↑ Steel and Tin Cans</p> <p>FY21 \$180/TON</p> <p>FY22 \$289/TON</p>	<p>↑ #2 HDPE Colored Plastic</p> <p>FY21 \$488/TON</p> <p>FY22 \$836/TON</p>

ecomaine

RECYCLING FACILITY



The recycling facility underwent many necessary repairs in FY22:

The ONP, OCC screens and B13 conveyor underwent major repairs.

We received a new loader and two new forklifts.

Paving of critical areas finished this fall.

One of the biggest repair projects, the drum feeder replacement went well beyond simple removal and installation.

ecomaine's maintenance and recycling operations teams took advantage of the down time and accomplished a rebuild of the mixed paper and cardboard screens as well as other necessary plant maintenance and cleaning.

Another result of this down time was the need to briefly send recyclable material elsewhere. Fortunately, ecomaine's Landfill crew provided lots of support while we bypassed recycling loads to a temporary site out there. Thanks to our community of haulers, who were patient and courteous throughout this event!

The best part? We were able to haul back all the bypassed material for an approximate net value of \$67,000!

ABOVE Norman Johnson lends a hand on ecomaine's paper star screen maintenance.

LEFT Recycling Operator Wayne Butler is all smiles on the job.

As Dr. Marco Castaldi said at our FY22 Annual Meeting, **waste-to-energy continues to be a more preferable strategy for waste than landfilling**—and we're planning to keep it that way!

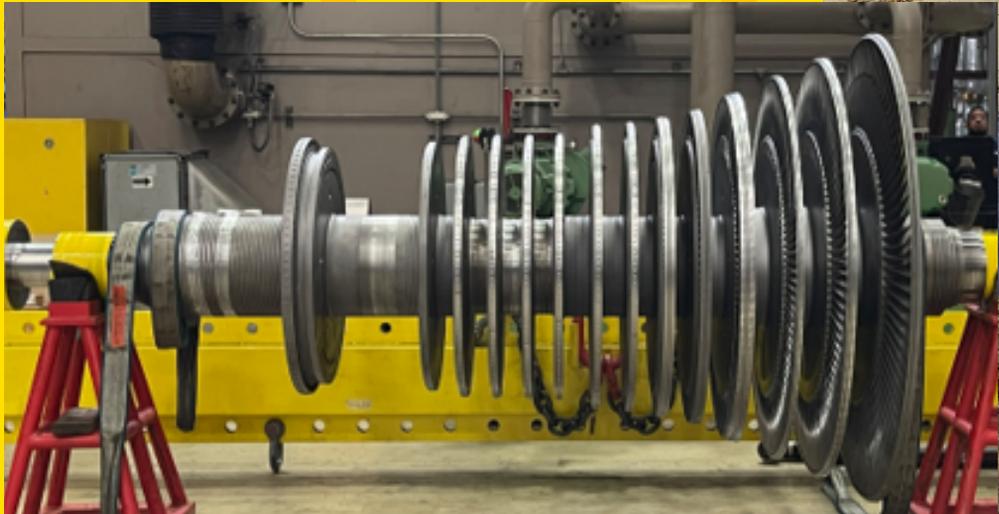


WASTE TO ENERGY

REPAIRS AND DEVELOPMENTS

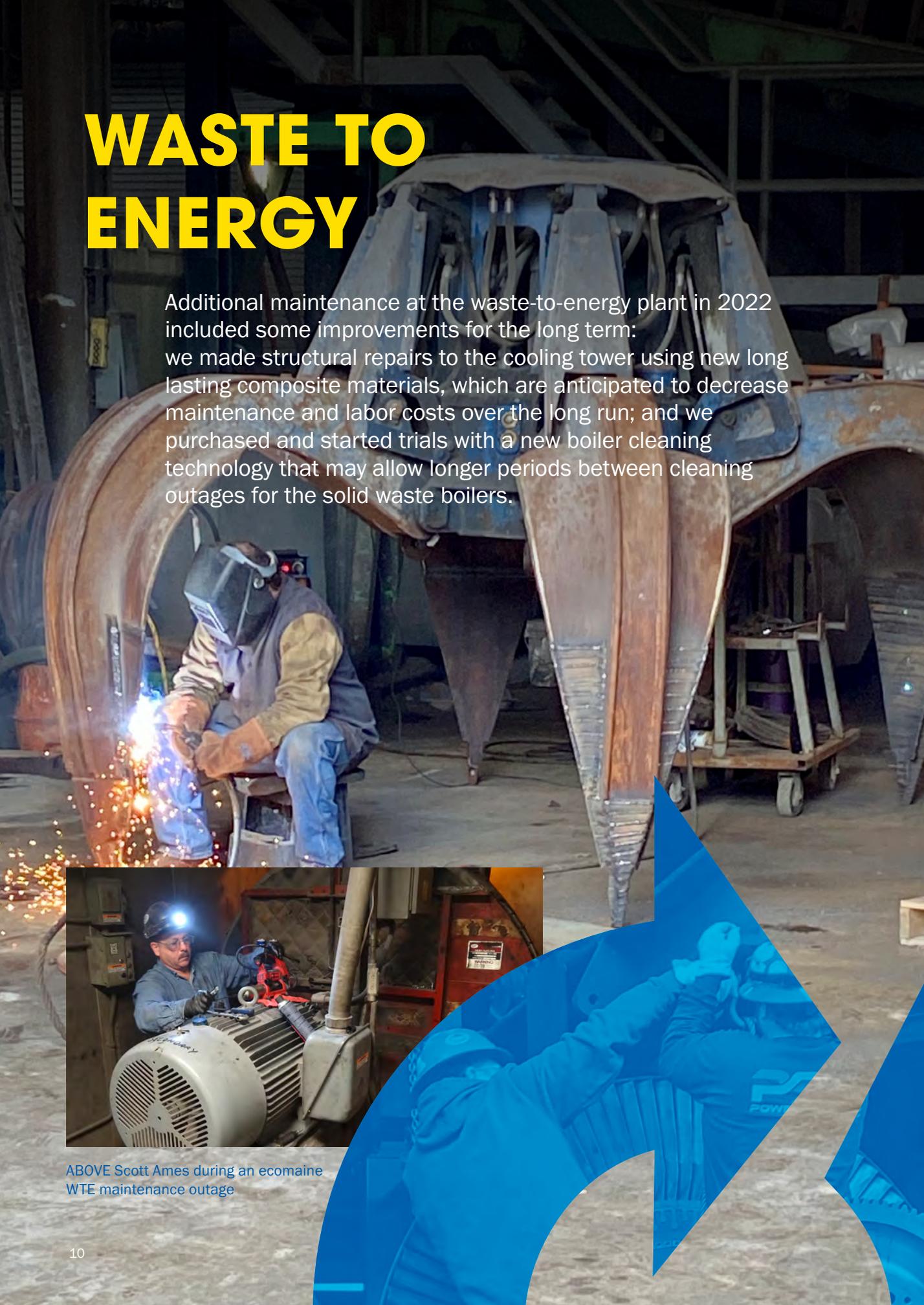
Every handful of years, ecomaine's turbine rotor requires major maintenance and cleaning, so Maine's trash can continue to generate enough electricity for 15,000 homes. 2022 was the year, and so ecomaine undertook the painstaking process of removing the turbine and sending it off to the Midwest for the job.

Now, it's back home, cleaned, repaired, and ready for another seven years of hard work creating renewable energy for ecomaine!



WASTE TO ENERGY

Additional maintenance at the waste-to-energy plant in 2022 included some improvements for the long term: we made structural repairs to the cooling tower using new long lasting composite materials, which are anticipated to decrease maintenance and labor costs over the long run; and we purchased and started trials with a new boiler cleaning technology that may allow longer periods between cleaning outages for the solid waste boilers.



ABOVE Scott Ames during an ecomaine WTE maintenance outage

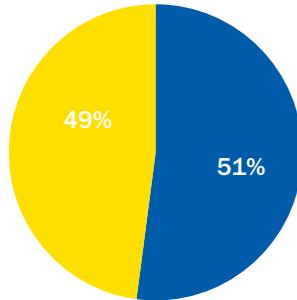
ENERGY PRICE/ MEGAWATT HOUR



MSW TONNAGE 2022

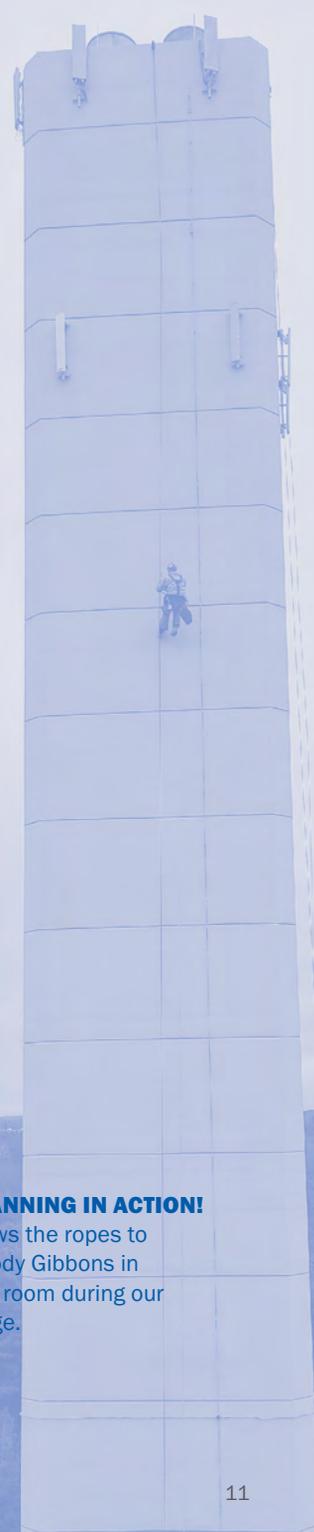
TOTAL MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE TONS: 185,032

- Residential
- Commercial



SUCCESSION PLANNING IN ACTION!

Rick Robinson shows the ropes to Riley Archer and Cody Gibbons in ecomaine's control room during our 2022 turbine outage.



LANDFILL

2022 was the year of the new wash bay at the ecomaine Landfill.

Keeping our trucks shiny and looking good is one thing, but where this new wash bay will really help is in reducing tracking and keeping our roads much cleaner—not to mention helping the trucks to last longer in the tough work environment they face, too.

The Landfill team also continued to improve systems and signage throughout the property, automating our environmental monitoring equipment and helping to keep traffic movement safe, and visitors aware of their surroundings.

Improved Safety training and awareness.

Explored Landfill Expansion Options and Potential for over thirty years.

Improved and automated all Landfill environmental monitoring and survey equipment.

Rebuilt and Repaired the Fueling and Stockpile Storage Area.

ecomaine leadership continuously reviews the best uses of our 260+ acres—whether landfill, expansion, new structures to help with recycling, or collaborating with other organizations.

ecomaine



HEALTH, SAFETY, AND ENVIRONMENT

A year of maintenance, upkeep, and input:

Received renewed Industrial Discharge Permit for WTE from Portland Water District (expires in 2024);

Maintained environmental compliance with Local, State, & Federal Regulators (air, water, solid waste - ash) for the Waste-to-Energy plant

The Environmental Department has been involved with providing input, review, and comments for:

Steinmüller and M&S Umwelttechnik toward NOx reduction options

HDR Consultants report on the WTE Site Assessment with focus on Environmental Compliance sections

It's the little things... With safety in mind, ecomaine undertook a project to replace the pavers at our main administrative and waste-to-energy entrance. But we didn't stop with the bricks! A radiant heating system was also installed to keep ice and snow clear from the entryway. Using leftovers from the steam that powers our turbine and generator, this system will reuse that energy to help prevent slips and falls—sustainably!

MARK MARITATO, Environmental Health & Safety Specialist, attended and presented at the SWANA Conference SOAR (Sustainability, Operations, Actions, Resources) session in Kansas City. Mark shared "PFAS (Per and polyfluoroalkyl substances): Implications for MSW (municipal solid waste) Combustion" and explored a potential future role for waste-to-energy in mitigating these compounds. There's a lot more research to do on this topic, but ecomaine is excited for the possibilities!



EDUCATION

12,000+
students and teachers

73,000+
people reached

Despite the continued impacts of the COVID pandemic, ecomaine was able to reach, in person and virtually, more than 73,000 people with education and information about sustainable waste management, recycling, compost, and more. This is more than FY21's 39,000 and even more than FY20's previous high mark of 55,000.

Especially notable is the bounce-back we've seen in school-based education, from just over 3,000 students and teachers reached in FY21 to nearly 12,000 in FY22.

In addition to ecomaine's in-school educational work, we are pleased to continue partnerships with the Maine Celtics and Maine Mariners, providing live, on-court and on-ice entertainment that helps to educate thousands of fans about sustainability in recycling and waste management.



TAGGING ecomaine continued to beat the streets, with its cart tagging program providing real-time, curbside feedback on residents' recycling loads. Through green, yellow, and red tags, ecomaine's team of inspectors help our neighbors "know where to throw" week in and week out!



ecomaine

OUI	NON
SÍ	NO
SIM	NÃO
HAA	MAYA

EQUITY & INCLUSION ecomaine expanded its translated recycling materials from three to ten languages and partnered with the City of Portland’s Office of Economic Opportunity to share this information. We also placed advertisements in non-English speaking media to promote these resources to households whose first language is not English.

SCHOOL VISITS Working with Maine’s schools is a big part of ecomaine’s educational outreach – and while we have fun, the students clearly do, too! Thank you notes and pictures like, “Thank you for keeping our environment clean” and “Thank you for teaching us about recycling” let us know that our work is making an impact, and that the future is in the good hands of our young ecomaine-iacs!



OUTREACH

Recycling is a Work of Art Painting Contest ecomaine provided more than \$5,000 in stipends and supplies to six artists who re-designed ecomaine’s ‘silver bullet’ containers

eco-Excellence Awards ecomaine recognized the efforts of eleven Mainers committed to sustainability and good solid waste management from Kittery to Augusta

Upcycle Challenge We continued this popular program and awarded \$500 to Cape Elizabeth High School for the grand prize winner, Aurora Milton’s design of 1990s-style pants made from curtains and fabric that would otherwise have been discarded.

Waste Diversion Grants provided nearly \$10,000 to Maine schools for the use of recycling, composting, and waste diversion projects.



FINANCE

REVENUE, EXPENSES

	FY20	FY21	FY 22 BUDGET VARIANCE			FY 22 vs.
			Actual	Budget	Variance	FY 21
Operating Revenues						
Owners tipping fees	\$ 3,973,720	4,228,996	4,429,645	4,301,213	128,432	200,649
Assoc. tipping fees	1,098,515	1,203,322	1,271,587	1,168,888	102,699	68,265
Contract tipping fees	1,129,658	1,646,271	1,489,672	1,458,168	31,504	(156,599)
Commercial tipping fees	6,566,074	6,946,973	7,338,131	7,019,628	318,503	391,158
Spot market tipping fees	245,185	223,476	362,349	227,450	134,899	138,873
Electrical generating revenues	3,829,131	3,634,255	3,092,833	3,242,530	(149,697)	(541,422)
Sales of recycled goods	876,778	2,486,009	5,026,538	1,761,927	3,264,611	2,540,529
Recycling tipping fees	1,261,071	1,390,606	1,324,898	1,635,270	(310,372)	(65,708)
Other operating income	116,663	107,269	110,318	166,632	(56,314)	3,049
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES	19,096,795	21,867,177	24,445,971	20,981,706	3,464,265	2,578,794
Operating Expenses						
Administrative expenses	2,964,048	3,046,960	3,153,566	3,215,540	61,974	(106,606)
Waste-to-energy operating expenses	10,209,361	10,930,435	13,071,729	11,355,503	(1,716,226)	(2,141,294)
Recycling operating expenses	2,146,115	2,161,436	3,372,142	2,498,390	(873,752)	(1,210,706)
Landfill/ashfill operating expenses	1,824,822	1,807,570	2,358,847	1,894,625	(464,222)	(551,277)
Contingency	448,920	-	-	250,000	250,000	-
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	17,593,266	17,946,401	21,956,284	19,214,058	(2,742,226)	(4,009,883)
Net Operating Income	1,503,529	3,920,776	2,489,687	1,767,648	722,039	(1,431,089)
Non-Operating Income						
Investment Interest	73,622	383,912	354,091	51,946	302,145	(29,821)
Investment Income (Net of Expenses)	1,266,510	4,585,965	(2,442,842)	500,000	(2,942,842)	(7,028,807)
Gain on disposition of assets	-	-	\$144,344	-	\$144,344	\$144,344
Interest Expense	-	(7,951)	(46,990)	(42,033)	(4,957)	(39,039)
Misc. Income	8,440	47,575	18,360	25,000	(6,640)	(29,215)
TOTAL NON-OPERATING	1,348,572	5,009,501	(1,973,037)	534,913	(2,507,950)	(6,982,538)
Net Income (EBITDA)	2,852,101	8,930,277	516,650	2,302,561	(1,785,911)	(8,413,627)
Non-Cash Expenses						
Landfill closure & post-closure care costs	263,773	272,505	1,823,885	265,000	(1,558,885)	(1,551,380)
Post-retirement benefit - health care	41,646	66,945	31,707	85,000	53,293	35,238
Depreciation & amortization	3,512,299	3,634,341	3,338,950	4,200,000	861,050	295,391
TOTAL NON-CASH EXPENSES	3,817,718	3,973,791	5,194,542	4,550,000	(644,542)	(1,220,751)
Total Net Income	(965,617)	4,956,486	(4,677,892)	(2,247,439)	(2,430,453)	(9,634,378)

CASH BALANCES

	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22
Cash/Investments Beginning Of Period	\$ 30,335,576	27,351,217	25,737,451	31,707,032
Cash Flows From Operating Activities				
Net operating income	2,416,637	1,503,529	3,920,776	2,489,687
Other working capital changes	60,023	(79,430)	(508,786)	762,552
NET CASH PROVIDED	2,476,660	1,424,099	3,411,990	3,252,239
Cash Flows From Capital and Related Financing Activities				
Interest payments on capital leases	-	-	(7,951)	(46,990)
Proceeds from sale of capital assets	-	-	-	144,344
Proceeds from capital leases	-	-	437,681	2,062,319
Payments on long term debt	-	-	-	(330,925)
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(6,994,986)	(4,357,599)	(2,842,016)	(5,476,522)
NET CASH USED	(6,994,986)	(4,357,599)	(2,412,286)	(3,647,774)
Cash Flows From Investing Activities				
Investment income	430,639	461,823	314,310	354,091
Gain (Loss) on investments	1,103,328	857,911	4,655,567	(2,442,842)
NET CASH USED IN INVESTING	1,533,967	1,319,734	4,969,877	(2,088,751)
NET INCREASE (DECREASE)	(2,984,359)	(1,613,766)	5,969,581	(2,484,286)
Cash/Investments End Of Period	\$ 27,351,217	25,737,451	31,707,032	29,222,746

Inflation hit hard, markets went up and down, and the need for capital and investment never quits—

but through it all, ecomaine looks to the long term for its strategic organizational and financial decisions. With significant investments continually on the horizon, ecomaine's Finance team developed new five-year forecast, cash flow, and long-term capital plan to assist the board in recognizing upcoming needs of the organization. The experience, vision, and steady hand at the helm of ecomaine will continue to provide stability, no matter the uncertainties that may come our way.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Assets	2019	2020	2021	2022
Current Assets				
Operating Cash	\$ 4,172,513	3,292,237	4,313,814	3,954,290
Accounts Receivable	1,798,159	1,770,526	2,168,444	2,092,172
Lease Receivable	-	-	480,451	423,633
Amounts held in escrow	-	-	2,062,319	2,000,000
Inventory	2,858,725	2,789,869	2,957,999	3,354,348
Prepaid Expenses	264,870	353,292	425,882	451,637
Total Current Assets	9,094,267	8,205,924	12,408,909	12,276,080
Property, Plant & Equipment	65,958,247	70,199,229	67,373,345	72,849,867
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	35,003,897	38,430,779	36,386,921	39,725,871
Net Property, Plant and Equipment	30,954,350	31,768,450	30,986,424	33,123,996
Investments – reserves	23,178,704	22,445,214	27,393,218	25,268,456
TOTAL ASSETS	63,227,321	62,419,588	70,788,551	70,668,532
Deferred Outflows Of Resources – OPEB	-	54,407	85,557	-
Liabilities				
Current Liabilities				
Accounts Payable	467,354	620,064	624,104	1,030,509
Accrued Expenses	987,357	590,928	683,310	1,365,489
Current portion of long term debt	-	-	330,925	521,876
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	1,454,711	1,210,992	1,638,339	2,917,874
Accrued Compensated Absences	859,801	955,985	952,140	963,586
Accrued Landfill Close & Post Close costs	15,082,777	15,346,550	15,619,054	17,442,939
Accrued Post Retirement Benefit - Health Care	769,600	918,265	1,027,964	782,356
Long term debt, less current portion	-	-	2,169,075	3,647,199
TOTAL LIABILITIES	18,166,889	18,431,792	21,406,572	25,753,954
Deferred Inflows Of Resources – OPEB	64,216	11,604	480,451	605,385
Net Position				
Net Investment in capital assets	30,954,350	31,778,750	30,548,743	30,954,921
Unrestricted	14,041,866	12,251,849	18,438,342	13,354,272
TOTAL NET POSITION (EQUITY)	44,996,216	44,030,599	48,987,085	44,309,193



STRONGER TOGETHER



Collaboration is inherent to ecomaine's very existence as a regionalized effort toward sustainable waste management. And as I've taken the reins from Mike Shaw, who I am proud to succeed as Board Chair, it becomes clearer every day that we are stronger together than we ever could be alone.

As a group, ecomaine's communities can realize savings, influence, and resilience in this industry that no single town or city in Maine could—and as my fellow municipal managers know well, that's a difference maker when it comes to the solid waste line item in our budgets.

—BILL SHANE, BOARD CHAIR





**PRINTED ON
100% POST-CONSUMER
RECYCLED PAPER**

Just by printing this FY22 Annual Report on 100% recycled paper, we've taken the equivalent of one car off the road for an entire year!

Stay connected!



Download the ecomaine
RECYCLOPEDIA



Take a tour five days a week—
or anytime, with our virtual tours!



Visit ecomaine.org



Call us: 207.773.1738

ecomaine

