

**TOWN OF RYEGATE
TOWN OF GROTON**

JULY 20, 2023

Dear Groton/Ryegate recyclers,

Enclosed with this letter you will find your 2023/2024 recycling sticker. You are receiving this sticker as a resident and taxpayer of our two towns. You can choose whether to attach the sticker to the vehicle that you take to recycling or if you have more than one car that goes to recycling you can simply have the sticker with you when you come.

For many years we have enjoyed a "the more the merrier" approach to recycling and have welcomed recyclers from other towns and states. Now, however, we have to pay Northeast Kingdom Waste Management for every trip they make to East Ryegate to pick up our recycling. This cost has been borne by the taxpayers of Groton and Ryegate but not by our visitors from elsewhere. And so, we are introducing the stickers. Recyclers from other towns will still be welcome to recycle with us but they will need to purchase a sticker at \$25.00 per annual sticker. Considering what it costs to throw away a bag of trash, \$25.00 for a year of unlimited recycling is quite a bargain. At this time, we are only estimating how much money the sale of the stickers will raise but we will be able to fine tune the program in the future.

The stickers will be available for purchase at either the Ryegate or Groton Town Clerk's office or at the recycling station in East Ryegate. Residents who do not receive a sticker with their tax bill can pick one up at the Town Clerk's offices at no cost, but you will need to verify your resident status with the clerk. We expect to allow a grace period while we all get used to the new program and to allow for the difference in the mailing dates of the tax bills in the two towns.

This program will go into effect October 1, 2023.

Thank you for your understanding and happy recycling!

Groton and Ryegate Selectboards