

## Dresden Public Facilities and Services

**GOAL:** To maintain an efficient system of public facilities and services for the citizens of Dresden, anticipating any accommodations needed related to growth and development.

Dresden runs efficiently thanks to its elected and appointed officials, as well as those who volunteer their expertise, time and energy. With projected minimal population growth over the next ten years, most of the public facilities and services should remain sufficient to meet the town citizens' demand over that time period.

Partnering with neighboring towns is another factor in Dresden's effective use of limited resources. Partnering occurs to meet the education needs of our students, the enforcement of coding regulations, and the response to emergency events.

### **Governance:**

Dresden is governed by a Select Board made up of three members who are elected for staggered three-year terms. Director positions for the RSU #2 (Dresden's school district) School Board are also elected for staggered three-year terms. . Other positions for which the town elects a person are: the Clerk, Tax Collector, Excise Tax Collector, and Treasurer. The Registrar of Voters is appointed by the Select Board. The Select Board also appoints an Animal Control Officer, and Health Officer. The Fire Chief is voted in by the Fire Association and recommended to the Select Board for approval by vote at the annual town meeting.

There are a number of Boards and committees that are staffed by residents who volunteer to serve and are appointed by the Selectmen. These include the Board of Appeals, Budget Review Committee, Comprehensive Planning Committee, Planning Board, and Conservation Committee. The boards and committees are responsible to provide recommendations to the Selectmen as well as to develop, propose, implement and administer town rules, regulations and policies which contribute to the protection of the health and safety of the residents and assure compliance to the town, state and federal rules and regulations.

Town employees are limited to those who work at the Town Office and those who work at the Dresden Recycling and Transfer station.

### **Town Office:**

The Dresden Town Office is located at 534 Gardiner Road in the center of Dresden Mills. Town Office hours are clearly posted; staff is available to town residents at posted hours Monday through Friday, and on the first Saturday of every month. For

emergencies, there is a 24-hour telephone contact. Meetings of the Selectmen and town committees take place either at the Town Office or at Pownalborough Hall, located at 314 Patterson Road.

### Town Owned Property:

Table 1 indicates Town owned property and capital equipment its location, use, condition and anticipated replacement date if less than 10 years.

**Table 1  
Town Owned Property**

<b>Building</b>	<b>Built or Acquired</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Use</b>	<b>Condition</b>	<b>Anticipated Replacement Date if &lt; 10 years</b>
Town Office	1800's	534 Gardiner Rd.	administration and committee meetings	Good	
Old Town Hall	1904	Route 127 (Middle Rd.)	not in use	Poor	
Fire House Pownalborough Hall	1867 (renovated in 2010)	Route 128 (River Rd.)	houses firefighting equipment & trucks	Excellent	
Fire House Jewett Station	1950's	Route 127 (Middle Rd.)	Houses fire truck and EMS vehicle	Fair	
Recycling Court Transfer Station	1990	Route 127 (Middle Rd.)	Recycling Solid waste management	Good	
Sand & Salt Shed	1990	Route 127 (Middle Rd.)	Sand & salt storage	Good	

**Police Protection:**

The Lincoln County Sheriff and Maine State Police provide police protection for the town. They are available as needed. Neighbors watching out for neighbors serve as a deterrent to criminal activity.

**Fire Protection:**

The Dresden Volunteer Fire Department is housed in two locations in Dresden, one location being at the corner of Route 128 (River Rd.) and Route 197; the other location being on Route 127 (Middle Rd.) near the intersection of Route 127 and Route 27. The newest station, Station 2, was built in 2010 and houses the department's firefighting equipment and trucks. The condition of the Station 2 fire house is excellent. The Fire Department's operating budget for 2013 is \$28,000.

The Dresden Fire Department is composed entirely of volunteers, currently 22, including one Fire Chief/Fire Warden, one Assistant Fire Chief, and three Deputy Fire Wardens. The Chief is voted by the membership of the DVFD and then approved by town residents at the annual town meeting.

Training is required for all DVFD staff. Training is accomplished through in-house training activities done in conjunction with an approved Fundamentals of Fire Fighter Skills training curriculum provided by Maine Fire Training and Education (MFT&E). Certified classes are also provided by area Fire Attack Schools that are held throughout the year at various locations around the state. MFT&E also provides certified classes at the local fire departments with a qualified instructor. These classes are scheduled at no cost to the fire department.

Dresden is a rural town and has no central water source for fire department use. There are a number of dry hydrants located at farm ponds and streams throughout Dresden to support and provide water for fires as needed.

The town of Dresden participates in an automatic mutual aid program for structure fires in neighboring towns located in Lincoln, Kennebec, and Sagadahoc counties.

The table below illustrates the number of automatic mutual aid calls the Dresden Fire Department responded to in the last five years:

**Table 2**  
**Mutual Aid Calls to Other Towns**

<b>TOWN</b>	<b>2007-2008</b>	<b>2008-2009</b>	<b>2009-2010</b>	<b>2010-2011</b>	<b>2011-2012</b>
Richmond	6	4	5	6	5
Wiscasset	3	1	2	7	2
Woolwich	3	1	2	2	2
Pittston	2	1	2	1	0
Bath	0	0	0	0	0
West Bath	0	0	0	1	2
Boothbay	1	0	0	0	0
Bowdoin	0	1	0	0	0
Bowdoinham	1	0	1	0	4
Brunswick	0	0	0	0	0
Georgetown	1	0	0	0	0
Litchfield	0	1	0	0	1
<b>Totals</b>	17	9	12	17	16

A review of Table 3 reveals that the Dresden Volunteer Fire Department responded to a variety of calls over the past 5 years. The most frequent calls were for motor vehicle crashes.

**Table 3**  
**Fire-related Responses in Dresden**

<b>Incident Type</b>	<b>2007-2008</b>	<b>2008-2009</b>	<b>2009-2010</b>	<b>2010-2011</b>	<b>2011-2012</b>
Structure fire	2	1	0	2	1
Vehicle/other fire	5	1	4	4	0
Grass/woods/brush fire	1	4	3	0	3
Motor vehicle accident	42	27	41	43	50
Wires/trees down	7	9	10	8	9
CO2/smoke alarm investigation	0	5	5	7	3
EMS assist	0	0	4	2	2
Fire investigations	0	1	1	1	0
Life Flight assist	0	0	1	0	0
Chimney fire	2	0	1	1	3
Flooded roads/basements	2	3	2	2	0
Other fire/hazards	5	1	1	0	1
Water search/rescue	0	1	0	2	0
Ground search(missing person)	0	1	0	1	1
Citizen/other assist	9	1	5	2	1
Severe weather preparedness	0	2	0	0	1
Totals	75	57	78	75	75
<b>Total Fire Department Responses (in town and mutual aid)</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>91</b>

### **Code Enforcement:**

Dresden contracts with Richmond to provide code enforcement officer services. The Code Enforcement Officer provides enforcement of the Dresden land use ordinance. He works closely with the Select Board, the Planning Board, the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (MeDEP), and the Fire Marshall's Office. The hours are adequate at this time but may need to be revisited if building activity increases significantly or he is asked to take on greater enforcement responsibilities.

**Emergency Response System:**

E911 calls are handled by the Lincoln County Regional Communications Center (LCRCC), which serves as the County's E911 Public Safety Answering Point. The LCRCC, located at the communication center in Wiscasset adjacent to the county courthouse, also serves as the dispatch center for all law, fire and emergency medical service agencies within Lincoln County. Each dispatcher has undergone written and hands-on testing by the State. The Town's emergency response system is adequate.

In Dresden, the E911 Addressing Officer is the Fire Chief.

**Emergency Medical Services (EMS):**

Dresden contracts with a private ambulance service to provide emergency medical services to Dresden.

**Emergency Management:**

Emergency management includes preparation for, response to, and recovery from natural and man-made disasters. A long-time resident of Dresden serves as the Emergency Management Director for the town, working in coordination with the Fire Chief.

**Health Services:**

Dresden is not privileged to house any health care providers within the community. The residents are served by a number of providers, facilities and agencies located primarily in Bath, Richmond, Wiscasset, Damariscotta, Brunswick, and Augusta. The closest hospitals are Maine General in Augusta, St. Andrews Hospital in Boothbay, Miles Hospital in Damariscotta, Midcoast Hospital in Brunswick, and Parkview Hospital in Brunswick. Dresden does have a Public Health Officer, available through the Town Office.

**Education:**

Dresden is part of Maine Regional School Unit (RSU) #2. The Town of Dresden has three representatives on the RSU #2 School Board.

RSU #2 has a number of elementary schools throughout the region that provide kindergarten through grade six education. Dresden children attend Dresden Elementary School, located on Route 128 (Cedar Grove Rd.) in Dresden. No expansion in the elementary school is expected within the next ten years. For middle

and high school, Dresden children attend schools in Halldale (Hallowell) and Farmingdale.

The following table includes the enrollment of Dresden children in area schools, from 2009-2012.

**Table 4**  
**Dresden Children Enrollment in Secondary Education**

<b>School</b>	<b>2009-2010</b>	<b>2010-2011</b>	<b>2011-2012</b>	<b>2012-2013</b>	<b>2013-2014</b>
Dresden Elementary	106	99	92	97	94
Marcia Buker Elementary (Richmond)	0	0	0	2	1
Wiscasset Elementary School	0	0	0	0	2
Boothbay Elementary	0	0	0	0	2
Hall-Dale Middle School	44	48	46	42	41
Richmond Middle School	1	1	1	0	2
Wiscasset Middle School	1	1	2	4	2
Hall-Dale High School	66	53	54	47	50
Richmond High School	0	0	3	8	4
Wiscasset High School	1	1	1	3	2
Morse High School (Bath)	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>201</b>

### **Solid Waste Management:**

Dresden has its own recycling center, located on Route 127 (Middle Rd.) The Dresden Recycling and Transfer Station is open three (3) days a week. The site also is home to the town's swap shop, staffed by a number of dedicated volunteers. The Dresden Recycling and Transfer Station accepts corrugated containers, newsprint, mixed paper, office paper, numbers 1, 2N, 2C, 3, 4, 5 and 7 plastic, steel cans, aluminum, batteries, computers, monitors, mercury containing devices, glass and some mixed electronic waste. Dresden residents have access to the Richmond Transfer Station for items such as discarded lumber and large household items. The following chart indicates Dresden's history of recycling:

**Table 5**  
**Solid and Recycled Waste in Dresden**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Solid Waste(tons)</b>	<b>Recycled Waste (tons)</b>
2007	486.2	264.6
2008	555.1	241.8
2009	597	190.8
2010	448.4	221.1
2011	454.4	156.5

A goal for Dresden is to increase awareness of recycling and encourage residents to participate in the recycling program. Ultimately this decreases the cost of trash disposal for the town. With projected slow growth and declining tonnage of waste disposed and not recycled, the current solid waste management system seems to be meeting current needs although increasing recycling would provide additional benefits. The Town provides information about recycling, particularly what to recycle, on the Town website ([www.townofdresden.com](http://www.townofdresden.com)). With projected slow growth the capacity of the solid waste management system is adequate.

### **Sand and Salt Storage:**

The town maintains a salt and sand shed for winter maintenance. The shed is located at the Recycling and Transfer Station on Middle Road. The sand and salt shed hold 3,000 cu. yards of salt and sand.

### **Electrical Services:**

Central Maine Power provides electricity to the residents of Dresden.

### **Telecommunication:**

Telephone, cable and internet services in Dresden are provided by a number of companies; however, these services are not available in all areas of the town.

### **Water and Sewer and Storm Water Management:**

Almost all homes and businesses in Dresden have private wells and septic systems. Due to contamination of well water at the center of Dresden Mills in 1996, a few private homes and businesses are now supplied with water from a well owned and maintained by the town.

Storm water management in the form of well-maintained culverts throughout the town is adequate and will meet projected demand.

### **Miscellaneous:**

With implementation of strategies in this chapter and elsewhere in the Plan and given low rate of projected growth most municipal services overall will be adequate to meet changes in population and demographics.



**Policies:**

Note following each strategy is the responsible party and year to begin implementing that strategy.

**Strategies:**

Draft