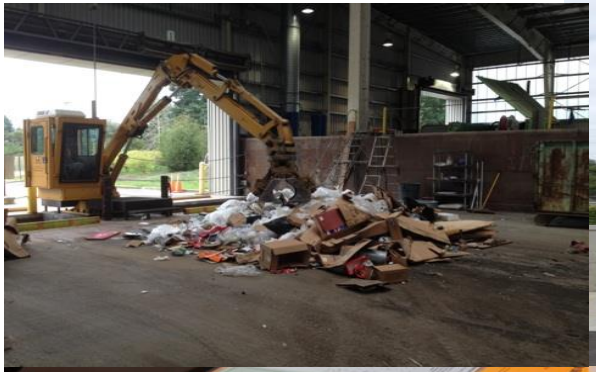


Transfer Station Recycling & Resource Recovery Program Update
MSWMAC March 11, 2016

King County
Department of Natural Resources and Parks
Solid Waste Division

Waste Prevention | Resource Recovery | Waste Disposal

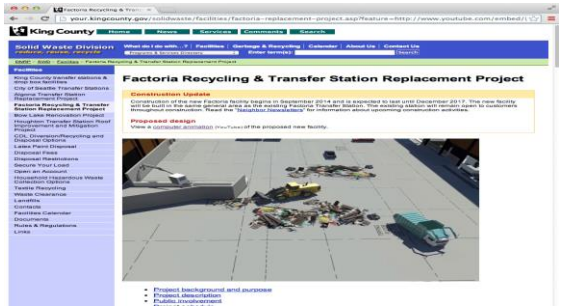
Outline

- Improving external & internal communications & education
- Comingled recycling & new recycling compactors
- Vashon yard & food waste pilot
- Resource recovery
- Mercury lighting collection
- Styrofoam & plastic film update
- 2015 overall results
- Next steps
- Questions

Improving External Communication and Education

- **Focus groups:**
  - Nov. 2014
- **Printed materials:**
  - Inventory, assess, update

- **Improved signage**
  - Appliance recycling
  - Cardboard recycling
  - Comingled recycling
- **Website** (internet)
  - design

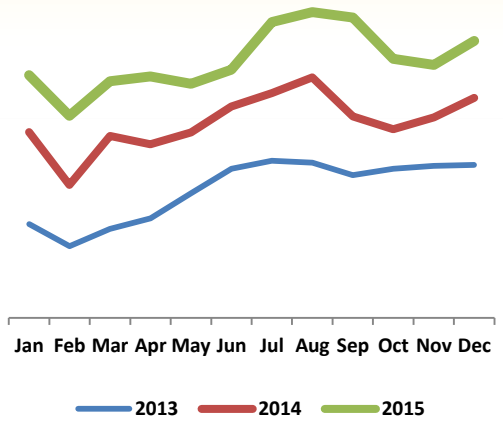


Improving Internal Communication & Education

Customer Service & Recycling trainings

- Transfer station operators (TSOs)
- Scale operators (SOs)
- Jan. – April 2015
  - ➢ **Held 8 trainings**
- **129** SWD employees trained
- 2016 training sessions have begun

New recycling compactors net lower CO2 emissions and transportation costs while handling higher recycling tons.



Vashon yard & food waste pilot realizes high customer participation in early months

- Zero Waste Vashon – Community non-profit
- Pilot organics – Spring 2015 - 2016
  - Reduced rate ($75/ton disposal rate)
  - Track material incoming tonnage
  - Evaluate tons which will help inform next steps

A total of 134.78 tons of yard and food waste was received in the four months of the pilot. been observed in the material collected.

A total of 539 customer visits were recorded in the four months

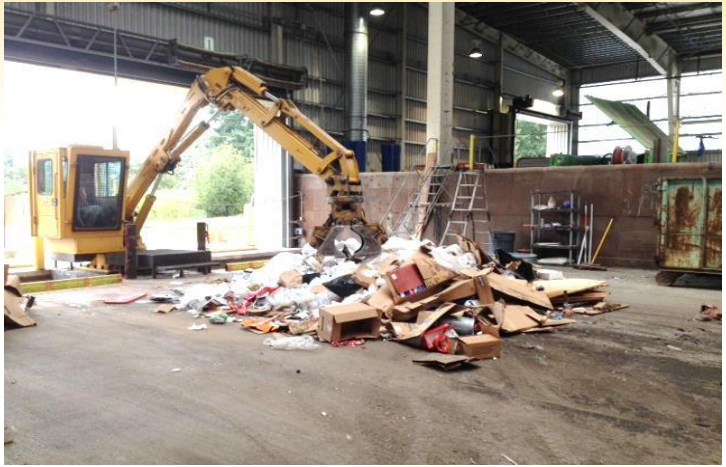
Resource Recovery continues to push recovered tons higher

Pilot began at the Shoreline Recycling and Transfer Station in April 2014.

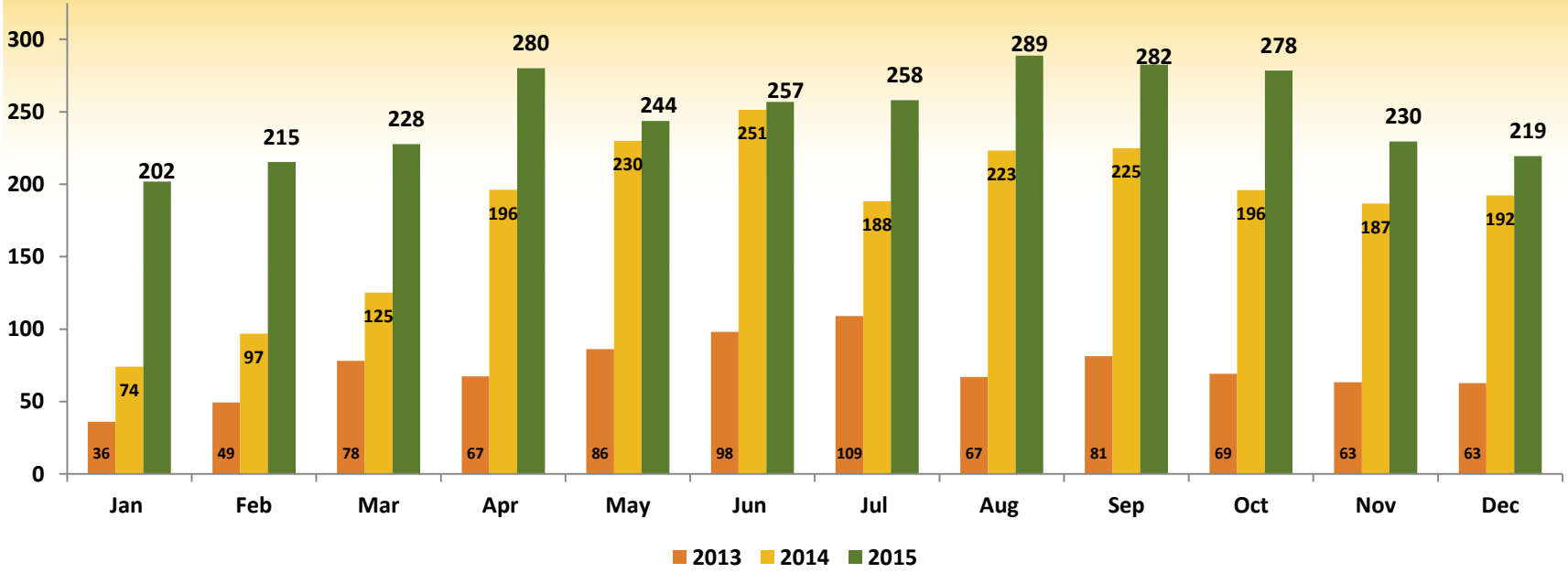
- Target clean wood, scrap metal, and cardboard

The pilot has a two-pronged approach.

- Directs self-haulers to recycling bins where recyclable materials can be placed.
- Sort incoming mixed waste on the tipping and mechanically remove the cardboard, wood and metal

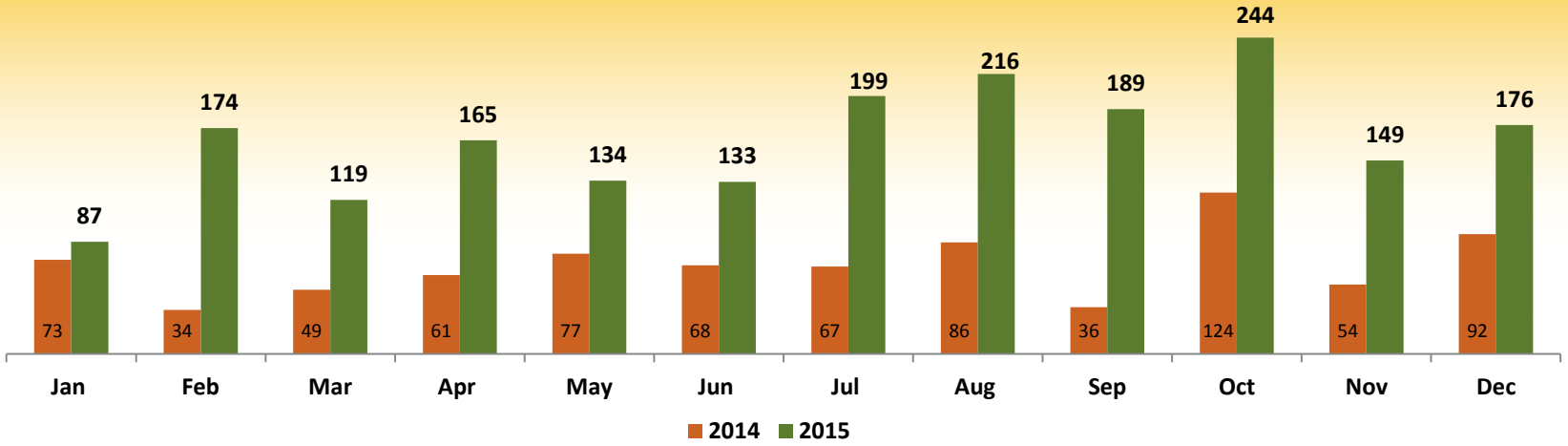


Cardboard, Metal & Wood Tons Diverted
Shoreline
(Pilot Launched April 2014)



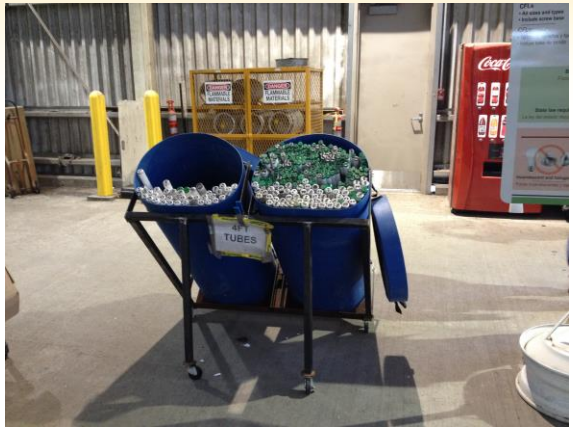
Bow Lake resource recovery “Sort It Out” campaign out-performs expectations

Bow Lake "Sort It Out"
Combined Cardboard, Metal, Wood Tons Diverted



The placement of additional recycling bins and signage in the self-haul area of the Bow Lake transfer station in January 2015 resulted in the combined total of 1,160 tons of metal, cardboard, and clean wood as compared to the prior year.

Mercury lighting recycling at King County transfer stations contributes to Washington State LightRecycle program success



- Collection of mercury lighting including fluorescent tubes and compact fluorescent bulbs under the Washington State sponsored program LightRecycle began at Bow Lake, Shoreline, Vashon, and Enumclaw the first of this year.

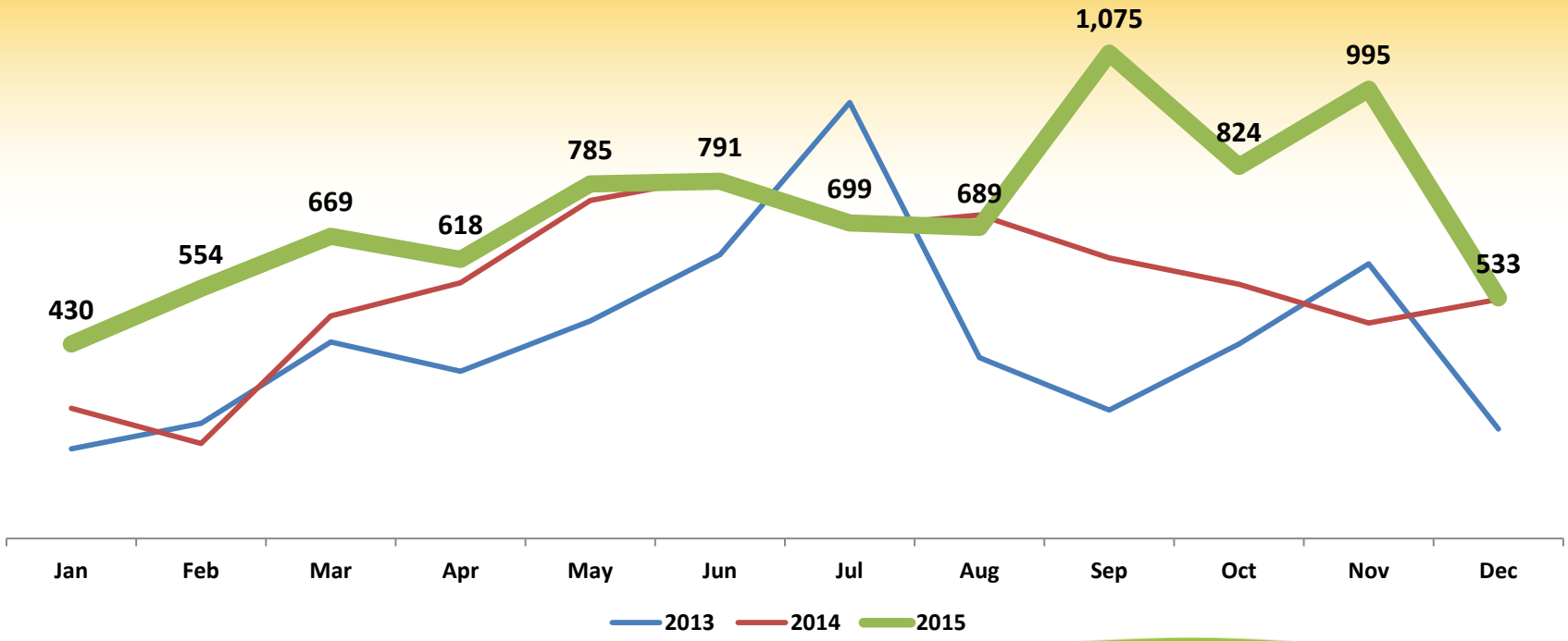
- A total of 15,780 pounds of spent mercury lighting was collected.

LightRecycle Washington

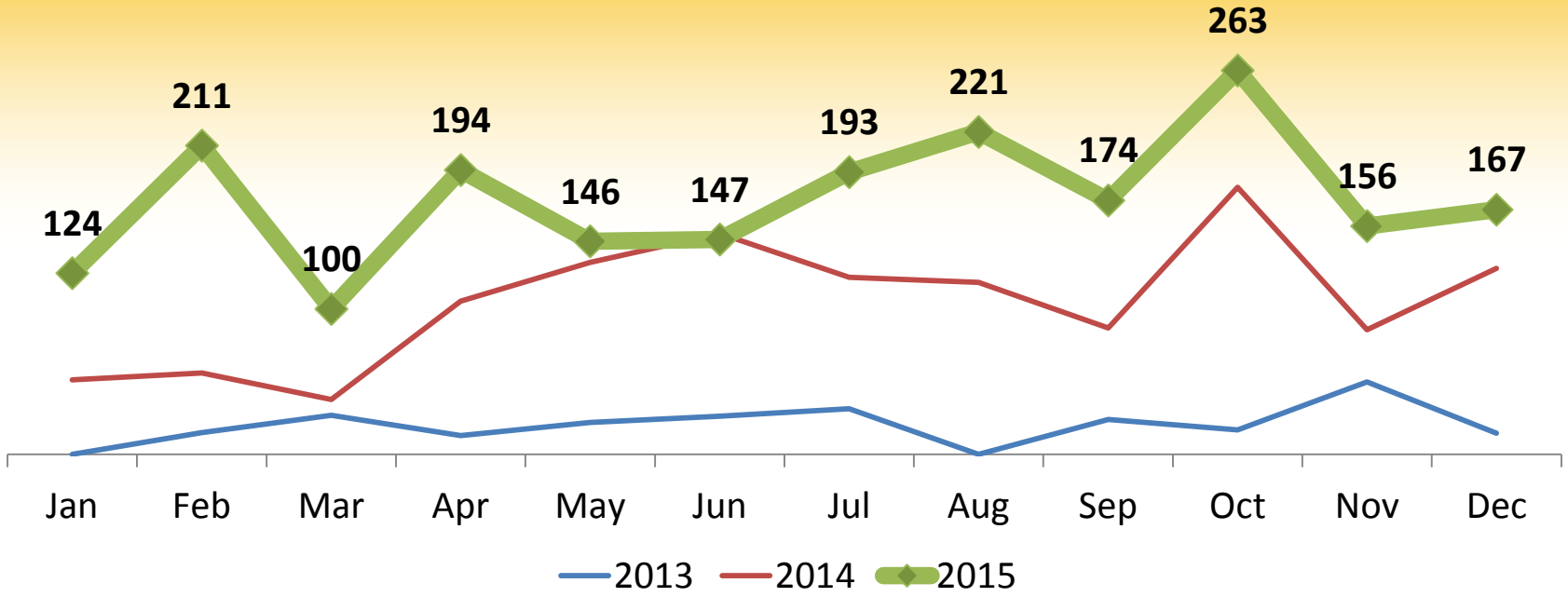
Styrofoam & Plastic Film collection to resume soon

- Pilot halted due to transportation challenges
- New contract for hauling and processing in place in next couple of weeks
- Initial results look promising as there is a demonstrated need
- Program costs to be evaluated after pilot

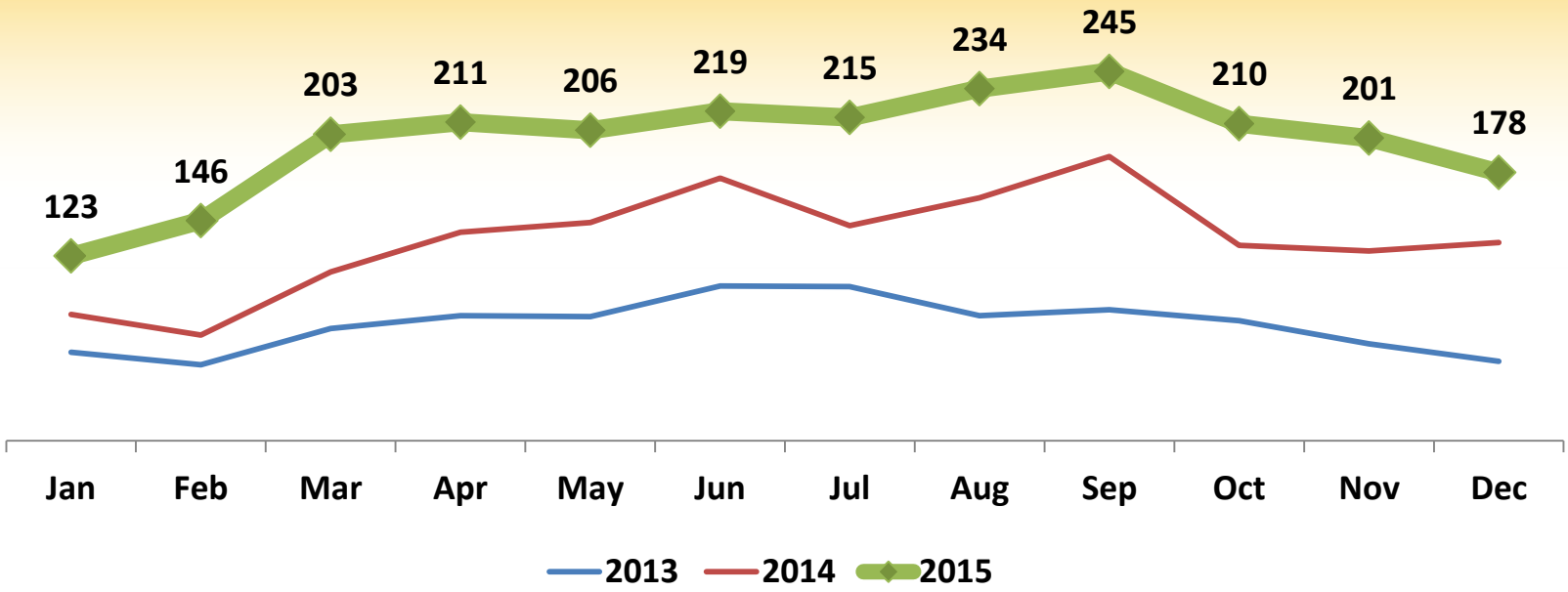
Yard Waste tonnage higher by 1,957 tons



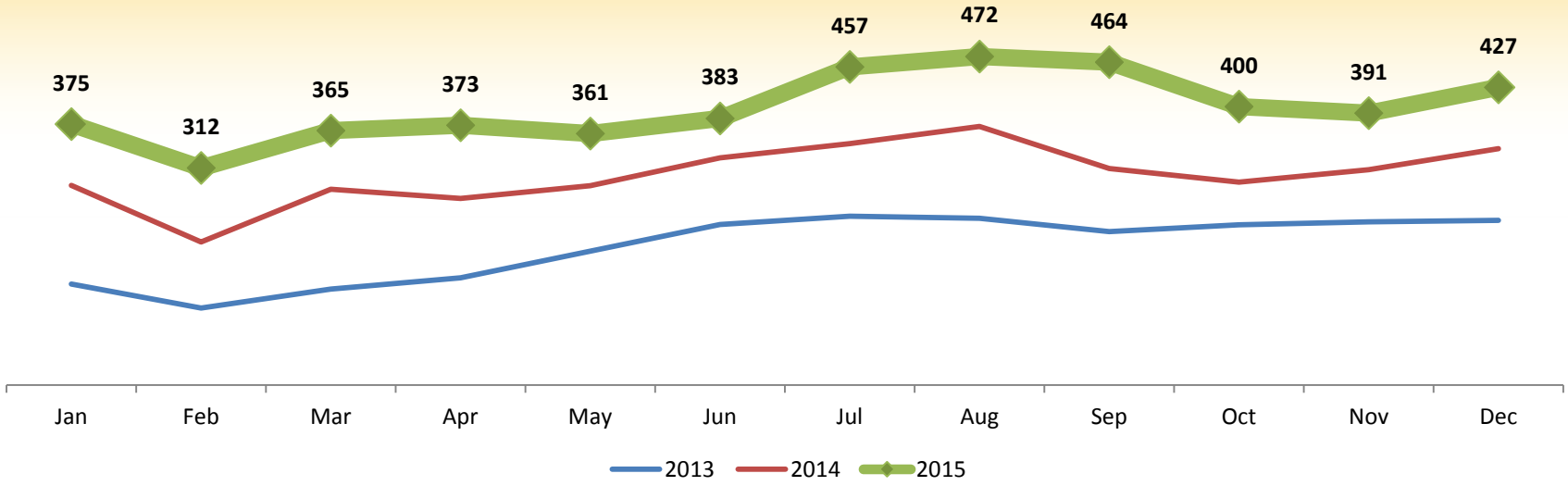
Wood Waste recycling higher by 844 tons



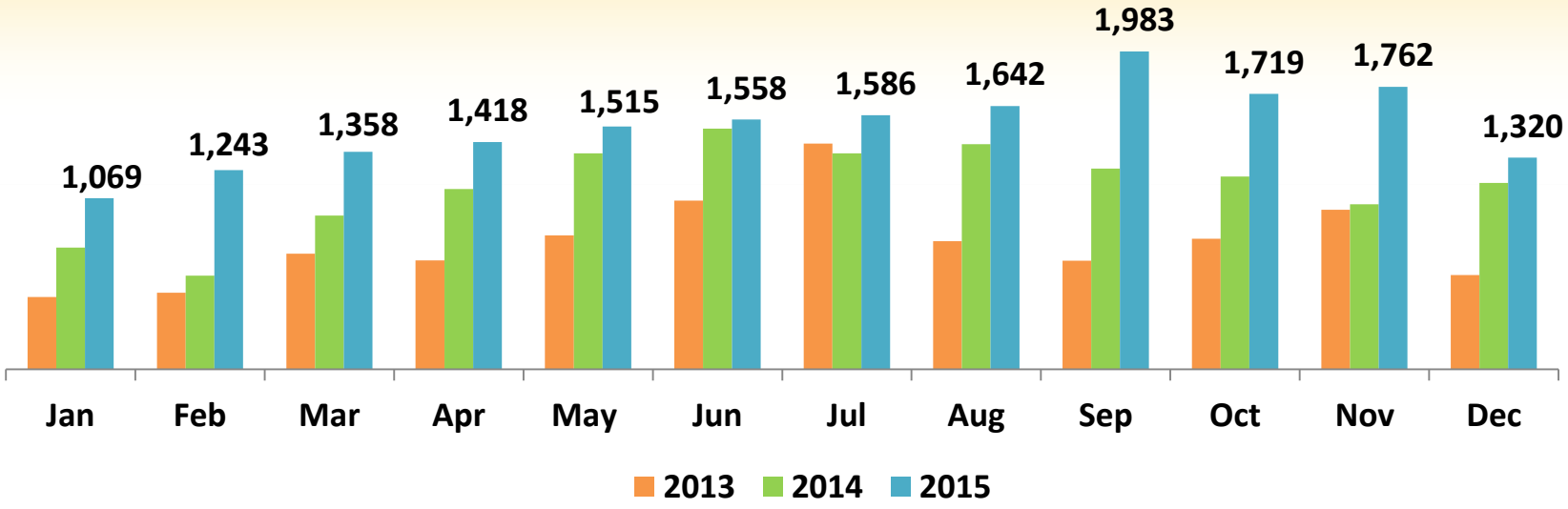
Scrap Metal recycling improved by 788 tons

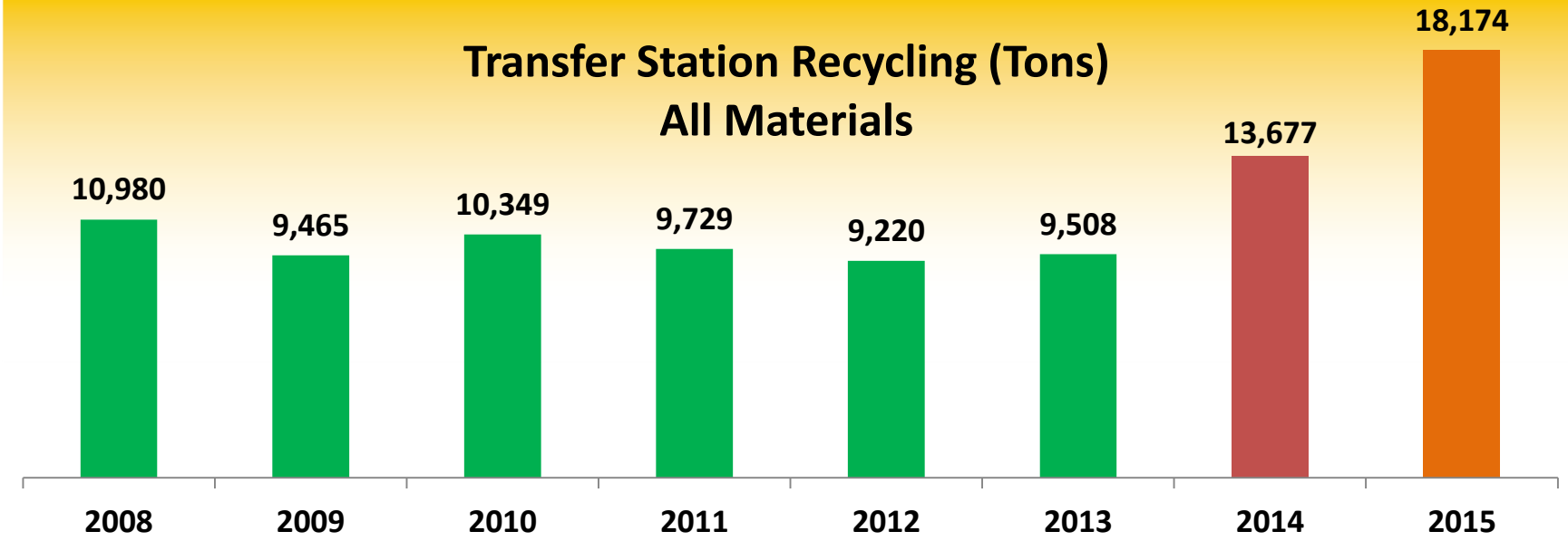


Comingled recycling including cardboard increased by 1,156 tons



Overall tons recycled increases by 33% nearly doubling in two years





A total of 18,174 tons of materials were recycled in 2015. Overall recycling tonnages increased year over year by 4,496 tons or 33%

More to come

- Staffing of Shoreline resource recovery efforts with permanent staff has begun
- Expand resource recovery at Bow Lake & Enumclaw with additional staff March & April
- Waste characterization of Vashon organics
- Look to expand Styrofoam and plastic film pilot to Bow Lake
- Target additional material for diversion including mattresses & scrap tires
- New Factoria Recycling & Transfer Station

Questions?

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