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# THE SUN CHRONICLE

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## News

### BigBelly hungry for garbage

BY GEORGE W. RHODES SUN CHRONICLE STAFF  
 Wednesday, July 25, 2007 12:48 AM EDT

ATTLEBORO - The BigBelly Cordless Trash Compaction System is the most expensive and heaviest trash can the city has, but in the long run it saves energy, time and money, a health official said.

The \$4,245 unit, which weighs 540 pounds and is located at the Poncin-Hewitt Recreation Complex, was bought by the health department partly with a grant from the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative and partly with donations from city residents who chose to contribute \$5 to \$12 a month to a renewable energy project on their National Grid electric bills.

The machine is powered by a 12-Volt DC battery recharged by sunlight through a special 40-watt solar photovoltaic module.

The BigBelly can hold up to 200 gallons of waste and reduces collection trips by up to 90 percent, Solid Waste Administrator Cheryl Perry said.

In the process, time, money and energy are saved, she added.



Attleboro Health Department seasonal employee Chris Gibney puts garbage in the new BigBelly Trash Compactor at the Poncin-Hewitt complex in Attleboro. (Staff photo by MIKE GEORGE)

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Mansfield Resident wrote on Jul 25, 2007 2:27 PM:  
 " Way to go! Can be done in new homes, too. Every new home, or remodeled kitchen, should include an under the counter trash compactor. They compact great and will allow for more trash in roadside trash pickup. "

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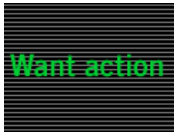
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