



News to Reuse

ADDISON COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT WINTER 2019

We're CHARGED UP about Recycling your Dead Batteries!

Before you empty your drawer full of old batteries into the trash, you should know there's a better place for them to go. In 2014, Vermont became the first state in the U.S. to pass a law creating recycling for primary cell (non-rechargeable) batteries. These are AA, AAA, C, and D-cell batteries, whether they say "lithium," "alkaline," "general purpose," or "heavy duty." Previously, residents were advised to throw these batteries in the trash, but now we're asking you to recycle them at participating locations!



Primary Cell

You probably know that all rechargeable batteries, like Ni-Cad, Ni-MH, Li-Ion, or small lead acid batteries, and non-rechargeable button cell batteries are banned from disposal in the trash. They also can't go in your blue bin! Instead, bring all battery types, including primary cell batteries, to the District Transfer Station for *free* special recycling. Our staff will sort them and send them on to fulfill their next purpose!



Button Cell

Many useful materials like lead, iron, cadmium, cobalt, nickel, steel, zinc, and manganese are recovered from batteries and put back into new products. With your help, used batteries will keep going... and going...



Rechargeables

Collect batteries in a dry place before bringing them to us or another drop-off location. To find out which area businesses also collect batteries and cell phones for special recycling, visit www.Call2Recycle.org/locator.

Salisbury Joins the District!

On October 17th, the ACSWMD Board of Supervisors adopted resolutions to accept the Town of Salisbury into the District as the 21st town to become a member.

As part of the agreement, the Town closed their unlined landfill, the last of its kind in Vermont. Growing costs related to operation, planning, recycling and special events for hazardous waste collection fueled the conversation to join the District. The decision to join passed 149 to 30 on Town Meeting Day.

At the beginning of September, R&L Rubbish began staffing the Salisbury Town Drop-Off, located in front of the old landfill. Salisbury residents can now bring them their trash, recycling, and food scraps every Saturday from 8 am - 1 pm.

"The District Board welcomes Salisbury back into the District," said Teresa Kuczynski, District Manager. "The selectboard has devoted many hours toward making this happen. This decision will benefit the Town and the District on managing our solid waste in the future."

Employee Spotlight: Chad Kimball

Going into his 7th year at the District Transfer Station, Chad Kimball is frequently behind the wheel packing the District's trash into transfer trailers, which are bound for Vermont's only operating landfill in Coventry, Vermont. When his boots hit the ground, he's checking loads for items that are banned from the landfill, including tires, scrap metal, hazardous waste, and more. He also regularly prepares appliances for proper disposal, sorts e-waste and operates our recycling compactor. We're truly grateful for Chad's contribution to our team!



Photo Credit: Lou Varricchio, The Vermont Eagle

In his free time, he's a busy dad to three kids, runs his own lawncare business and fixes and races antique snowmobiles.

Methylene Chloride: Know the Risks

This past March, the US Environmental Protection Agency issued a ban on the manufacture and sale of chemical paint remover products that contain methylene chloride. Long-term exposure to this chemical can damage the kidneys, liver, and heart, and may increase the risk of developing cancer. Short-term exposure to methylene chloride fumes can cause dizziness, loss of consciousness, and even death in extreme cases. The Vermont Department of Health advises all residents to stop using methylene chloride paint removers immediately, and to safely transport any unused paint removers to a household hazardous waste collection. You can easily identify methylene chloride in a paint remover by reading the ingredients list, which is usually on the back of the container. If you have paint remover with methylene chloride, please bring it to the HazWaste Center at the District Transfer Station for free, safe disposal. You can also call us if you have questions.



HazWaste Center Open Year-Round

The HazWaste Center is open year-round! It's located at the District Transfer Station on Route 7 South in Middlebury. The HazWaste Center accepts household hazardous waste free of charge from District residents every Monday through Friday from 8 AM - 2 PM, and Saturday from 8:00 AM - 1 PM. Not sure if a chemical is hazardous or not? Visit www.AddisonCountyRecycles.org/hazwaste for a list of common household hazardous waste.



When transporting hazwaste, be sure all containers are tightly closed and packed securely in your vehicle. Keep all chemicals in separate containers. Spills can happen when you have leaky bottles, brittle plastic containers, or soggy cardboard boxes. Never leave wastes at the HazWaste Center without first speaking to an attendant. Please do not bring empty paint cans, other empty chemical containers, or solidified joint compound. These items should be discarded with your regular household trash.

Businesses should call us to see if you qualify as a conditionally exempt generator (CEG) of hazardous waste, and to make an appointment to deliver your waste. Businesses must pay for the cost of disposal.

Visit our A-Z Guide today!

Got an item to dispose of but not sure what to do with it? Visit our online A-Z Guide. Our A-Z Guide explains your disposal options for hundreds of items. Here are a few everyday examples you can look up from a smart phone or computer:

Caps and lids

Caps and lids belonging to recyclable bottles and jars should be reattached to their clean container and put in a blue bin for recycling. If the cap/lid cannot be reattached and it's smaller than 2 inches in diameter, it should be put in the trash.



Humidifiers

Humidifiers are not recyclable and should be disposed of with your household trash.



Lighters

Lighters that contain any fuel are banned from the trash and should be brought to the District HazWaste Center. Empty lighters can go in the trash.



String lights

String lights with large bulbs may be recycled through the District's E-Waste program (\$5/grocery bag). String lights with smaller "mini" bulbs, like those pictured, may be recycled as scrap metal at the District Transfer Station (free).



The list goes on!

Visit www.AddisonCountyRecycles.org/guide for proper disposal answers to common and confusing items!

Welcome ECO AmeriCorps Member Ollie Cultrara Back!



ECO AmeriCorps member Ollie Cultrara is back for a second year of service! Ollie served with us from September 2018 to August 2019, and will be serving with the District again until August 2020. Ollie has been instrumental in organizing 2 Repair Fairs, building out our newly redesigned website, facilitating backyard composting workshops, and encouraging food scrap diversion at Addison County Fair and Field Days!

Don't Forget Your Reusable Bag!

Last legislative season, Vermont passed the most comprehensive single-use plastics bill in the nation! Starting July 1, 2020, stores and food service establishments will no longer be allowed to provide plastic shopping bags, plastic coffee stirrers, plastic straws, or styrofoam food and beverage containers. While there will be some exceptions, the law takes aim at reducing Vermont's reliance on single-use plastics which contribute to pollution in our waterways and take up space in Vermont's landfill.



Here are few tips to help you remember your bag:

- 1) Build a selection!** Depending on your family's size, you may need more than one, and having more than one allows for the following:
- 2) Strategically place bags** near exterior doors, near car keys, and in your car to help you and your family remember to bring them!
- 3) Make it a habit.** Habits take discipline, so go back and grab your bags when you forget them.
- 4) Invest in convenience.** Some bags are easier to carry than others. Look for reusable bags that fit in a purse or pocket, making them easier to transport.
- 5) Engage your kids.** Explain to your kids why it's important to bring your own bag and put them in charge of helping you remember!
- 6) Set your bags on the conveyer belt when checking out.** If your bags are in plain sight, your cashier will know you've brought them, and your checkout process can move swiftly!
- 7) Put your bags back when you've finished.** You've put your groceries away and started cooking dinner. Take a minute to put your bags back in strategic locations for continued success!

RETURN OF COMPOSTING WORKSHOPS IN 2020

Join the hundreds of people who've already taken a workshop to learn more about composting! Starting July 1, 2020, all residents will be required to have a system in place for keeping food scraps out of the trash. Our free workshops introduce residents to the science of composting, best management practices, DIY ideas, and tips for a positive experience. We'll also cover other ways to manage your food scraps. Can't wait? Visit our website for information on composting and keep your eyes "peeled" for spring workshop dates!

Repair Fair Recap

ACSWMD's third Repair Fair was held on Thursday, November 14, 2019 at the Hannaford Career Center in Middlebury. The Repair Fair is a free community event where volunteer fixers help repair participants' broken items. The goal is to keep usable, fixable things out of the landfill while sharing skills, excitement, and community connections to build a culture of repair.

Over 70 people attended, bringing with them 90 broken or worn items. Of these, nearly a quarter were appliances like toasters, vacuums, and fans. Other popular items were electronics, lamps, clothing, and jewelry. A few people brought bicycles, furniture, and unique items like an ionizer, a telescope, and a doorbell.



Volunteer Fixer: Wolfgang Ziegler
Photo Credit: Steven James, Addison Independent

The volunteer fixers successfully repaired 53 items over the four-hour event, totaling 286 pounds of material kept out of the landfill!

Meanwhile participants enjoyed refreshments while waiting for their turn to be seen. Kids disassembled electronics at the supervised "Take-Apart Table" to learn how things like computers work.

Are you handy at fixing things? Contact ECO AmeriCorps member Ollie Cultrara at ollie@acswmd.org if you're interested in volunteering at a future Repair Fair.

Green Gift Ideas



Looking for a green gift idea? Addison County Solid Waste Management District has the compost supplies you need. You can purchase compost bins, kitchen collectors, and Green Cone Solar Digesters at the District Transfer Station in Middlebury. Stop by our compost demonstration area to see them in action and give the gift that truly keeps on giving!



SoilSaver Compost Bin \$45



Sure-Close Kitchen Collector \$5

Green Cone Solar Digester \$125

Starting 1/1/20 \$135



What is the Addison County Solid Waste Management District?

We are a union municipal District that exists to cooperatively and comprehensively address the materials management interests of our 21 member towns: Addison, Bridport, Bristol, Cornwall, Ferrisburgh, Goshen, Leicester, Lincoln, Middlebury, Monkton, New Haven, Orwell, Pantton, Ripton, Salisbury, Shoreham, Starksboro, Vergennes, Waltham, Weybridge, and Whiting. The District promotes waste reduction; maximizes diversion of materials through reuse, recycling, and composting; and provides for the disposal of remaining wastes.

District services include: use of the District Transfer Station in Middlebury (including the HazWaste Center); solid waste planning and management; public outreach; education programs, including school workshops and events; technical support and advocacy on waste-related issues; and enforcement against illegal burning and dumping.



Search 'Addison County Solid Waste Management District, and like us to stay up-to-date on District events. We also regularly post about waste reduction, blue bin recycling, special recycling, proper hazardous waste disposal and organics management.

District Transfer Station

Location: 1223 Route 7 South in Middlebury.

Hours for Transfer Station & our **REUSE IT OR LOSE IT!** Sheds: Mon-Fri: 7 AM - 3 PM, Sat: 8 AM - 1 PM

The **HazWaste Center** at the Transfer Station is open Monday through Friday, 8 AM - 2 PM & Saturdays, 8 AM - 1 PM. Business hazardous waste is received by appointment only.

We cannot accept household recycling or small amounts of bagged trash from residents. Please call us for a list of town drop-off locations, or licensed haulers for curbside collection and cleanouts. The Transfer Station accepts many other special recycling items. Visit www.AddisonCountyRecycles.org for more information.

Recycling of the following landfill-banned items is mandatory for residents and businesses in the District: Newspaper, cardboard, boxboard, white & mixed paper, magazines & catalogs, plastic bottles (#1-#7), glass bottles (clear, green, brown), metal cans. Contact your hauler or local drop-off for disposal of leaf & yard waste. Leaf & yard waste and clean wood are accepted at the District Transfer Station.

Loads must be properly sorted. We reserve the right to inspect & reject / surcharge improperly sorted loads.

Every visitor must check in at the scalehouse. Thank you!

"News to Reuse" is a publication of the
Addison County Solid Waste Management District, 1223 Route 7 South, Middlebury, Vermont
Questions or comments? Visit our website, www.AddisonCountyRecycles.org
or contact us at 388-2333 or acswmd@acswmd.org.
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