



News to Reuse

Addison County Solid Waste Management District

Spring 2019

Free Backyard Composting Workshops

Not sure how to start composting at home? Got “compost” that’s actually a stinky pile of rotting food? Join ACSWMD for a free composting workshop to learn how easy it is to turn your household food waste into rich compost. You paid for your banana peels, egg shells, and carrot tops, so don’t throw them away! Composting will allow you to save money on your trash bill, build healthy soil for your yard and garden, reduce your carbon footprint, and comply with Vermont’s Universal Recycling Law, which bans food scraps from the landfill in July 2020.

Workshop participants will be eligible to purchase a discounted SoilSaver compost bin for \$35. Space is limited, so registration is required. To register, call us or email elizabeth@acswmd.org.

Date	Time	Location
April 23rd	7PM	Ilsley Library, Middlebury
May 9th	6PM	Bixby Library, Vergennes
May 18th	9:30AM	Regional EMS, Middlebury
May 30th	6PM	Lawrence Library, Bristol
June 8th	9:30AM	Regional EMS, Middlebury
June 15th	9:30AM	Regional EMS, Middlebury

Become a Compost Ambassador!

Already composting and want to share the love? Sign up to be a Compost Ambassador! Through this new program, ACSWMD will equip you with resources and get your ideas about spreading enthusiasm for and access to composting and food scrap collection in the community. After our orientation meeting during International Compost Awareness Week (May 5-11), there’s no time commitment required. Contact Elizabeth at elizabeth@acswmd.org or (802) 388-2333 by April 24 to get involved.

Compost Bins Sold at the Transfer Station



SoilSaver Compost Bin \$45 (\$35 for compost workshop participants)



Green Cone Solar Digester \$125

Sure-Close Kitchen Collector \$5



Second Repair Fair Sees Success



ACSWMD’s second Repair Fair was held on February 14th at the Patricia A. Hannaford Career Center during their winter open house. The Repair Fair is a free event that empowers people to fix things instead of throwing them away. Fifteen volunteer fixers worked their magic on broken belongings that participants brought from home. We had over 85 attendees bring more than 90 items for repair. The most common

things folks brought in were clothing, appliances, electronics, jewelry, and furniture. Thanks to our fixers, about 60% of the items were successfully repaired and kept out of the landfill!

Our six event volunteers helped the event run smoothly, especially during the beginning rush of enthusiastic participants. We would like to extend a BIG thank you to our volunteers, the Hannaford Career Center, our attendees, and the District’s 2018-19 AmeriCorps member, Elizabeth Cultrara, for taking the lead on organizing this event. The number one piece of feedback we received was a request to hold more of these events. We’re excited to keep growing this popular program!

Meet Our New Outreach Coordinator!

Our new Public Outreach Coordinator Jessie-Ruth Corkins has returned to her home county after spending 10 years in Chittenden County. Originally from Bristol, Jessie passed through the Mt. Abraham School District, where she spearheaded the transition from heating oil to wood chips. She also worked with low income families to help them get wood pellet stoves. We’re excited to utilize her talents through workshops and public events to inspire proper waste management through recycling, composting and hazardous waste diversion. If your school, business, or organization would like a free consultation about reducing and diverting waste from the landfill, contact Jessie at jessie@acswmd.org or 388-2333 ext 221.



Don't Be a WISHcycler!



We all know how important it is to recycle. Recycling is great for the planet; it saves energy and reduces carbon emissions, which helps reduce the effects of climate change. To reap these benefits, we need to maintain the marketability of our recyclables. Now that we can put all our recycling into one container, recycling has never been easier for us, but we're only the first step in the process. Everything mixed together in your blue bin has to be sorted, compressed into bales, and sold on the open market. Sometimes people will put things into the blue bin that aren't on the list of acceptable materials, because they HOPE someone down the line will find a way to recycle them. Unfortunately, what happens is just the opposite; these wishcycled items become contaminants. Separating and disposing of them costs money, and when they accidentally make their way into a bale, they lower its value. Recycling markets are fickle, but keeping our recycling free of contaminants is the best way to ensure that our blue bin materials are made into something new, and at a cost we can all afford. For up-to-date information on how to recycle right, call us or visit our website (www.addisoncountyrecycles.org).

Welcome Jake Vukas to the District!



Have you met Jake? If you've dropped off hazardous waste on a recent Saturday, you've probably met Jake! Jake joined our team after working for four years at ENPRO de-packing chemicals. Prior to that he worked for a company contracted to manage chemical spills and briefly for a company drilling wells. Jake brings a wealth of hazardous waste experience to the

District, but you may find him providing excellent customer service in any of our District Transfer Station programs!

When Jake's not helping things run smoothly at the Transfer Station, he's spending time with his family or following sports. Jake and his wife Dawn live in Monkton where they're raising two children: Niko, seven years old, and Vera, who's two and a half. Jake comments that he enjoys working here for the opportunity to work outside and do a little bit of everything.

Heads-Up – New Rates Reminder!

This year the District saw its costs increase for several programs, which means we had to raise a few rates. Among the changes are new fees for book recycling: we now charge \$1 per load (plus \$1 admin fee) for households and \$5 per load (plus \$1 admin fee) for businesses. We also now have a \$1 fee for visiting our popular *Reuse It or Lose It!* program, whether you are dropping off small items or just visiting to browse. There's a \$4 fee to leave items in the Reuse sheds that weigh more than 50 lbs. It was a difficult decision to increase these rates, but we hope that by doing so we can make these programs more sustainable! Last year we recycled 83 tons of books, and found a home for an estimated 4 tons of reusable goods. Visit our website for a complete listing of all our updated rates for 2019.

Salisbury votes to join the District



On Town Meeting Day, Salisbury residents voted 149 to 30 in support of becoming the 21st Town to join the Addison County Solid Waste Management District. As part of this decision, the Town has agreed to close their current unlined landfill. "We're excited about the vote and glad to hear Salisbury will be joining the District," says Cheryl Brinkman, ACSWMD Board of Supervisors Chair.

As Salisbury officials develop a closure plan for ceasing operation and eventually capping their landfill, the District is committed to helping the Town through this transition. We can provide outreach materials for residents, and grant funding to help the Town create a new trash and recycling drop off center at the old landfill site. During this transition, Salisbury residents and qualifying small businesses may take advantage of the District's HazWaste Center as well as our special recycling programs. Salisbury should officially become a member Town later this fall, but in the meantime, residents are encouraged to contact the District with any questions about recycling, composting, hazardous waste, or trash disposal.

Check Out Our New Website & Updated A to Z Guide

Have you visited our website lately? We've been working hard this winter to redesign our online home to be easier to use, mobile-friendly, and more visually appealing. Search our expanded A to Z disposal guide of over 150 items, learn how to reduce your food waste, or check out our special recycling options for things that can't go in your blue bin. All that and more is at your fingertips at AddisonCountyRecycles.org.



All Hands On Deck for Clean Plastic Bag & Film Recycling

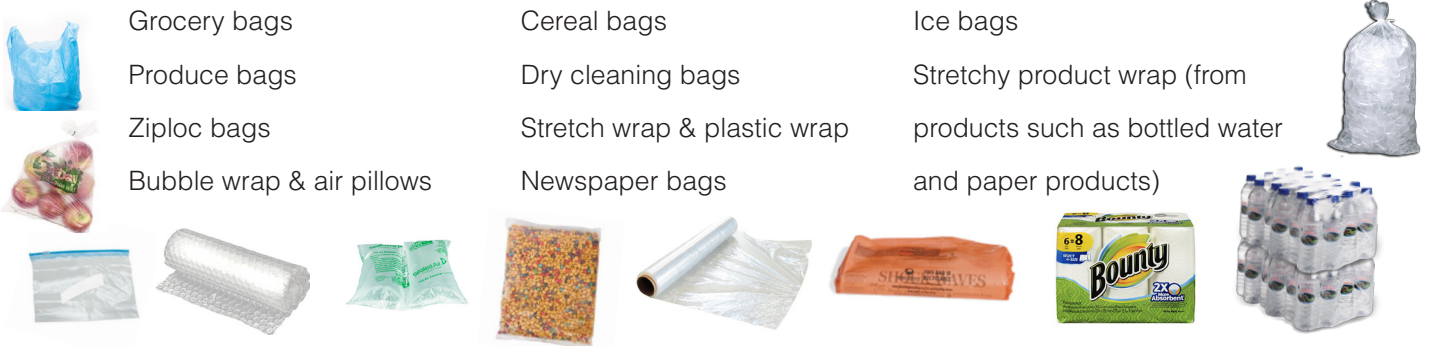


ACSWMD's special recycling program for polyethylene plastic bags and film has collected almost 1 ton of this material at the District Transfer Station since the program was started in November. While we're thrilled to offer a recycling option for plastic bags, **which can't go in your blue bin**, not every plastic bag can be recycled. Many plastic bags, wraps, and film packaging are not made of polyethylene, so they cannot be recycled in our program. We need your help to make sure only the acceptable materials listed below end up in our collection container.



Polyethylene bags and film are sometimes labeled with the letters PE, LDPE, or HDPE; with a number 2 or 4; or with one of the labels shown here. These materials tend to stretch before tearing when you pull on a small section.

These polyethylene materials are accepted at the Transfer Station if they are EMPTY, CLEAN and DRY:



These items are accepted if they are empty, clean and dry and meet CERTAIN CRITERIA:

Plastic shipping envelopes (may be bubble-lined)

Wood pellet & softener salt pellet bags

Plastic bread bags (no paper/plastic combo bags)

Criteria: both ends must be completely cut off, and each bag must be turned inside out or completely cut down on one side to form an open sheet

Criteria: paper labels must be removed (cut out or tear off)



These items must go in the TRASH because they are generally not made from polyethylene:

Food-contact bags & packaging (other than those listed above), especially:

Pet food & bird seed bags

Woven grain & feed bags

Biodegradable or compostable materials

Cellophane

Six-pack rings

Paper envelopes lined with bubble wrap

Anything labeled with a number that is not a 2 or a 4 (such as 5 or 7) or with strike-through labels:



What is the Addison County Solid Waste Management District?

ACSWMD is a union municipal district that cooperatively and comprehensively addresses the materials management interests of our 20 member towns: Addison, Bridport, Bristol, Cornwall, Ferrisburgh, Goshen, Leicester, Lincoln, Middlebury, Monkton, New Haven, Orwell, Panton, Ripton, Shoreham, Starksboro, Vergennes, Waltham, Weybridge, and Whiting. The District promotes waste reduction; maximizes diversion of materials through reuse, recycling & composting; & 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 & management; public outreach; educational programs, including school workshops and events; technical support and advocacy on waste-related issues; & enforcement against illegal burning & dumping.

 Like us on Facebook for a chance to win!

Like us on Facebook! Search "Addison County Solid Waste Management District" and comment on our top post with your favorite tip for reducing and reusing between April 8 and May 1 for a chance to win a \$50 Amazon gift card. While you're there, like our page to stay up to date on District events and programs and to get waste reduction tips that are good for your budget and the planet!

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. Office hours: Mon - Fri, 8 AM - 4 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 received by appointment only.

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

Recycling of the following landfill-banned items is mandatory for residents and businesses in Vermont: Cardboard, paper, plastic bottles (#1 & #2), glass bottles & jars, and metal cans. Contact your hauler or town drop-off for disposal of leaf & yard waste. Leaf & yard waste and clean wood is accepted at the Transfer Station.

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

Finally, a friendly reminder that every visitor must check in at the scalehouse.

Thank you for reading, and happy spring!

"News to Reuse" is a publication of the Addison County Solid Waste Management District, 1223 Route 7 South, Middlebury, VT. Questions or comments? Visit our website, AddisonCountyRecycles.org, or contact us at (802) 388-2333 or acswmd@acswmd.org. This newsletter is printed on recycled paper.

Postal Patron

- Addison
- Bridport
- Bristol
- Cornwall
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- Monkton
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