



News to Reuse

Addison County Solid Waste Management District

Spring 2023

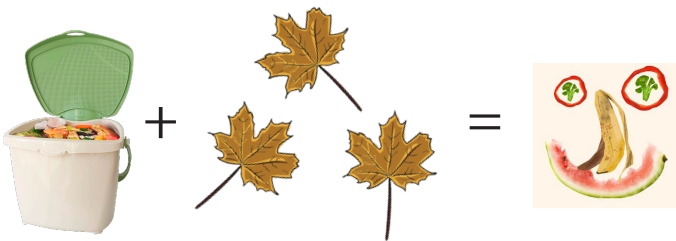
2022 Leader in Sustainability Award



ACSWMMD received Call2Recycle's 2022 Top 100 Leaders in Sustainability Award for battery recycling. Thanks for keeping up the good work and continuing to bring your batteries to the District Transfer Station!

Smelly Compost Piles? Add Browns

The pungent aroma of rotting banana peels and limes might be pleasurable for raccoons, but not for humans. To limit odors coming from your backyard compost bin, always add three containers of brown material to one container of food scraps. Your nose will thank you!



Join Us For a Workshop!

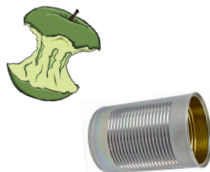
We're hosting recycling and backyard composting workshops! To keep updated with our workshop schedule, follow us on social media, check our website, or call us!



Addison County Solid Waste Management District



@addison.co.waste.mgmt



School Support from ACSWMD

Schools interested in classroom visits by ACSWMD staff, waste system tours, club visits, or support (including grant funding for waste reduction projects) are invited to email emily@acswmd.org or call 388-2333.



Textile Recycling: Available at the District Transfer Station



The District Transfer Station off Rte. 7 South accepts used clothing and textiles for special recycling. Households and businesses should drop off their used textiles in closed, plastic bags. Drop-off is free for households and businesses. Used Items MAY be ripped, dyed, or missing buttons and other hardware, as long as they are CLEAN, DRY, and ODORLESS. Any moldy, soiled, or damp textiles should be thrown away with regular trash. Textiles are accepted any time during regular hours. A full list of guidelines is available on the A-Z Guide on our website.

Open Year-Round: HazWaste Center

Located at the District Transfer Station on Route 7 South in Middlebury, the HazWaste Center is open year round. Residents can drop off household hazardous waste free of charge without an appointment. Businesses must make an appointment and pay for hazardous waste disposal. The center is open Monday through Friday, 8 AM - 2 PM, and Saturday, 8:00 AM - 1 PM.

Options for Managing Food Scraps in Addison County

- Reduce waste**
Save money & minimize the scraps you have to manage by using tips from scrapfoodwaste.org.
- Feed animals**
Chickens love food scraps! Pigs can eat scraps, too, with restrictions. Visit our website for details.
- Home composting**
Simple & inexpensive. If you compost at home, you're still allowed to throw away meat & bones.
- Town Drop-offs**
All District member towns' recycling & trash drop-offs accept food scraps, often for a fee.
- Curbside pickup**
Ask your hauler if they collect food scraps, or visit our website for a list of haulers that do.
- District Transfer Station**
The District Transfer Station in Middlebury takes all food scraps from residents for a small fee.
- Green Cone Solar Digester**
Green Cones can handle all food scraps on-site, including meat and bones if used properly.
- Got scraps at work?**
Use any of these options or contact us for more information.

Frequently Asked Questions:

- Can I just use my garbage disposal?**
Food scraps should never go down the drain because they can cause costly (and messy) clogs and damage. Our sewer, septic, and wastewater treatment systems are designed to handle only human waste and toilet paper.
- Can I use compostable liner bags?**
Compostable products, including certified compostable liner bags or food serviceware like cups or utensils, are **NOT** accepted from residents at drop-off locations for commercial composting, **NOT** at the District Transfer Station, and **NOT** in curbside collection of food scraps in Addison County. Only food is accepted. Compostable plastics are trash unless their destination is to a backyard compost bin.
- Is my hauler required to provide curbside pickup of food scraps?**
The legal requirement for waste haulers to provide curbside pickup of food scraps from residents was repealed in 2019. Haulers are still required to collect food scraps from nonresidential customers and apartment buildings with four or more units.

Mercury-containing Lightbulbs Banned from Sale in Vermont

Screw-based Compact Fluorescent Lightbulbs (CFLs) are banned from sale since **Feb. 17, 2023** and Four-foot General-Purpose Linear Fluorescent Tubes will be banned from sale starting on **January 1, 2024**



Why? Mercury is a highly toxic heavy metal. In fluorescent bulbs, mercury can release as a gas when the bulb breaks or is discarded. Mercury contamination harms our environment, fish and wildlife. Disposal bans were adopted to keep mercury from entering the environment. Energy-efficient alternatives to mercury-containing lightbulbs are available in the form of LED bulbs.

These lamps are BANNED from regular trash disposal!

How do you get rid of these bulbs?

- Package properly**
Please do not tape bulbs together. Try to package loose bulbs to prevent breakage during transport. Call the District if you need help with packaging.
- Bring to a collection site**
At the District Transfer Station: CFLs are free; other bulbs are free if in quantities of 10 or fewer per day. To find another collection site, visit: lamprecycle.org.



What if a bulb breaks?

Treat all material from and pertaining to cleanup as hazardous waste. Store glass shards and cleanup materials like rags, wipes, etc. in a rigid container or a sealable plastic bag until brought to the HazWaste Center. If the bulb breaks on a hard surface, do not vacuum, and ventilate the room prior to cleanup. If it breaks on a rug, remove the rug and ventilate the room before vacuuming. Treat the vacuum bag as hazardous waste.

Contact the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation; Mercury Education & Reduction Program for more information. www.mercvt.org or (802) 522-5736

Recycle Right, Keep Out Contaminants

Yes! These items, when clean & dry, belong in your blue-bin recycling:

- Glass:** Bottles & Jars
- Paper:** Mixed Paper & Cardboard
- Plastic:** Bottles, Tubs & Jugs
- Metal:** Aluminum & Steel Cans



No! Keep these contaminants out of your blue-bin recycling:

- Cartons**
- Straws**
- Utensils**
- Styrofoam**
- Shoes & Clothing**
- Paper Towels**
- Paper Cups**
- Plastic Bags**
- All Batteries**

Size Limits on Recyclables
Minimum size: 2 inches in 2 dimensions (e.g. length & width)
Maximum size: 2 feet in any one dimension

On the State of Recycling

Misleading information is circulating in the news concerning recycling and Vermont's waste goals. These articles tend to focus on national trends in waste generation and disposal. Let's talk about Vermont. In 2012, Vermont set the goal to reduce waste disposal from 3.62 lbs/person/day to 2.74 lbs/person/day. This represents a 50% diversion rate or 50% of trash being kept out of the landfill. Although the state of Vermont as a whole is not on track to meet diversion goals, member towns of the ACSWMD have consistently exceeded the 50% diversion goal since 2006.

ACSWMD hosts a regularly updated A-Z Guide containing disposal information for hundreds of items on its website. Whether an item sorts into recycling, compost, special recycling, or other waste streams, it must be evaluated for certain criteria. There are recycling rules: all packaging, containers, or other items must be clean, dry, and made of paper or single-use plastic or metal. When in doubt, throw the item out. Putting things in a blue bin hoping they'll be recycled is called "wish-cycling," and only creates more contamination. Only put items in a blue bin that the District lists as recyclable. By properly sorting our items,

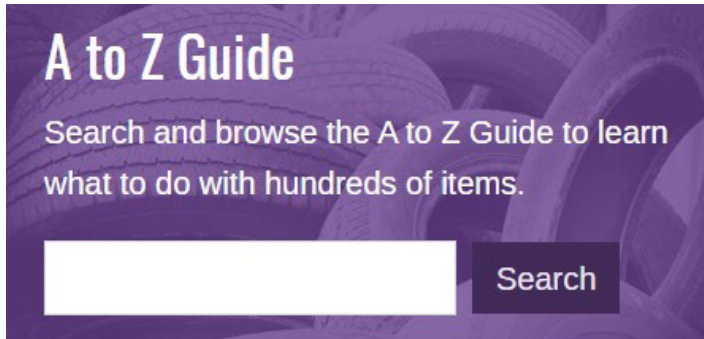
we keep contamination out, making recycling streams economically viable. All facilities and haulers in Addison County offer collection of "mandated recyclables." The "mandated recyclables" are banned from trash disposal: glass bottles and jars, #1 or #2 plastic bottles and jugs, boxboard, corrugated cardboard, magazines and catalogs, aluminum and steel cans, aluminum foil and pie plates, and paper. Haulers are welcome to collect other blue bin recyclables. From collection, blue bin recycling moves to the Materials Recovery Facility in Rutland, where materials are sorted and sold. Not all goods have a functioning recycling market, but most goods that come to the MRF are recycled into new items. They go to Canada, Alabama, and New York to be reprocessed into recycled cardboard boxes, plastic bottles, fiber-glass, etc. The keys to meeting diversion goals are to consume less, consume with disposal in mind, and keep materials in use. The VT Universal Recycling Law set a large goal post, but our member towns are proof that the goals are achievable.

What is the Addison County Solid Waste Management District?

ACSWMD is 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, Panton, 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.

Our website is a robust resource, and the A to Z Guide can tell you how to get rid of almost anything! If you can't find the info you need on our website, give us a call.



A to Z Guide
Search and browse the A to Z Guide to learn what to do with hundreds of items.

District Transfer Station

Location: 1223 Route 7 South, Middlebury
Hours: Mon-Fri: 7 AM - 3 PM, Sat: 8 AM - 1 PM

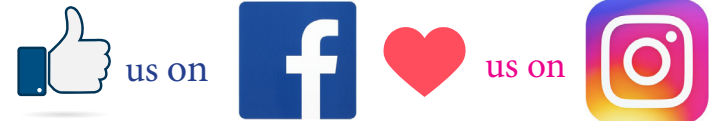
The **HazWaste Center** at the Transfer Station is open Monday through Friday, 8 AM - 2 PM & Saturdays, 8 AM - 1 PM. Business hazardous waste is received by appointment only.

We cannot accept household recyclables 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-#2), glass bottles (clear, green, brown), and metal cans. These mandated recyclables can be commingled in the same bin along with other non-mandated recyclable items that your hauler offers to collect. Contact your hauler or local drop-off for disposal of food scraps and leaf & yard waste. Food scraps, leaf & yard waste, and clean wood are all accepted at the District Transfer Station.

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

All visitors must check in at the Scalehouse. Thank you!



“News to Reuse” is a publication of the Addison County Solid Waste Management District. Questions or comments? Visit our website, www.AddisonCountyRecycles.org or contact us at (802) 388-2333 or info@acswmd.org. This newsletter is printed on recycled paper.

Postal Patron

- Addison
- Bridport
- Bristol
- Ripton
- Cornwall
- Ferrisburgh
- Shoreham
- Goshen
- Starksboro
- Vergennes
- Leicester
- Lincoln
- Waltham
- Middlebury
- Weybridge
- Whiting
- Monkton
- New Haven

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