



Recyclable Materials

How Are They Regulated?

Over the past decade, the Vermont legislature has enacted laws to reduce the volume of trash going to landfills in the state. Communities are encouraged to adopt ordinances requiring source separation of materials listed in the statute. Common recyclable materials are: (1) cardboard, including corrugated and boxboard, (2) glass containers, (3) compostable yard and food waste, (4) newsprint, (5) office paper, (6) steel and aluminum cans, and (7) plastic containers made of HDPE and PET. Today, over half of Vermont's population lives in one of the 99 towns with mandatory recycling ordinances. An additional 147 towns have some form of recycling on a voluntary basis.

How Should They Be Managed?

Source separated materials are recyclable, just like those that are banned from landfill disposal. Check with your waste hauler, town clerk or solid waste district to find out if your town has a mandatory recycling ordinance and what materials can be recycled in your town.

Addison County Solid Waste Management District	(802) 388-2333
Bennington County Regional Commission	(802) 375-2576
Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District	(802) 229-9383
Chittenden Solid Waste District	(802) 872-8100
Greater Upper Valley Solid Waste Management District	(802) 296-3688
Lamoille Regional Solid Waste Management District	(802) 888-7317
Londonderry Group	(802) 824-6304
Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District	(802) 626-3532
Northwest Vermont Solid Waste Management District	(802) 524-5986
Rutland County Solid Waste District	(802) 775-7209
Rutland JMISC/SWAC towns	(802) 235-9353
Southern Windsor/Windham County Solid Waste Management District	(603) 543-1201
Waterbury/Mad River Solid Waste Alliance towns	(802) 244-7373
White River Alliance	(802) 234-9340
Windham Solid Waste Management District	(802) 257-0272

What Should Not Be Done With These Materials?

If your community has a mandatory recycling ordinance, you can't just throw your recyclables in the trash. Even in towns where recycling is voluntary, it often costs less to recycle these materials than it does to landfill them.

Best Management Practices

- ✍ Find out which materials must or may be recycled in your town.
- ✍ See if your waste hauler offers separate containers and/or rates for recyclables.
- ✍ Separate and store recyclable materials by type (unless told otherwise).
- ✍ Store recyclable materials where they will stay clean and dry.
- ✍ Choose to purchase or carry products which either use less packaging or have packaging that can be recycled locally.
- ✍ Buy in bulk or in returnable containers.