



# News to Reuse

ADDISON COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT FALL 2018

## School Outreach Opportunities

Addison County Solid Waste Management District supports the waste management goals of District schools in a variety of ways. We can help schools and teachers to provide students with information regarding the Universal Recycling Law (Act 148), composting, recycling, and waste reduction. Our outreach staff offer classroom presentations that are dynamic and educational. Or, your school can schedule a tour of our facility in Middlebury to see first-hand how the things you discard every day are sorted and handled.

The District also offers a school grant program that can help to fund the startup of a new school recycling, composting or reuse project. Schools have used this program to fund water bottle refill stations, sorting tables in cafeterias, and on-site composting systems that students, teachers and staff can manage and learn from. This grant is available to District schools each calendar year. The following schools have already taken advantage of this great opportunity to reduce waste going to the landfill, encourage students to re-think waste, and comply with the requirements of Act 148:



- Bridge School
- Bridport Central School
- Cornwall Elementary School
- Leicester Central School
- Mary Hogan Elementary School
- Middlebury Union High School
- Middlebury Union Middle School
- Monkton Central School
- Mount Abraham Union Middle/High Schools
- Orwell Village School
- Ripton Elementary School
- Shoreham Elementary School
- Vergennes Union High School
- Weybridge Elementary School

Congratulations to these schools for their exciting projects!

Want to tour the District Transfer Station or have an idea for a project to reduce and manage waste in your school? Let us know!

## Thank You for Making our First Repair Café a Success!

Addison County Solid Waste Management District's first Repair Café was held on June 16th at Middlebury Union High School. The goal of this free community event was to promote repair and keep usable, fixable items out of the landfill. Repair experts from the community generously volunteered their time to fix broken household items, which participants brought from home. Attendees also participated in the repair of their items and many learned new skills.



Eleven volunteer repair experts and eight event volunteers helped with the event. Throughout the course of the day, we had 65 attendees bring in approximately 70 items for repair. The most common items were clothes and other textiles (bags and purses), small appliances such as toasters and teapots, fans, and bikes. About 75% of the items were successfully repaired by our awesome team of fixperts!

We would like to extend a BIG thank you to our volunteers, partners, and attendees and thank the District's 2017-2018 AmeriCorps member, Sarah Lundquist, for taking the lead on organizing this event.

## Meet our New AmeriCorps Member!

Meet Elizabeth Cultrara, the District's ECO AmeriCorps service member from New Scotland, New York. Elizabeth is a soccer referee, a Long Trail end-to-ender, and a composting nerd. She graduated in May from Tufts University, where she majored in chemical engineering. During her service year, she is focusing on food waste diversion through programs and outreach to schools, businesses, and community organizations. She is also organizing our second Repair Fair. If you have questions about backyard composting, are interested in the Repair Fair, or want to know how your organization can keep food scraps out of the landfill, please email her at [americorps1@acswmd.org](mailto:americorps1@acswmd.org).



## Electronics Recycling in Addison County

Rapid advances in technology mean that electronic products are quickly becoming obsolete. This, coupled with strong sales in consumer electronics, means that more products are being disposed, even if they still work. Last year alone, the District Transfer Station in Middlebury collected 156 tons of electronic waste (E-waste)!

The following E-waste items are banned from the landfill and are eligible for free recycling under the law:

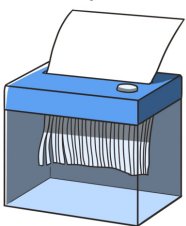
- Televisions
- Printers
- Monitors
- Computers
- Computer peripherals (mice, keyboards, etc.)



These items can be recycled for FREE by Vermont consumers, charities, schools, and small businesses with 10 or fewer employees. Businesses with more than 10 employees can also recycle at no charge when they bring in seven or fewer devices. Additional E-waste items not listed are also accepted for a nominal fee. For details, visit [AddisonCountyRecycles.org](http://AddisonCountyRecycles.org) or call us at 388-2333.

## Calling all Books

The District accepts hardcover and softcover books year-round at the District Transfer Station in Middlebury. Books are currently accepted for free. Starting January 1, 2019, books will be \$1/load (\$5 for businesses). All books are processed for paper recycling. Books are accepted during our normal hours of operation, with no limit on quantity. Please do not bring magazines, catalogs, or phone books to the Transfer Station - they can be recycled in your blue bin at home.



### Documents for Shredding?

We can handle that, too. You can drop documents into our locked container for secure shredding free of charge during normal business hours.

## We Recycle Textiles for Free!

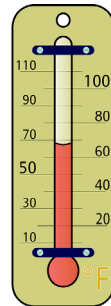
The District Transfer Station accepts textiles for free recycling, including clothing, bed sheets, pillow cases, curtains, etc. Textiles that are recycled through this program do not need to be in perfect condition and can have rips and tears. Textiles do need to be **clean, dry, smoke-free and in bags**. You can also bring clothing in good condition to local resale shops and remember, these are also great places to shop!



## Dangers of Mercury

Mercury is a highly toxic hazardous material and a neurotoxin that affects the human brain, spinal cord, kidneys, and liver. Mercury can cause health effects when inhaled as a vapor where it can be absorbed by the lungs. In short, mercury is bad for human health, which is why it's so important to properly dispose of items containing mercury. That's where we can help!

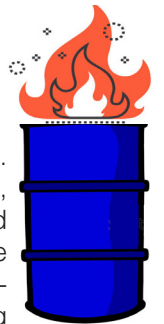
**Fluorescent Bulbs:** Fluorescent Bulbs are a great way to save energy, but all fluorescent bulbs contain mercury and must be properly recycled. Compact Fluorescent Light (CFL) bulbs are always free of charge while longer tube, circular and u-shaped fluorescents are free of charge when bringing 10 or fewer per day. Other non-general purpose, mercury containing bulbs or more than 10 fluorescent bulbs are also accepted for a small fee. Remember that LED bulbs are a great energy-saving and mercury-free replacement option.



**Thermometers and Thermostats:** Many thermostats contain a glass ampule with a significant amount of mercury inside. Please do not try to remove the ampule! If you are replacing the thermostat, bring it to the Transfer Station for recycling and receive a \$5 rebate coupon. If your old thermometer has a silver bulb, it contains mercury and can be taken to the Transfer Station for safe and proper handling.

## Don't be Trashy! Help us Stop Illegal Dumping and Burning.

Burning and dumping trash is illegal in Vermont. Dumping and littering threatens watersheds, drinking water, and wildlife. Heavy metals and other noxious substances in trash contaminate the ecosystem and harm animals that consume or get caught in these materials. Burning household trash is also illegal, whether you do it in a barrel, in your woodstove, or in any type of backyard burner. Unlike controlled, permitted incinerators, trash burned illegally releases cancer-causing substances directly into the air, and indirectly into the soil and food. Illegal burning of trash also poses a fire risk.



Illegal dumping and burning are punishable by fines as well as site cleanup. Report dumping and/or burning by calling us at 388-2333, or the Addison County Sheriff at 388-2981 (you may choose to remain anonymous).

Please help protect the environment, our drinking water, and our health by properly disposing of waste!

# To Flush or Not to Flush?

Certain waste items are commonly mistaken as flushable. When these materials are improperly disposed of via the drain or toilet, sewage blockages, septic damages, and pollution of waterways can occur and can be costly for our household plumbing and pipes and our public wastewater treatment facilities. Unsure of what can and cannot be flushed? We're here to help!

## What NOT to flush or pour down the drain:



### Chunks of Waste

Sand, plastics, toys, animal parts, grass, goldfish, metals, cat litter.



### Floss

Instead: Put in trash or consider switching to a water flosser.



### Paper Towels, Tissues, & Tissue Paper

Instead: Put in trash or try reusable rags and handkerchiefs.



### Coffee Grounds & Eggshells

Instead: put in the compost.



### Flushable Wipes

Instead: put in trash or use reusable wipes, a toilet sprayer or regular toilet paper.



### Produce Stickers

Instead: put in trash. Print the new tool available on our website to collect stickers.



### Diapers

Instead: put in trash or consider reusable diapers.



### Condoms

Instead: put in trash.



### Tampons & Pads

Instead: put in trash or try reusable products such as a menstrual cup or cloth pads.



### Fats, Oils and Greases

Instead: bring used cooking oil to the District Transfer Station.



### Medications & Drugs

Instead: mix with coffee grounds or cat litter and put in trash or return non-controlled drugs to the pharmacy.



### Hazardous Waste

Fertilizers, pesticides, cleaners, paint, car fluids, etc. Instead: take to the Transfer Station for FREE.

It's quite simple, actually. The only three things that really should ever be flushed down the toilet are urine, fecal matter, and toilet paper. Learn more at [AddisonCountyRecycles.org](http://AddisonCountyRecycles.org) or [safehome.org/resources/down-the-drain-guide](http://safehome.org/resources/down-the-drain-guide).



**Okay to Flush: The 3 P's**

**Pee Poop Toilet Paper**



## Save the Date!

Mark your calendar for our **Repair Fair** on **February 14, 2019** at the Hannaford Career Center in Middlebury. The Repair Fair is a FREE community event that empowers you to fix things instead of throwing them away. Bring your broken household items and work with volunteer repair experts to fix them. Repairable items will likely include small appliances, clothing, jewelry, bikes, and more! This community event is family-friendly, and refreshments will be provided. Interested in volunteering? Give us a call!



## Green Holiday Gift Ideas

Looking for a great holiday gift idea for the gardener in your life? 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

## 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 20 member towns. The District promotes waste reduction; maximizes diversion of materials through reuse, recycling, and composting; and provides for the disposal of remaining wastes. Our office is located at 1223 Route 7 South in Middlebury, and is open weekdays.

## Is My Town a Member?

Member towns are: Addison, Bridport, Bristol, Cornwall, Ferrisburgh, Goshen, Leicester, Lincoln, Middlebury, Monkton, New Haven, Orwell, Panton, Ripton, Shoreham, Starksboro, Vergennes, Waltham, Weybridge, and Whiting. District programs and services include: the full range of services at 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 our page to stay up-to-date on the happenings with the District, as well as learn about waste reduction and material reuse tips for green Vermont living.

## 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](http://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), metal cans. Contact your hauler or local drop-off for disposal of leaf & yard waste. You may bring leaf & yard waste and clean wood to the District 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!**

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QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? CONTACT THE EDITOR AT 388-2333, EXT. 221, OR [ACSWMD@ACSWMD.ORG](mailto:ACSWMD@ACSWMD.ORG).  
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### POSTAL PATRON

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

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