Garbage and Guests: Waste Management at Your Short-Term Rental

A Toolkit Created by the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, Waste Management and Prevention Division



VERMONT
AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Department of Environmental Conservation

Welcome to your **Short-Term Rental Waste Management Toolkit**—your go-to guide for making waste sorting efficient, simple, and rewarding for your guests. As a Vermont rental host, you have the power to create a cleaner, greener experience for your guests while keeping our beautiful state thriving. This toolkit will help you navigate Vermont's recycling and composting rules, provide simple solutions for setting up waste stations, and offer creative ways to engage guests in sustainable practices. Let's make waste reduction a seamless part of your rental's day-to-day operations.

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Managing Food Scraps and Recycling | **At Short-Term Rentals**



State law bans recyclables and food scraps from the trash.

Short-Term Rentals (STRs) need recycling and food scrap collection systems for guests. STRs can design systems that work best for their guests. With proper instruction and clear signage, guests can be educated and prompted to use the recycling and food scrap systems correctly.



STRs can hire a hauler to pick up their recycling and food scraps, just like trash collection. All haulers must offer recycling collection services for commercial customers. Ask your hauler if they offer food scrap pick-up or find a food scrap hauler at VTrecycles.com. Haulers typically provide collection containers and details on what is accepted in recycling and food scrap containers.

Some STRs with a small amount of trash, recycling, and food scraps may choose to drop off materials at transfer stations or recycling centers. Learn more about local options at 802recycles.com.

Waste Management Best Practices for STRs:

Communicate with guests. A survey conducted by The Recycling Partnership showed that Americans prefer sustainable businesses. Clear guest instructions for waste management will help improve their stay at your rental(s).



Provide clear instructions for guests on which items do and do not belong in recycling, food scrap, and trash bins. Information can be provided during check-in, on a flyer in rooms, and through signs with clear images.

Provide well-labeled and conveniently located containers. If all waste containers are the same colors according to their contents, people will be more likely to use them correctly. For example, provide a blue recycling bin and green food scrap container **in each unit** or **on each floor**, ideally near the trash collection area. **Label bins** with signs with images of common items that go in each bin. **Download free signs and graphics at** VTrecycles.com (click the "posters and graphics" button). Your hauler or local waste district or town may be able to provide signs.



If guests take out their trash, provide a clearly labeled recycling and food scrap collection bin at each outdoor trash consolidation area. Signage in the outdoor collections areas should be the same as inside of the rental(s) for clear instruction.

Monitor bins for contamination when possible. Contamination is any item that does not belong in a bin, such as trash in the recycling. When possible, an owner or property manager **should look in the food scraps and recycling to make sure they are not full of trash** before adding them to the appropriate container. This can help you improve guest educational materials if necessary.



Ideally, outdoor waste collection areas should be in a secure location. This looks neat, helps keep animals away, and reduces the chance of illegal dumping. Consult with your hauler(s) before installing something new to make sure they can access the space with their trucks.

Regularly evaluate your system. Are there ways to make it more efficient or work better? What is working well? Experiment to figure out what works best.



Options for Food Scrap Collection at STRs:

STRs can use a variety of systems to manage guests food scraps, such as compost on-site, pay a hauler to pick up the food scraps (weekly, biweekly, or monthly), or the owner or property managers can bring food scraps to a drop-off or their home backyard compost. Learn more about local options at 802recycles.com.

If collecting food scraps in an outdoor bin, place a container of sawdust, wood shavings, or dried leaves next to the food scrap bin and cover food scraps daily with this material. This helps reduce odors, keeps the food scrap bin cleaner, and keeps insects away, especially in the summer. Some food scrap haulers provide this cover material. If yours does not, ask them what cover material you should use.

Get Free Assistance. We are here to help! Contact your local waste district or town at 802recycles.com or VT Department of Environmental Conservation 802-828-1138; anr.scrapfoodwaste@vermont.gov

Frequently Asked Questions

What are food scraps?
Food scraps are parts of food that are typically discarded rather than eaten (peels, rinds, cores, eggshells, seeds, pits, bones, shells, coffee grounds and filters, loose-leaf tea, and fats/oils/ grease), and food that was not finished ("plate scraps", uneaten leftovers, food that went bad).

We only have small amounts of recyclables and/or food scraps at our rental(s). How are we expected to manage these materials?
Recyclables (#1 and #2 plastic bottles, containers, and tubs, metal cans and foil, glass bottles and jars, paper, and cardboard) and food scraps are banned from the trash for everyone in Vermont, including guests and visitors. Vermont expects STRs to have a system for managing recyclables and food scraps separate from the trash and inform guests how to comply to the best of their ability.

How much does recycling and food scrap collection cost?
Costs vary, as they do for trash services, and must be negotiated with your hauler. Find haulers at VTrecycles.com. When comparing services, consider how often the hauler would provide pick-up, if they clean food scrap containers, and whether they provide a cover material for the food scraps.

We cannot control our guests' behavior—are we responsible for what they put in the trash?
Your business is responsible for all solid waste materials produced at your rental(s). Businesses must have a recycling and food scrap collection system to manage these materials separately from the trash. To help guests properly separate their materials, provide clear instructions on how to use the food scrap

and recycling system, and use the standardized Vermont Universal Recycling symbols (download at VTrecycles.com) to create signs for your rental(s).

What should we do with meat and bones?
If you get your food scraps picked up or take them to a drop-off, include meat and bones with the rest of the food scraps.

How can we discourage insects from the outside food scrap cart in the summer?
When it is warm out, cover food scraps with several inches of dry brown plant material (e.g. wood shavings, sawdust, etc.) or coffee grounds to contain smells and discourage insects.

How do we keep bears away from our collection containers?
Review DEC's tips for keeping bears away from food scrap (and trash) containers before you have a problem. Consider using bear-resistant containers and store containers where bears cannot access them. If a bear disturbs your containers contact VT Fish and Wildlife for more advice on deterring the bear before it becomes a recurring problem.

Can we use compostable bags to keep the containers clean?
It depends where your food scraps end up. Ask your hauler or composter if they accept BPI-certified compostable bags (see label on left). If they do, ask what brand you should use—some products that say they are compostable do not actually break down in a compost pile. Some composters may accept paper bags, paper towel, or newspaper liners.

Is it okay to give food scraps to pig farmers or chicken farmers?
Only food scraps that have not touched meat/fish or their oils/juices may be fed to pigs. To learn more, read the Vermont Agency of Agriculture's Guidance on Feeding Food Scraps to Pigs. Chickens may be given any food scraps, including meat.

Learn more about Vermont's Universal Recycling Law, composting, and waste management at VTrecycles.com or by calling VT DEC at 802-828-1138.

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Department of Environmental Conservation

Business and School Requirements

Managing Items Banned from the Trash

To reduce waste and greenhouse gas emissions, protect public health, and conserve resources and landfill space, Vermont law bans certain items from the trash. Your local waste management experts can provide no-cost advice and training. They can also help you figure out ways to reduce waste, which can save you money. Find your local experts at 802recycles.com.

State law requires everyone in Vermont to recycle clean and dry:



- Uncoated paper, boxboard, and cardboard
- Containers: from food and drinks, empty and rinsed
  - Metal cans
  - Glass bottles and jars
  - Plastic bottles and containers labeled #1 and #2 (ask your recycler what else is accepted locally)



Tips for recyclables:

1) Learn more about what to recycle at VTrecycles.com. If you don't have recycling, ask your trash hauler for recycling service, and set up containers to collect recyclables where they're produced.
2) Label your recycling bins with signs that describe what can be recycled.
3) Teach your staff to recycle properly. Make sure they follow through, and coach them frequently.

State law requires everyone in Vermont to manage their food scraps separately from the trash.



Tips for leftover food and food scraps:

1) Donate quality food to staff or a local food shelf.
2) Find food scrap haulers or learn about drop-offs and on-site composting at VTrecycles.com.
3) Track excess food and food that goes bad so you can modify purchasing, preparation, and storage to save money by having less excess and less waste.

How food scrap management works:

- Haulers often provide collection bins and tell you what can go in them.
- Collect food scraps in easily washable containers, like 5-gallon buckets, and empty them into the larger bins. Clean the buckets regularly.
- Teach staff to separate food scraps properly. Keep trash, like produce stickers and silverware, out of the food scraps.



Hazardous and hard-to-manage items must be collected separately.



Find a special recycling drop-off near you at VTrecycles.com for these items:

- Batteries and Cell phones
- Electronics
- Paint
- Fluorescent Lightbulbs
- Mercury Thermostats (older, with dials), Thermometers, and Switches

These items are banned from the trash or dangerous: Ask your local waste experts or transfer station where to bring them (find local info at 802recycles.com).



- Large Appliances and Scrap Metal
- Tires, Used Oil, Filters, Auto Fluids
- Clean Wood: not pressure treated/painted
- Explosives, Fireworks, Gasoline, Pesticides, Pool Chemicals, Propane Tanks/Cylinders
- Hazardous Wastes (cleaners, degreasers, etc.)

*If you have hazardous waste, you must notify VT DEC: https://dec.vermont.gov/waste-management/hazardous/administrative/epa-site-identification-numbers



Figure 1: Bear-resistant recycling, food scrap, and trash dumpsters at a Vermont State Park.

Black Bear-Resistant Waste Containers
Protect Your Guests and Vermont's Bears

Trash attracts bears in almost half of Vermont's reported bear-human conflicts. Bear-resistant trash and food scrap containers reduce human-bear conflicts and protect the safety of people and bears. When bears get into human-supplied food, they can associate people with food, which continues and sometimes escalates conflicts.

Whether your lodging uses dumpsters or rolling carts, modifications can make them more bear-resistant. Certified bear-resistant latches, bins, and dumpsters are also available for purchase.

Bear-Resistant Dumpsters

For a dumpster to be bear-resistant, it needs:

- **Metal or metal-reinforced lids and doors**: Install an all-metal lid or attach metal bars to plastic lids to reinforce the lid.
- **Locking mechanisms to tightly close all openings**, like clips, latches, lock bars, and locks. Lids and doors should close tightly with no gaps.
- **Provide signage warning users about bears,** with **instructions to properly lock** or secure the **dumpster** after use.

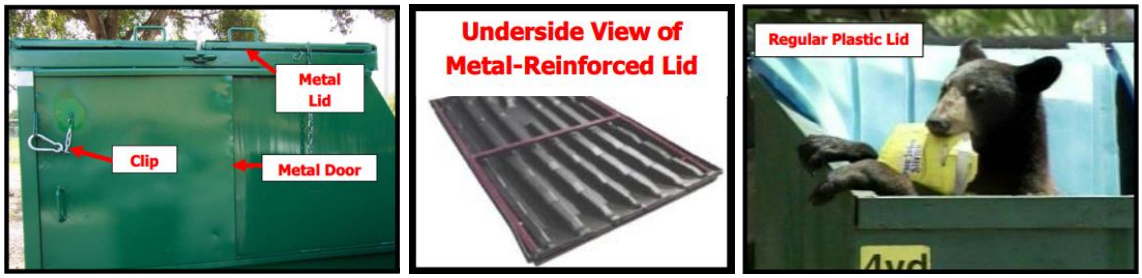


Figure 2: Bear-resistant dumpsters can have metal lids, doors, locks, and latches. Plastic dumpster lids can be reinforced with metal bars. Dumpsters with plastic-only lids are not bear-resistant, even if they have metal lock-bars. Photo credit: FWC



Figure 3: Bins are made bear-resistant with straps or clips.

Bear-Resistant Trash Bins

If you cannot secure the rental(s) trash or food scrap bins in a garage, basement, or sturdy shed, another option is bear-resistant bins. **Some haulers provide bear-resistant containers to customers upon request, or they allow customers to add latches to their containers.** See the next section to learn where to purchase certified bear-resistant bins and carts, including bins compatible with automated curbside collection.

TrashLockers.com sells certified bear-resistant lock straps that can be bolted to sturdy bins. BearWise, an organization that helps people live responsibly with bears, offers a guide to add latches to plastic trash cans with a few simple tools and hardware. Find it here: tinyurl.com/DIYBearResistantTrashBin

Buying Bear-Resistant Products

The Wildlife Mangement Institute maintains a list of **certified black bear-resistant products** at https://wildlifemanagement.institute/bear-products/approved. Some of these products work with automated curbside collection services.

The Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee (IGBC) maintains a list of **grizzly bear-resistant certified products** at https://igbconline.org/programs/bear-resistant-products.This list includes dumpsters, bins, and more.



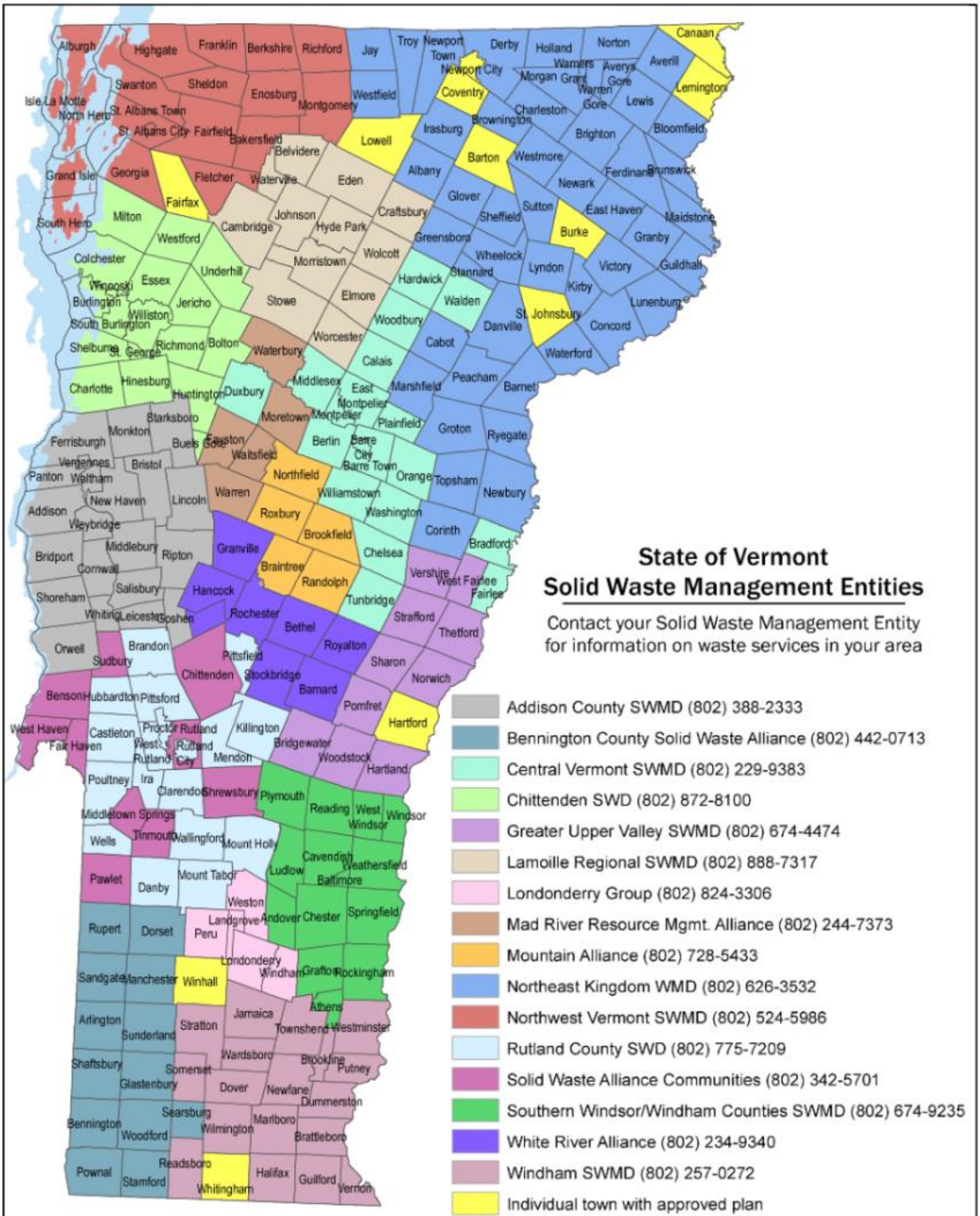
Figure 4: Bear-resistant certified products undergo field testing.

More Suggestions

In addition to using bear-resistant trash bins, property managers and owners can:

- Secure trash and food scrap bins in a sturdy shed, within a fenced in area, or behind electric fencing.
- Place signs near trash collection areas advising users to keep area clean and securely locked.
- Place an ammonia-soaked rag or sponge in a bucket next to the trash and food scrap container area. Keep the rag or sponge moist—resoak frequently.
- Wait until the morning of trash pick-up to put bins outside.
- Double bag trash to reduce odors.
- Regularly clean trash containers with a cleaner like ammonia to reduce smells.
- Include information in guest welcome packet informing guests how important it is to avoid feeding bears.

Revised September 2024


State of Vermont
Solid Waste Management Entities
Contact your Solid Waste Management Entity for information on waste services in your area
Addison County SWMD (802) 388-2333
Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance (802) 442-0713
Central Vermont SWMD (802) 229-9383
Chittenden SWD (802) 872-8100
Greater Upper Valley SWMD (802) 674-4474
Lamoille Regional SWMD (802) 888-7317
Londonderry Group (802) 824-3306
Mad River Resource Mgmt. Alliance (802) 244-7373
Mountain Alliance (802) 728-5433
Northeast Kingdom WMD (802) 626-3532
Northwest Vermont SWMD (802) 524-5986
Rutland County SWD (802) 775-7209
Solid Waste Alliance Communities (802) 342-5701
Southern Windsor/Windham Counties SWMD (802) 674-9235
White River Alliance (802) 234-9340
Windham SWMD (802) 257-0272
Individual town with approved plan
Map Created 11/19/2021

Vermont Waste Management Resources

Educational Materials:

Guest Waste Management Information Template:

https://dec.vermont.gov/document/waste-management-guest-template

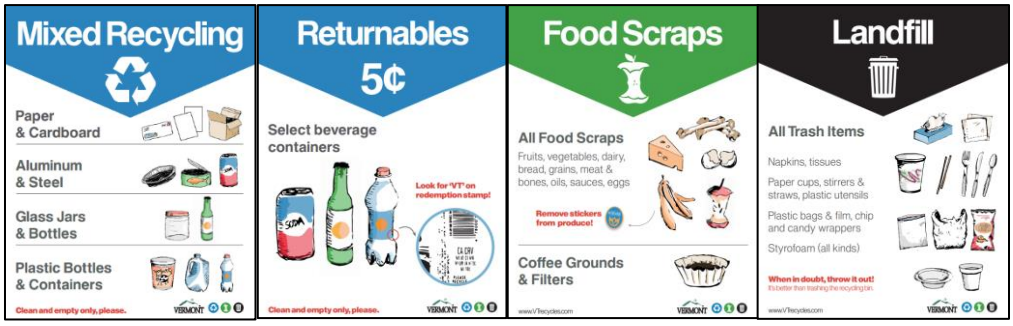
This guest educational template (Microsoft Word document) has information on recycling and food scrap collection, including images of common items. This document can be edited for your rental(s) and be included in your guest welcome packet or with check-in information.



Waste Management Signs

Trash, Recycling, Returnable, and Food Scrap posters:

https://dec.vermont.gov/waste-management/solid/universal-recycling/universal-recycling-downloads



Vermonter's Guide to Recycling:

https://dec.vermont.gov/sites/dec/files/wmp/SolidWaste/Documents/Universal-Recycling/Vermonters-Guide-to-Recycling-DEC.pdf



The Vermonters' Guide to Recycling poster in:

- العربية (Arabic)
- Bosnian
- မြန်မာစာ (Burmese)
- دری (Dari)
- Français (French)
- <中文(Mandarin Chinese)
- नेपाली (Nepali)
- Spanish (Español)
- Swahili

Vermonter's Guide to Food Scraps:

https://dec.vermont.gov/document/vermonters-guide-food-scraps



Vermonter's Guide to Household Hazardous Waste:

https://dec.vermont.gov/document/vermonters-guide-household-hazardous-waste

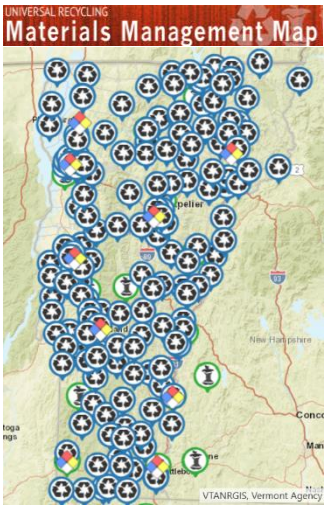


Waste Hauling and Collection Resources:

Trash, Recycling, and Food Scrap Haulers:

Vermont has a list of all registered haulers of solid waste (trash and recyclables) and food scraps haulers on our website: https://dec.vermont.gov/haulers.

The easiest way to find trash and recycling haulers in your specific area is to contact your solid waste management entity at 802recycles.com



Find a Solid Waste Facility:

Vermont's Material Management Map will help you locate locals in your region that accept recycling, trash, electronic waste, household hazardous waste, food scraps, clean wood, and leaf and yard debris.

You will also find contact information like phone number, email, website (if available), and facility address.

Bear-Resistant Waste Containers

A list of haulers providing bear-resistant waste containers can be found here: https://dec.vermont.gov/sites/dec/files/documents/Haulers-Offering-Bear-Resistant-Containers-List.pdf. Please contact the hauler to inquire about services and containers.

The Wildlife Mangement Institute maintains a list of **certified black bear-resistant products** at https://wildlifemanagement.institute/bear-products/approved. Some of these products work with automated curbside collection services.

The Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee (IGBC) maintains a list of **grizzly bear-resistant certified products** at https://igbconline.org/programs/bear-resistant-products.This list includes dumpsters, bins, and more.

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WASTE NOT GUIDE

What to do with Items that are Banned from the Trash

RECYCLE ANYWHERE*: Drop-off or with your hauler



Plastic #1 and #2



Glass jars, bottles



Cans and foil



Cardboard, mixed paper, newspaper

COMPOST: At home, drop-off, or with your hauler





Leaf and yard debris, grass clippings, branches, etc.



Food scraps, coffee grounds, egg shells, etc.
(Ban for residents begins July 1, 2020)

BANNED & SPECIAL RECYCLING: Find collection locations at vtrecycles.com.



Mercury-containing bulbs, thermostats, switches, thermometers, etc.



Paint, stain, thinner and varnish



Computers and accessories, phones, TVs, MP3 players, VCRs/DVDs, etc.

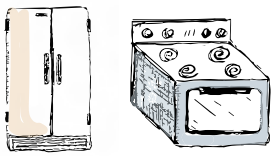


Lead-acid, rechargeable, and other batteries

*Contact your local solid waste entity at 802recycles.com to learn what else can be recycled in your area.

Vermont Waste Management & Prevention Division
(802) 828-1138 | vtrecycles.com

OTHER BANNED OR DANGEROUS ITEMS: Contact your local solid waste entity for guidance—at 802recycles.com.



Large appliances & scrap metal



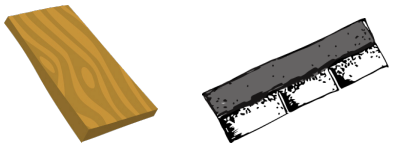
Used Oil, filters, auto fluids



Tires



Clean Wood



Asphalt shingles, plywood, OSB, and drywall from large projects within 20 miles of a C&D facility



Explosives, fireworks, gasoline, pesticides, pool chemicals, propane cylinders

A Vermonter's Guide to Recycling

PAPER
clean & dry



copy paper, mail & magazines



cardboard & boxboard

CONTAINERS
empty & rinsed clean



metal



glass bottles & jars



plastic bottles, tubs & packaging



MINIMUM SIZE 2 inches

MAXIMUM SIZE 2 feet

MORE INFO
(802) 828-1138
VTrecycles.com

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Leave 'em out.

These items don't belong in the recycling bin.



NO PLASTIC BAGS
They wrap around sorting equipment & cause shutdowns.
Instead: Bring clean, dry, and stretchy bags to a grocery or hardware store for special recycling. Otherwise put in trash.



NO BATTERIES
They are the leading cause of fires at sorting facilities.
Instead: Bring to a drop off location for special recycling.



NO STUCK-ON FOOD/DRINK
It's gross—and it reduces the value of other recyclables.
Instead: Rinse clean first.



NO SCRAP METAL ITEMS
They can damage equipment.
Instead: Bring to a drop off location for special recycling.



NO CLOTHING
It gets wrapped around equipment and causes shutdowns.
Instead: Donate for reuse, or bring to a drop off location for special recycling.



NO ELECTRONICS
They break, damage equipment, and endanger workers.
Instead: Bring to a drop off location for special recycling.



NO HAZARDOUS CONTAINERS
They pose a risk to workers, even if empty (there's always residue).
Instead: Take to hazardous waste event or facility, or trash if empty.

This is only a partial list. For more details, visit VTrecycles.com.

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A Vermonter's Guide to **Food Scraps**

PARTS OF FOOD NOT TYPICALLY EATEN



Peels, rinds, cores, shells, pits, seeds, bones

FOOD NO LONGER GOOD FOR EATING



Plate scrapings, leftovers gone bad

COFFEE GROUNDS, FILTERS, TEA, PAPER TEA BAGS



No plastic

If it's food, it can be composted!



Backyard composting? Throw meat and bones in the trash

MORE INFO
(802) 828-1138
VTrecycles.com

VERMONT
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Leave 'em out.

These items don't belong in the food scrap bin.



NO COMPOSTABLE PRODUCTS

Most compost facilities in Vermont do not accept compostable products like plates, cups, and utensils.

Instead: put compostable products in the trash unless you are certain your compost facility accepts them.

Many composters do accept certified compostable bin liners.



NO PRODUCE STICKERS

They are made of plastic and contaminate compost.

Instead: remove stickers and throw in the trash.



NO UTENSILS

Whether made of plastic or metal, they contaminate compost.

Instead: reuse utensils when possible. If broken, put in the trash.



NO PLASTIC PRODUCTS

Watch out for plastics claiming to be "biodegradable."

Instead: recycle plastic containers #1 and #2 and plastic bags at special film plastic collection sites (or in the trash).



NO PAPER PRODUCTS

Paper products may be coated in plastic or contain the chemical PFAS.

Instead: Put soiled paper items and all mixed materials (like paper plates coated with plastic) in the trash. Some composters accept: newspaper or untreated paper bags used as food scrap bin liners, and paper towels and napkins with no body fluids or chemicals. Those items are ok in backyard compost.

Unsure what to do with a certain item? Ask your composter!

A Vermonter's Guide to
Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)



Every home has dangerous products.



Read products for labels like:

caution • toxic • danger
hazard • warning
poisonous • reactive
corrosive • flammable



Before you buy:

- Consider DIY cleaners.
- Choose options with third-party certification like EPA's Safer Choice, Green Seal, or ECOLOGO
- Choose the smallest container needed.
- Share products with others to reduce overall purchases.



Proper Disposal:

- Don't dump HHW in drains or trash.
- Dispose of unwanted products at an HHW facility or event.
- Go to 802recycles.com to find local information.

MORE INFO
(802) 828-1138
DisposeWithCare.VT.gov

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Every home has dangerous products.



Safety Tips for HHW:

- Store products in their original container with original label.
- Store all toxic products in secure, leak-proof containers away from children and pets.
- Avoid storing in extreme temperatures.
- Follow label directions and use only what is needed.
- NEVER mix products; it can cause dangerous reactions.
- Avoid eating, drinking, or smoking when handling hazardous materials.
- Clean up properly after use.

Common HHW examples include:

- **Automotive Supplies:** antifreeze, brake fluid, gas, grease, oil, used oil filters
- **Health and Beauty Products:** hair dyes, nail polish and remover
- **Home Supplies:** glues, paint and thinner, stains, strippers, varnish, solvents
- **Household Cleaners:** ammonia, bleach, specialized cleaners, furniture polish
- **Garden Supplies:** fertilizers, herbicides, pesticides, insecticides, poisons
- **Hobby Supplies:** photo chemicals, pool chemicals, pottery glaze
- **Mercury-Containing Devices:** fluorescent bulbs, thermometers, thermostats
- **Miscellaneous:** flea and lice treatments, road flares, nicotine vaping devices and E-cigarettes

VTrecycles.com

Click “Special Recycling”

1-855-63-CYCLE

Free Special Recycling



Electronics

- Computers
- Monitors
- Printers
- Televisions
- Computer Peripherals
  (e.g. mouse, keyboard)

Vermont e-cycles



Batteries

Single-use Alkaline
- AA and AAA
- 9-volt
- Button Cells
- D-Cells

Rechargeables
Cell Phones

call2recycle®



Paint

Quarts, Gallons and 5 gallons
- Oil Based
- Acrylic
- Latex
- Enamel
- Stains
- Shellac
- Lacquer
- Varnish

PaintCare
RECYCLING MADE EASY



Mercury Bulbs

Compact (CFL)

Limit of 10:
- Fluorescent Tubes
- Circulines
- HID
- Mercury Vapor
- U-Tube

lamprecycle.org
environmental responsibility starts here



Thermostats

Don’t trash it, CASH it!

GET $5 for every mercury thermostat recycled!

Thermostat Recycling™ CORPORATION

عربي - Français - 普通话 - नेपाली
Srpskohrvatski - Soomaali
Español - Tiếng Việt

VTrecycles.com

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Vermont Short-Term Rental Waste Management Self-Assessment Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, Solid Waste Program - March 2025 **Directions**: Fill out the assessment to determine your Short-Term Rental's waste management score and identify areas for improvement. Assign 0-2 points for each category: 0 for No, 1 for Somewhat or Sometimes, 2 for Yes.		Points	Notes
Waste Management and Collection	Rental(s) has a recycling system for disposal-banned items (#1 and #2 plastic containers, aluminum and steel cans, aluminum foil and pie plates, glass food and beverage bottles and jars, cardboard, boxboard, and mixed paper.)		
	Rental(s) has food scrap collection system (food scraps are disposal-banned in Vermont).		
	Trash, recycling, and food scrap bins are conveniently located and easily accessible by guests.		
	Outdoor waste collection areas are conveniently located and easily accessible by staff (or guests).		
	Rental(s) uses best practices for managing outdoor trash and food scrap bins in bear country (guide included in toolkit).		
	Trash cans have an equal- or larger-sized recycling bin next to it (except restrooms.)		
	Compost bins are located wherever guests prepare or cook food.		
	Trash, recycling, and compost bins are clearly labeled.		
	There is a system to safely and properly dispose of:	n/a	
	Disposal-banned "special" recycling items: batteries, electronics (including TVs and computers), fluorescent bulbs and thermostats, and architectural paint.		
	Oversized (bulky) trash items.		
	Construction and demolition materials.		
	Textile waste.		
	Medical waste.		
Custodial/ Facilities	Rental(s) uses least-toxic options for cleaning and other household products.		
	Rental(s) safely handles, stores, and disposes of household hazardous materials, including cleaners, pesticides, paint, gas, oil, and fluorescent bulbs.		

	Leaf, yard, and clean wood debris from groundskeeping are managed on-site or taken to an appropriate facility. (Leaf and yard debris and clean wood are banned from the trash.)		
	Facility staff use reusable cleaning supplies (ex. micro-fiber mops and cleaning clothes.)		
Guest Education	Information about Vermont solid waste laws (guests must recycle and keep food scraps out of trash) is provided to guests at check-in (either digitally or in guest welcome packet.)		
	Instructions is provided to guests about waste management (i.e., how to separate recycling and food scraps from trash, how and if to empty waste bins).		
	Contact information for local solid waste management entity and/or Vermont DEC is provided to guests.		
	Containers for trash, recycling, and composting are color-coded or otherwise standardized throughout rental.		
	Labeling for trash, recycling, and composting containers is standardized and consistent throughout rental.		
	Signage for trash, recycling, and composting includes pictures of common items.		
	Signage for recycling is available for guests in multiple languages (available through DEC.)		
Revision as Needed	There is a plan to audit waste management systems regularly (annually, biannually.)		
	Guest education and information is updated as needed to address concerns and updated laws.		
		0	SCORE

Highest Possible Score: 50 Points

Services offered go above and beyond the requirement of Vermont solid waste laws. Keep it up!	38-50
Good job, but there is still room to improve.	30-38
Services offered demonstrate basic sustainability efforts, but additional efforts should be taken.	15-30
Limited sustainability demonstrated. It's time to GO GREEN! Contact your local Solid Waste Management Entity or the Vermont DEC for assistance!	0-15