



Solid Waste News: Trash, Recyclables, & Food Scraps

Mia Roethlein

Our Plan



- Universal Recycling Overview
- State of Recycling
- Organics Landfill Ban & Composting
- Special Recycling
- Q&A

Who's here?

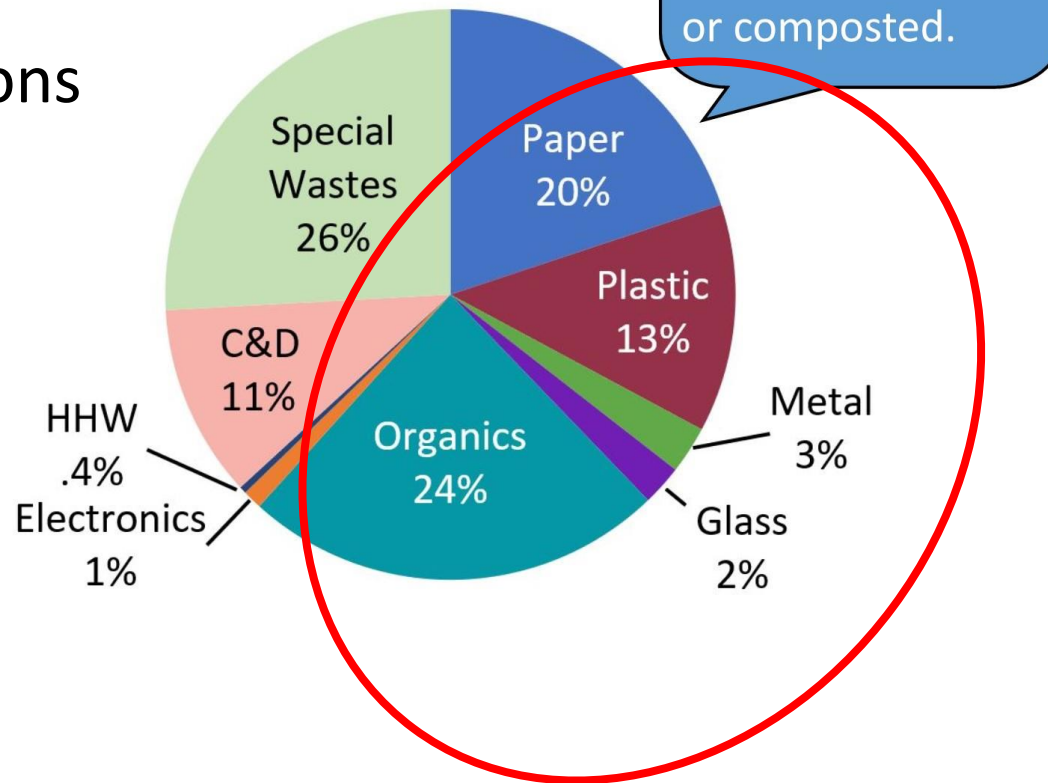
Name and town or organization

What do you hope to get out of this session?



Vermont's Trash in 2018

422,000 Tons



HHW = Household Hazardous Waste

C&D = Construction & Demolition

Special Wastes = all other categories including carpet, diapers, furniture, textiles, and tires

Universal Recycling Law (Act 148)



Goals

- Reduce waste
- Increase recycling & composting

And keeping Vermonters safe.



Why care?

Landfill space is limited



Climate change

Organics in landfill = methane



Waste of resources -
financial & natural





VERMONT STATE LAW LANDFILL BANS



Paints & Stains, Varnish, Thinner



Tires



Waste Oil & Filters



Recyclables



Plastic #1 and #2



Glass jars,
bottles



Aluminum & steel
cans, aluminum foil



Cardboard, mixed
paper, newspaper



Effective
July 1,
2015

Mercury-Added Products



CFLs, mercury switches, thermostats,
lamps, thermometers, etc.

Electronics



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

Organics (Compostable Material)



Clean wood, branches, leaf and yard
debris, grass clippings, etc.

Effective
July 1,
2016



Food scraps, coffee grounds, egg
shells, etc.



Effective
July 1,
2020

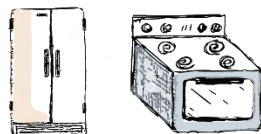
Certain Batteries



Lead-acid

Rechargeable

Appliances (White Goods)



Refrigerators, ranges, washers, dryers,
dishwashers, freezers, etc.

Dangerous Wastes

These items are regulated and **extremely hazardous** to persons handling solid waste:

**Explosives. Fireworks. Gasoline.
Sharps. Medical Waste.
Pool Chemicals. Propane Cylinders.
Liquid Waste.**

Please use proper disposal methods
or keep out of trash.

Keep these items out of the trash!

Ask attendant for details on recycling
and alternative disposal options.

Waste Management & Prevention Division
(802) 828-1138 | www.recycle.vermont.gov

So, where should it go?




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

Recycling Markets & China's National Sword

Started in 2013

Ban on “Wastes”

- Mixed Paper
- Plastics

Increased Costs

Quality is Important



Where is Vermont's recycling going?

Paper

- VT (Sheldon Springs & St Albans)
- PA

Cardboard - NH

Plastic – Domestic markets in USA

Metals – Domestic markets in USA

Glass – 2M in Quebec, Canada

What can we do? Recycle Better!

CONTAINERS

Bottles, cans, jars, packaging



empty & rinsed clean

PAPER

& cardboard



clean & dry

NO PLASTIC BAGS IN THE RECYCLING CART



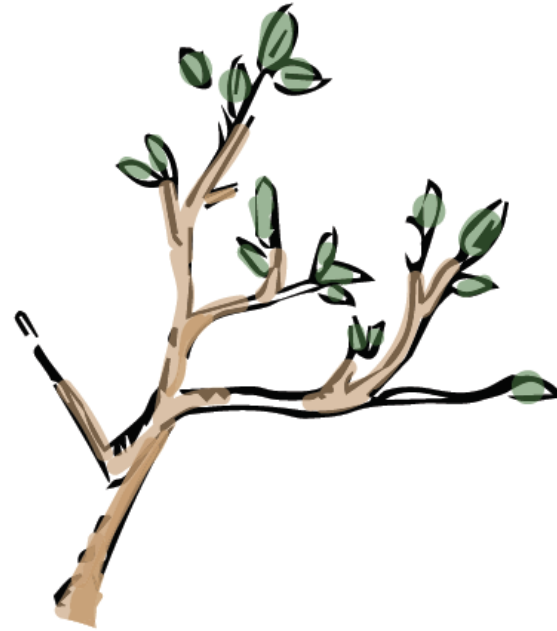
DO NOT BAG Recyclables

Collecting recyclables in a bag? Empty the contents into the cart.



Return plastic bags to retailers.

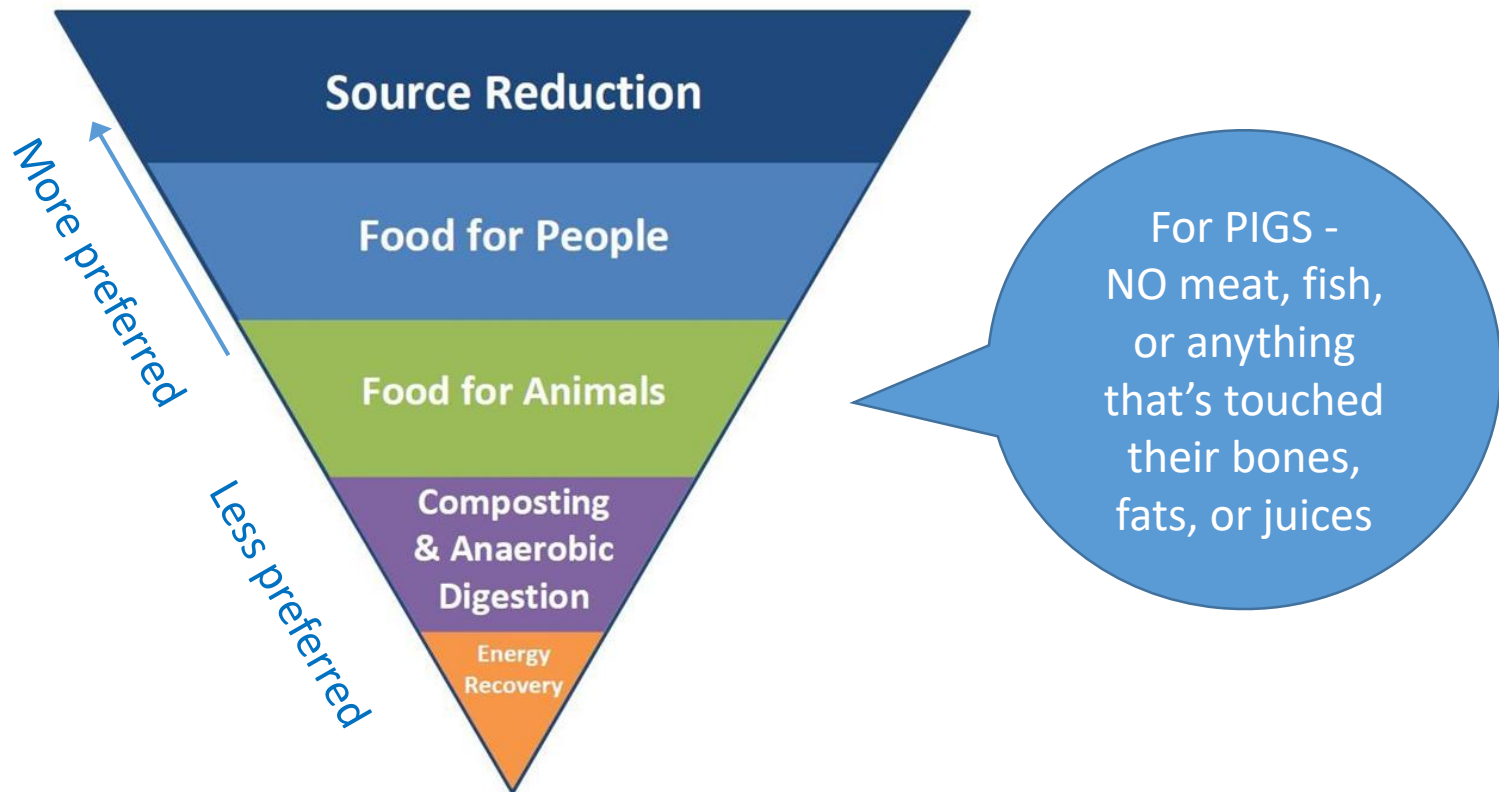




Leaf and yard debris, grass clippings, branches, etc.

7/2020 Complete Food Scrap Landfill Ban

Food Recovery Hierarchy





What can be composted?



All food scraps including spoiled, rotten, stale:

- Meat, fish, & bones/shells
- Milk, cheese, & other dairy
- Veggies & fruits
- Bread, pastas, grains, beans, nuts
- Soups & sauces
- Eggs & eggshells
- Oils & fats
- Coffee grounds & filters

Paper, cardboard, compostable utensils (some composters)

Wood chips, waste hay and grain

Manures, Leaves, Brush

Where can you send food scraps?

Waste Hauler

- Composter
- Anaerobic Digester



Farmers

- Compost
- Feed Animals



Manage Onsite





Keep Calm and Add **Browns**

BROWNS:

Dry leaves, grass clippings, wood chips, sawdust, shredded paper, finished compost, dirt, etc.

COVER THE SCENT

Always cover food scraps with a **thick** layer of "browns".



MIX AND TURN

Wet compost can smell and attract animals. If wet, add dry browns as you mix.

Mixing adds air which helps soil organisms break materials down.



You have options!

You can also bring food scraps to transfer stations and local drop-offs. Store scraps in the freezer until you're ready for a trip. Consider using drop-offs in the spring when bears are most active.

How is DEC supporting the law?

- Master Composter Course
- Media campaigns
- Outreach
- Technical assistance for compost operators
- VT Organics Recycling Summit April 2020
- Materials Management Map



*Sponsored by UVM Extension Master Gardener &
VT Agency of Natural Resources*



UNIVERSITY OF
VERMONT

EXTENSION

CULTIVATING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

WHAT ARE EPR PROGRAMS/LAWS?

EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY



vtrecycles.com

Go to the "What Do I Do With This...?" page

1-855-63-CYCLE

FREE Recycling



Electronics

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

Vermont e-cycles



Thermostats

**Don't trash it,
CASH it!**

GET \$5
when you
recycle mercury
thermostats

Thermostat Recycling™
CORPORATION



Paint

**Quarts, Gallons
and 5 gallons**

- Oil Based
- Acrylic
- Latex
- Enamel
- Stains
- Shellac
- Lacquer
- Varnish

paintcare™



Mercury Bulbs

Compact (CFL)

Limit of 10:

- Fluorescent Tubes
- Circulines
- HID
- Mercury Vapor
- U-Tube

NEMA



Batteries

Single-use Alkaline

- AAA & AA
- 9-volt
- Button Cells
- D-Cells

**Rechargeables
Cell Phones**

call 2 recycle®
VERMONT
AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

STATE MANAGEMENT STANDARDS – WHY?



EPR GENERAL SIMILARITIES

- MOST BANNED FROM LANDFILL DISPOSAL
- ALL MUST BE LABELED DURING STORAGE
- ALL REQUIRE CAREFUL MANAGEMENT TO:
 - PROTECT ENVIRONMENT-SPILLS/LEAKAGE/FIRE
 - AFFORD EFFECTIVE CLEAN UP
- ALL HAVE A ONE-YEAR STORAGE LIMIT
- MOST COLLECTORS PARTICIPATE VOLUNTARILY
- YEAR ROUND – STATEWIDE



This Product Contains Mercury
DO NOT PUT IN TRASH
Recycle or Dispose as Hazardous Waste





STATE MANAGEMENT STANDARDS

- BANNED – CANNOT GO IN TRASH
- MANAGE TO PREVENT BREAKAGE
- DO NOT TAPE LAMPS TOGETHER
- IMMEDIATELY PACKAGE IN STRUCTURALLY SOUND CONTAINERS



BOXES SIZED FOR THE BULBS

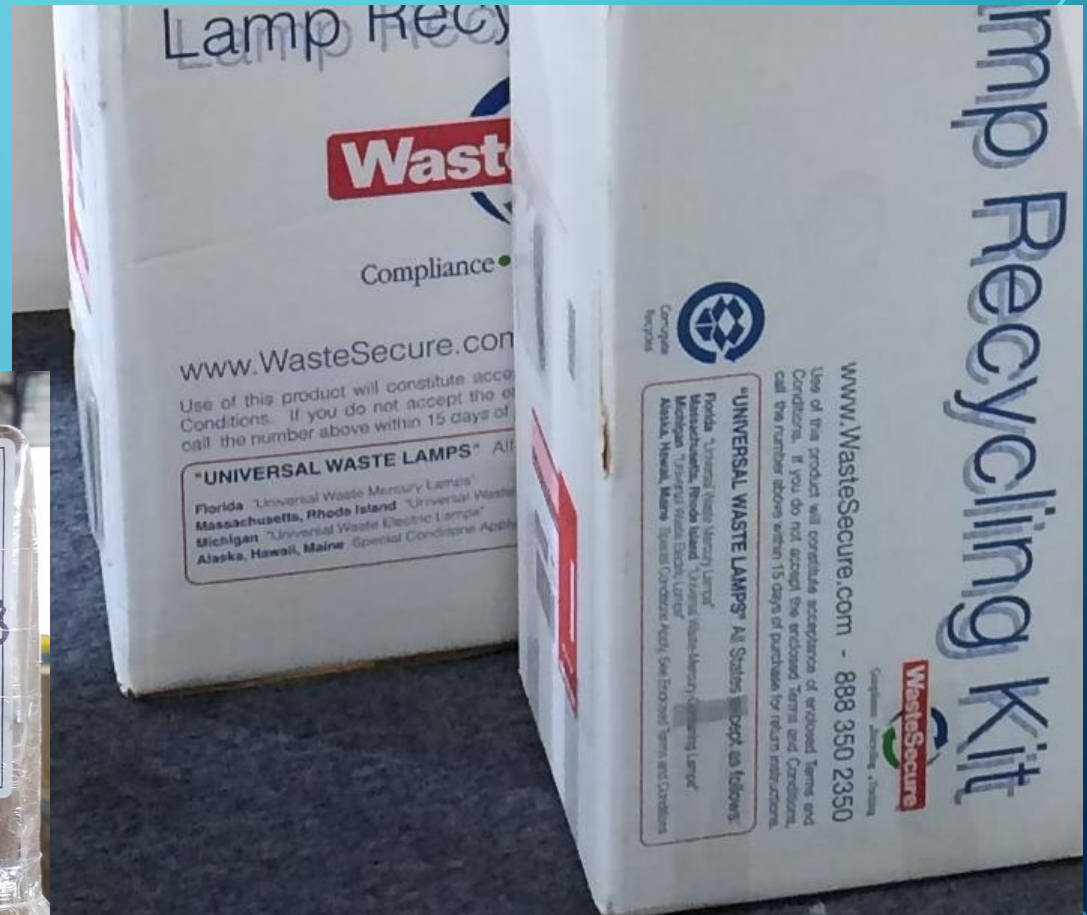
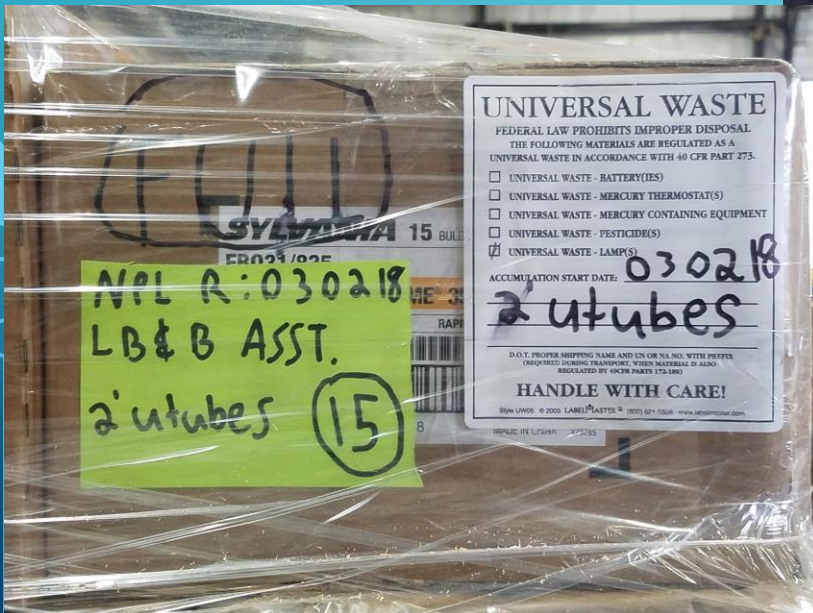
STORAGE

- TAPE BOXES CLOSED WHEN FULL
- KEEP BOXES CLOSED DURING FILLING



LABEL

- Used Lamps
- Universal Waste Lamps
- Waste Lamps



DATE WHEN FIRST LAMP IS PLACED IN BOX

STORED ON SITE FOR NO MORE
THAN ONE YEAR

The image shows a white cardboard box for fluorescent lamp recycling. A prominent red label at the top reads "Fluorescent Lamp Recycling Container" and "Do Not Discard". Below this, a white form with a red border contains the following text and handwritten entries:

- Hg** Lamps contain mercury. Manage in accordance with disposal laws.
- Kit tracking and documentation number: _____
- Accumulation start date: 5/28/16
- Accumulation end date: 9/11/16
- Lamp count: _____
- Container Capacity: _____ Do not exceed 70 lbs.

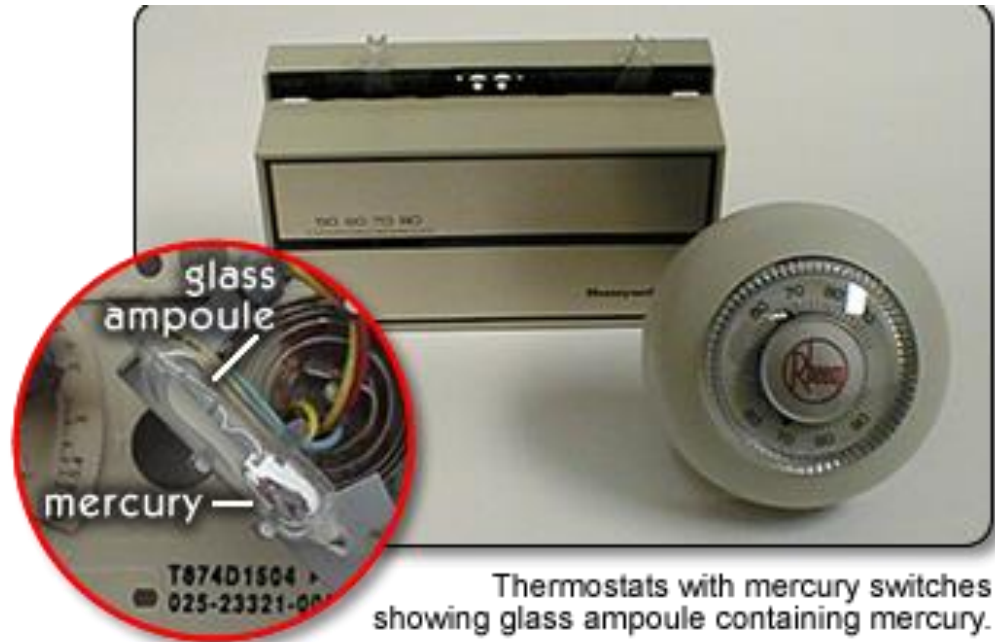
PROGRAM FOR THE COLLECTION OF MERCURY THERMOSTATS



- **Who** is eligible to utilize free recycling (covered entity)
 - Anyone – Vermont
- **What** is covered under the program (covered product)
 - Mercury-containing thermostats

STORAGE STANDARDS:

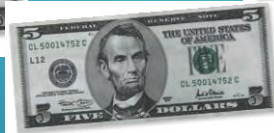
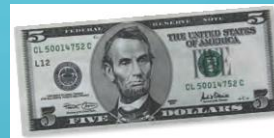
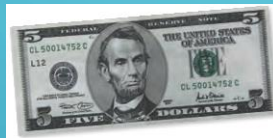
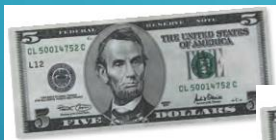
- ONE-YEAR STORAGE LIMIT (DATE BOX)
- WHOLE THERMOSTATS ONLY



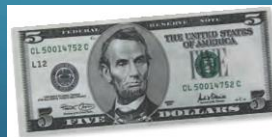
VERMONT AND MAINE




- RETAIL LOCATIONS - \$5.00 off purchase of anything in the store.




- WHOLESALE/MUNICIPAL/DISTRICT – Rebate slip to include with thermostats for a rebate check from manufacturers



Got an old
mercury-containing
thermostat?



Don't trash it.




Cash it!

Many old thermostats contain mercury.
Bring in your old mercury thermostats
for safe disposal and receive a

**\$5.00 rebate or
store credit!**

For participating locations, ask cashier
or see www.mercvt.org
or call (800) 974-9559

 **Thermostat Recycling**
CORPORATION

PAINT PROGRAM: OIL BASED/ACRYLIC/LATEX/ENAMEL/STAINS/SHELLAC/ LACQUER/VARNISH



- NO AEROSOL PAINT CANS
- NO EMPTY PAINT CANS
- NO UNLABELED CANS
- NO LEAKING OR DAMAGED CANS
- NO CANS OF DRIED PAINT

Terminal Protection Guidelines: Shipping in Call2Recycle Boxes

call2recycle®

Battery type / Chemistry

Terminal protection required?



Rechargeable

Nickel Cadmium (Ni-Cd)

Nickel Metal Hydride (Ni-MH)

Nickel Zinc (Ni-Zn)



Primary

Alkaline & Carbon Zinc



Rechargeable

Small Sealed Lead Acid (SSLA/Pb)

Lithium Ion (Li-Ion)



Primary

Lithium

Button/Coin Cell

- 9V or Less = **NO**
- Greater than 9V = **YES**
- 12V or Less = **NO**
- Greater than 12V = **YES**

All = **YES**

**Bag it or
tape the terminals**
before placing in box.



Drop it in the box.





Vermont e-cycles
A program of the VERMONT Department of Environmental Conservation



E-Cycles

The Place Where
Electronic Waste
and
Environmental Law
Join Forces

COLLECTION AND STORAGE STANDARDS

- Established by the Procedure for the Environmentally Sound Management of Electronic Devices (collectors, transporters, recyclers)



WHO IS
ELIGIBLE TO
UTILIZE FREE
RECYCLING
(COVERED
ENTITY)
WHAT IS
COVERED
UNDER THE
PROGRAM
(COVERED
PRODUCT)



A program of the VERMONT Department of Environmental Conservation

Collection Location

free | **ELECTRONICS
RECYCLING**

what | Computers
Monitors
Televisions
Printers
Computer Peripherals (e.g. mouse, keyboard, scanner)



who | **Vermont...**Households, Charities, Small
Businesses with 10 or fewer employees,
and School Districts (any number of devices)
- OR - Anyone Dropping Off 7 or Fewer Devices

Take your electronic devices to any Vermont e-cycles
location across the state. For a list of **FREE** locations visit:
www.vtecycles.org

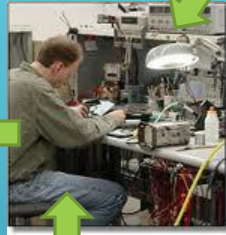
NEED MORE INFORMATION?

1-855-6ecycle
www.vtecycles.org



A program of the VERMONT Department of Environmental Conservation

11/2012





SPREAD THE WORD

RADIO ADS



TELL YOUR FRIENDS

POSTERS

LOCAL NEWS ADS

Vermont e-cycles
A program of the Vt. DEPT. of Environmental Conservation

FREE ELECTRONICS RECYCLING
Keep Electronics Out of the Trash!

HOW
Take your electronic devices to any Vermont e-cycles location. Permanent recycling locations are available across the state and can be found by visiting www.vtrecycles.org

WHAT
Acceptable Devices Are:
Computers, Monitors, Televisions, Printers, Computer Peripherals, Other electronic devices may be taken for a fee.

WHO
Any Vermont household, charity, school district or small business (20 or fewer employees) may use this free service.
To learn more about your personal data security, please visit our website at www.vtrecycles.org.

More Info?
vtrecycles.org
1-855-63cycle
1-855-632-9253

VT e-cycles Locations Are Available Statewide & Year-Round.

vtrecycles.com 1-855-63-CYCLE
Go to the "What Do I Do With This..." page

FREE Recycling

Electronics	Thermostats	Paint	Mercury Bulbs	Batteries
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Computers Monitors Printers Televisions Computer Peripherals (e.g. mouse, keyboard) 	<p>Don't trash it, CASH it!</p> <p>GET \$5 when you recycle mercury thermostats</p>	<p>Quarts, Gallons and 5 gallons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oil Based • Stains Acrylic • Shellac Latex • Lacquer Enamel • Varnish 	<p>Compact (CFL)</p> <p>Limit of 10:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fluorescent Tubes Circulines HID Mercury Vapor U-Tube 	<p>Single-use Alkaline</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AAA & AA 9-volt Button Cells D-Cells <p>Rechargeables Cell Phones</p>

Vermont e-cycles **Thermostat Recycling** **pointcare** **NEMA** **call2recycle** **VERMONT AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

FREE Special Recycling

Manufacturer-Sponsored Battery, Electronics, Paint, Mercury Light Bulb, and Mercury Thermostat Programs

Find a year-round drop-off near you:

1-855-63-CYCLE
or
VTrecycles.com

VERMONT AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

BROCHURE

Vermont's UR law is working!

↑ 9% increase in composting at facilities (2016-17)



↑ Recycling increased in 2017, even with light-weighting



↑ More Vermonters can recycle and separate food scraps than ever before



↑ Rescued food donation almost tripled (2014-17)!



Questions?



Mia Roethlein

Mia.roethlein@Vermont.gov

VTrecycles.com

VTrecycles

802-828-1138



Key Updates/Reminders

www.healthvermont.gov/alcohol-drugs/services/prescription-drug-disposal

DO YOUR
PART



When you properly store and get rid of unused medications, you're doing your part to keep Vermonters—and Vermont—healthy and safe.



LOCK

Store your medications in a lock box or locked medicine cabinet.



DROP

Drop off unused medication at a kiosk at your local pharmacy or police station.



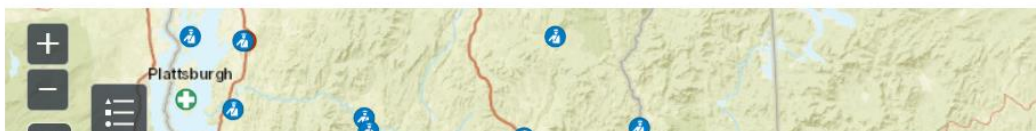
MAIL

Or mail unused medication in a pre-paid envelope.

› [Free Prescription Medication Mail-Back Envelopes](#)



Click the icons on the map below for information about prescription drug disposal sites.
You can also dial 2-1-1 for locations.



What To Do With A Found Needle

With a few simple steps, it's OK to throw it away.

1

Put on heavy duty gloves and use pliers or tongs to place the needle in a **thick plastic container** like a laundry detergent bottle.



2

Screw on the lid and **seal it well** with strong tape, like duct tape.



Tip: look for
"HDPE 2"
imprinted in
the plastic.

3

Write **"Do Not Recycle"** on the container and throw it away in the regular trash.



If you are stuck with someone else's needle:

1. Wash the wound well with soap and water.
2. Seek medical attention right away.