



News To Reuse

ADDISON COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT • SPRING 2008

APRIL COMPOSTING BRINGS MAY FLOWERS!

Have you thought about starting a compost pile at home this year? It's easy to do and the benefits are many. The use of compost improves the soil by adding organic matter and beneficial organisms. Compost helps absorb and retain moisture, which reduces erosion and the need for irrigation. It also provides nutrients, which reduces the need for fertilizer application. Plants with compost develop better root systems, have a greater resistance to disease, and require fewer pesticides or herbicides.

STEP 1. Select an Area

Build your pile on a level, well-drained area. Most importantly, be sure to allow yourself easy access to the pile. Either a sunny or shady area is fine, since the heat associated with compost piles is generated by the microbes within the pile itself. Don't locate the bin right near your garden, since it may attract slugs and other bugs that gardeners consider pests.

STEP 2. Choose a System

A compost bin helps to keep in some of the heat and moisture, but the type of bin you select isn't as important as how you build the pile. As long as the pile is roughly 3 ft x 3 ft x 3 ft, it should function well.

STEP 3. Add Stuff

Composting works best when you mix equal amounts by weight of nitrogen ("greens") and carbon ("browns"). Nitrogen comes from things like fruit & vegetable scraps, stale breads, garden trimmings, or manure. Carbon comes from things like dry leaves, dry hay, straw, or wood mulch. Try to add greens and browns in layers, covering the greens each time with a layer of browns to keep odors and fruitflies away. Kitchen scraps are heavy, so add plenty of dry leaves or straw to balance the pile. Once in while, turn the pile to mix the ingredients. The more often you mix the pile, the faster it will produce compost.

STEP 4. Now Wait

That's all there is to it! When it's ready, screen out the bigger chunks, rake the compost into your lawn or garden, and watch the magic!

COMPOST BINS & KITCHEN COLLECTORS AVAILABLE AT THE DISTRICT TRANSFER STATION

Pick up a compost bin or kitchen collector and get started composting at home! Turn food scraps and yard waste into rich organic food for your garden! Food and yard waste combined represent approximately 25% of our waste, so by composting these organic materials we can save money while keeping waste out of landfills and methane out of the atmosphere. Composting benefits everyone by reducing waste and helping summer vegetable and flower gardens flourish! The Soilsaver is just \$40, and fits neatly into any vehicle. The handy Kitchen Collector is just \$10.00. Call us (388-2333) for more details.

THE SOILSAVER (\$40)



28" w x 28" d x 32" h

Holds 11.4 cubic feet

Made from sturdy recycled plastic

Retains heat and moisture better than an open pile

Keeps animals out

Removable convenient locking top with self watering lid

Two slide-up doors for easy removal of compost

THE KITCHEN COLLECTOR (\$10.00)

- holds 9.6 quarts
- made from 25% recycled plastic
- convenient handle
- snap-down lid opens with one hand
- carbon filter to stop odors
- rounded corners for easy cleaning
- stands 11" high
- wide top opening for plate scraping



Yes! to Youth Environmentalism

Save the date for YES! 2008. The 11th annual Youth Environmental Summit, or YES! 2008, will be held at Hulbert Outdoor Center in Fairlee, Vermont. The event begins Saturday morning, May 31, and ends Monday, June 2.



The teen steering committee is presently meeting twice per month in Montpelier to plan and fundraise for all aspects of the event. The theme of this year's summit is "Awareness in Practice." To participate, register online at the Association of Vermont Recyclers' website:

<http://vtrecyclers.org>

Be Active in Your Community and Help to Green UP Vermont!

Each spring the District participates in Green-Up Day. We are fortunate enough to have a large group of volunteers, without whom we'd have a much less green Vermont! We are happy to announce that Green-Up day 2008 will be Saturday, May 3. For more information visit www.greenupvermont.org or get in touch with your town coordinator:



Addison	Starr Phillips	759-2421
Bridport	Susan Highley	758-2714
Bristol	Sue Kavanaugh	453-7976
Cornwall	Vanessa Wolfe	462-3138
Ferrisburgh	Deb Healy	475-2944
Goshen	Erica Sabatini	247-6350
Granville	Daniel Sargent	767-3027
Hancock	Davey Domina	767-4490
Leicester	Kate Briggs	247-5305
Lincoln	Ann Kensec	453-4314
Middlebury	Peg Martin	388-7697
Monkton	Janet Kimball	453-2675
New Haven	Suzy Roorda	453-5978
Orwell	Cindy Watrous	948-2751
Panton	Jim Kress	759-7777
Ripton	Warren King	388-4082
Salisbury	Christine Turner	352-4778
Shoreham	Heidi Lanpher	897-2244
Starksboro	Marcia Perry	434-2462
Vergennes	Craig Miner	877-2469
Waltham	Robert Popick	877-3323
Weybridge	Megan Sutton	545-2475
Whiting	Tracy Simonds	623-6087

Now Collecting Resin Codes #1-#7!



All haulers in the District now offer recycling for plastics #1-#7, making it easier to recycle even more. This includes containers such as margarine tubs and yogurt cups. Just give them a rinse, and remove caps and lids from plastic containers before recycling. Keep plastic bags and styrofoam containers out of your recycling.

Please Recycle the Following:

- newspaper
- cardboard
- boxboard (cereal boxes)
- white and mixed paper (junk mail)
- magazines and catalogs
- #1 - #7 plastic containers
- glass bottles and jars
- metal cans

Spring Cleaning? Don't forget the mailbox!

You might be surprised to learn that many catalogs contain little or no recycled-content paper, even ones distributed by reputable companies that claim to have an environmental ethic. Paper production is energy intensive and requires a great deal of natural resources. For every ton of paper recycled, we save 9 barrels of oil and 7,000 gallons of water. There are, however, ways to reduce paper waste from catalogs and junk mail: here are three waste-saving tips.



- Does your catalog care about how much paper waste it creates? A study by the Environmental Defense Fund lists the recycled paper content of over 80 different catalogs. Check it out online at http://www.edf.org/documents/2456_Doesyourcatalogcare.pdf. Consider getting off the catalog mailing list and shop online if you can.
- Catalog Choice is a free service that helps you reduce the number of paper catalogs and unsolicited mail you receive. Visit <http://www.catalogchoice.org/> to view the current list of catalogs registered for opt-out. So far Catalog Choice has helped people opt out of 8,185,191 catalogs!
- To slow the flow of junk mail to your home, register with the Direct Marketing Association's Mail Preference Service at www.dmaconsumers.org. Online registration is free.

Calling All Books

The District collects hardcover and softcover books year-round at the Transfer Station. All books are delivered to a company that sorts them for either reuse or recycling. Books are accepted for free during all normal hours of operation, with no limit on quantity.

We're Hiring!

Transfer Station Operator wanted for immediate hire.

Work as part of a team operating the Transfer Station in Middlebury, VT. Must have a CDL (Class "A" preferred), ability to lift 50 lbs., and ability to be fit-tested for a respirator. Also required: ability to operate heavy equipment (backhoe, skid steer loader, forklift), and to drive a box truck and tractor-trailers (in yard only). High school diploma or equivalent, with basic reading, communication and math skills, is required. Starting wage is **\$12.48/hr.**, with consideration of increase after 6-month probationary period. We offer excellent benefits, including: paid leave; health, vision and dental insurance; and savings plan. Call (802) 388-2333 for job description and application, download it from www.acswmd.org, or stop by the office at 1223 Rt. 7 South, Middlebury. Open until filled. Send application to: ACSWMD, Attn: District Manager, 1223 Route 7 South, Middlebury, VT 05753.

A New Reuse Option

Sweet Charity (141A Main Street in Vergennes), accepts reusable household goods, books, and architectural pieces. Call 877-6200 for details, or visit them M-Sat, 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Drop off items during business hours only. Visit our website (www.acswmd.org) for additional local reuse options.

REUSE IT OR LOSE IT!

One important aspect of waste prevention is recognizing the value of usable materials and sparing them from entombment in the landfill. This already happens here in our area, where garage sales are common and many useful items are exchanged, not wasted. The District's **REUSE IT OR LOSE IT!** program is a great resource for anyone wishing to give a new life to household goods or salvaged building materials. All items should be clean and usable in their current condition to be accepted into the program. All items in **REUSE IT OR LOSE IT!** are free for the taking.

To view the guidelines for what we can accept, please see our website (www.acswmd.org) or call the District (388-2333) with any questions.

Acceptance Fees

Household Goods, under 20 lbs	Free
Household Goods, 20-50 lbs	\$1.00
Household Goods, over 50 lbs	\$3.00
All Building Materials	Free

Add Some Local Color to Your Next Painting Project

Local Color paint is a 100% premium, re-blended latex paint made by the Chittenden Solid Waste District. Leftover latex paint collected from residents and businesses is inspected for quality, sorted by color, then blended, double filtered, and sold at an affordable price. In a partnership with the Chittenden District, our District now sends them the higher quality leftover paint that we collect at our HazWaste Center to be made into Local Color.

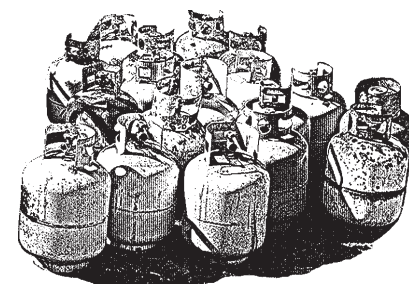


All Local Color paint has a matte finish and is available in a variety of colors. The paint can be applied with a brush, roller, or paint sprayer. It can be washed and scrubbed, and usually covers in one coat! Quality is guaranteed. One of the best things about Local Color is the price. A **2-gallon** container of any color is sold for just \$16. A 2-gallon container of white is just \$18. Compare that cost per gallon to the cost of other paints!

Buy Local Color at HOPE (formerly ACCAG) on Boardman Street in Middlebury. HOPE's RetroWorks reuse shop is open Tues - Sat, from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Call them at 388-3608 to check availability, or just stop in and browse the thrift shop while you're there. Local Color is a great alternative to expensive paints, and yet *another* way we can close the loop and reuse our waste!

Don't Trash That Tank!

When you go to refill your propane grill tank, you may find out that there is a new valve design that has rendered the older tanks obsolete.



The old-style tanks are no longer being refilled. Your old 20-pound tank must NOT go into the trash. Once in the trash, they pose a serious risk to the health and safety of all persons involved with the collection and transportation of your waste. Propane tanks must be recycled properly. Bring the grill tanks to the District Transfer Station, along with any of the 1-lb "camping-size" cylinders. The fee to recycle a 20-lb tank is \$4. Residents may recycle 1-lb cylinders at no charge. Please keep the valve on all grill tanks closed, even when you decide to recycle it.

DID YOU KNOW...

You can always recycle batteries at the District Transfer Station, but several local pharmacies will accept any **button cell batteries** for recycling. In Middlebury, bring button cells to either RiteAid Pharmacy, Kinney Drugs, or the Marbleworks Pharmacy. In Vergennes, bring button cells to either Kinney Drugs or the Marbleworks Pharmacy.

YARD WASTE

The District Transfer Station accepts leaves and grass clippings free of charge. All bags must be emptied at the time of drop-off. Collected materials are brought to a local composting facility.

CLEAN WOOD

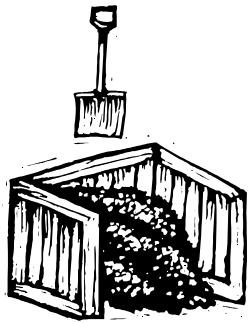
As part of our Clean Wood program, the District Transfer Station accepts natural wood (brush, branches, small trees less than 6" thick) and clean dimensional lumber (must be untreated - no stain or paint, and no plywood or other manufactured wood). Nails are OK. Since we have to pay to chip this material, we charge a nominal fee of \$30 per ton (about 1.5 cents per pound).

MERRY MULCH

We now have Merry Mulch, made from Christmas trees brought to the Transfer Station by District residents. Stop by and bring home some of our fragrant mulch!

REGULAR MULCH

Come 'n get it! We now have a nice supply of free wood mulch at the District Transfer Station. Please bring your own shovel and container.



About the District Transfer Station

Location:

1223 Route 7 South in Middlebury.

Station Hours (see below for HazWaste):

Monday thru Friday: 7 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Saturday: 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

The *HazWaste Center* at the Transfer Station is open every Tues., Wed., Thurs., & Sat. from 8:00 a.m. to Noon. Businesses by appointment.

Recycling of the following 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.

We do not accept household recycling or small amounts of bagged trash from residents. Please call us for a list of drop-off locations or haulers for recycling or bagged trash.

We do accept many other things. Call us to receive a full list with prices, or go to www.acswmd.org and click on "Transfer Station." Please make sure your load is properly sorted as we reserve the right to inspect all loads and reject or surcharge improperly sorted loads.

District programs are funded by user fees, grants and donations. No towns are assessed taxes by the District for this facility or any of the District's programs. Visit our office anytime Mon - Fri, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

"NEWS TO REUSE" IS A SEASONAL PUBLICATION OF THE
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QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? CONTACT THE EDITOR AT (802) 388-2333, EXT. 222, OR [ACSWMD@ACSWMD.ORG](mailto:acswmd@acswmd.org).
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ACSWMD, 1223 RTE. 7 SOUTH, MIDDLEBURY, VT 05753

- Addison
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- Ripton
- Shoreham
- Starksboro
- Vergennes
- Waltham
- Weybridge
- Whiting

POSTAL PATRON

STANDARD A
US POSTAGE
PAID
Middlebury, VT
Permit No. 70