

# News to Reuse

ADDISON COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

FALL 2017

### **Addison County Households Give a Scrap**

And we couldn't be prouder. This July, fourteen of the sixteen dropoffs in Addison County have begun collecting food scraps for compost! Thanks to a grant from the High Meadows Fund, ACSWMD provided all drop-offs with food scrap collection toters, signage and educational guides on food scrap diversion. The District is also providing one five-gallon green bucket for each household that brings food scraps to either the



ACSWMD's very own Chantel Bolduc and Shoreham resident, Eugene Duplissis, picking up his food scrap bucket at the Shoreham Drop-Off.

drop-offs, or the District Transfer Station in Middlebury. We had tremendous volunteer support from AmeriCorps. Master Composters, ACSWMD Board members and community members who were out at the drop-offs engaging with the community, answering questions and addressing concerns. However, the biggest thanks go to all of our drop-off haulers who have made this collection piece possible. They're working hard with yet another great community partner, Vermont Natural Ag. Products, to bring this new program to Addison County, and make sure our food scraps are turned into nutrient-rich compost for our soils, instead of heading to the landfill. Interested in joining the ranks of Addison County food waste fighters? Check out AddisonCountyRecycles.org and click on the "Drop-off Locations & Rates" at the top right corner to learn how to start bringing your food scraps to your local drop-off.

#### **Drop-Offs currently accepting food scraps:**

- Addison (*R&L Rubbish*)
- Bridport (Moose Rubbish)
- Bristol (*R&L Rubbish*)
- Cornwall (R&L Rubbish)
- Goshen (curbside)
- Leicester (Denton & Son)
- Lincoln (*Moose Rubbish*)
- Middlebury (*Desabrais Trash*)
- New Haven (R&L Rubbish)

- Ripton (Webb & Sons)
- Shoreham (*Moose Rub-bish*)
- Starksboro (Moose Rubbish)
- Vergennes (*C&J Haulers*)
- Weybridge (Brenda Kimball)
- Whiting\* (B.K. Services)
   \*beginning on 9/30/17

# ACSWMD Welcomes a New AmeriCorps Member!





Meet Sarah Lundquist – who hails all the way from Mountlake Terrace, Washington and is a recent graduate of Western Oregon University with a degree in American Sign Language Studies and Psychology. Throughout college, she realized her passion for environmental conservation and sustain-

ability, was a part of WOU's recycling team, and took a number of classes in environmental studies. Sarah hopes to eventually pursue a master's degree in Environmental Science. Other interests include reading, yoga, and music (she plays flute and piccolo!). During her service year with AmeriCorps, Sarah will conduct outreach and education to our District schools – meeting with administrators and teachers, as well as giving presentations to the youth on all things waste – diversion, reduction, toxics, reuse, recycling and composting! She will also conduct general community outreach. We are so excited to have her on board – please say hello if ever you see her out and about, and if you would like her to come to YOUR school or business, email her at sarah@acswmd.org.

### **The Dirt on Backyard Composting**

With our very first backyard composting workshop series coming to an end in October, we are very happy to announce that it was a resounding success! We gave 10 workshops this season, and had over 140 attendees from 18 of our 20 District towns. Thanks to a Composting Supplies Grant from the Agency of Natural Resources, the District was able to offer workshop attendees half-priced vouchers for Soil Saver Composters, and Green Cone Solar Digesters. If you were unable to attend a workshop, but would like to, email don@acswmd.org to

be put on a mailing list for our 2018 workshop schedule!



We're CHARGED UP about recycling your dead hatteries!

Before you empty that drawer full of old batteries into the trash, you should know that there's a better place for them to go. Vermont became the first state in the U.S. to pass a law creating a producer-funded program for recycling primary cell (or, non-rechargeable) batteries. These are the typical AA, AAA, C, and D-cell batteries, whether they say "lithium," "alkaline," "general purpose," or "heavy duty." The plan for collecting these batteries included the aggressive performance goal of collecting 12% of all primary cells in Vermont by the end of 2017. We are on target to meet this goal, but next year the goal increases to 15%, which will be a challenge without increased collection efforts. That's where you come in!

You probably know that all rechargeable batteries, like Ni-Cad, Ni-MH, Li-Ion, or small lead acid, are banned from disposal in the trash, but NOW we're asking you to recycle your non-rechargeable primary cell batteries. We'll even take button cells. You can bring them ALL to the District Transfer Station for recycling... at no *charge!* 



Useful materials like lead, iron, cadmium, cobalt, nickel, steel, zinc, and manganese are recovered from batteries and put back into new products. That's so much better than sending them to a landfill! Please keep your batteries in a dry container. Our staff will then sort them according to type and chemistry, and send them on to fulfill their next purpose! With your help, your used batteries will keep going...and going...

You can also drop off batteries and cell phones at several area businesses. For a list of places in Addison County, visit www.Call2Recycle.org/vermont.

# Food Scrap Collection is BLOOMIN' at Addison County Field Days!

If you were at Field Days this year, you may have seen the beautiful Addison County landscape from the top of the Ferris wheel, pet a cow or an alpaca, or even enjoyed a famous maple creemee! OR you may have seen a John Deere tractor hauling away food scraps from the Bloomin' Onion tent to be made into rich, earthy compost! This year, for the very first time ever, food



Randy Orvis of Moose Rubbish dumping food scraps into a tractor loader.

scraps were rerouted from their path to the landfill, and instead brought to our local compost facility, Vermont Natural Ag. Products. The players who stepped up to the compost plate were the Bloomin' Onion tent and Moose Rubbish and Recycling. Thanks to their efforts – over 400 lbs. of food scraps were captured from just one booth, in just five days. We know what you're thinking - imagine how many scraps we could divert from the landfill if ALL of the food vendors separated their scraps for compost? That's just what Randy Orvis, owner of Moose Rubbish and Recycling, is thinking too.

Stay tuned for next year!

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MOOSE RUBBISH

AND RECYCLING

# You Don't Know Jac! Or...Maybe You Do!

Our Public Outreach Coordinator, Jac Hochreiter, has been out and about in Addison County for the past year and a half giving presentations on various waste reduction topics; she met with businesses to give resources and technical assistance to help with food scrap collection; she even handed out resources (buckets and stickers!) at your local drop-offs. Jac is unfortunately hitting the road and heading to Cleveland, Ohio to be with her partner. We will miss her dearly! She has done incredible work and we are now actively looking for the next energetic and outgoing soul to join our team and continue carry-

ing on the outreach torch. Is that you?! Or do you know of someone who may be interested? If so, please head to www.AddisonCountyRecycles.org to view our full position description with application deadline details.



Jac presenting to Middlebury College's environmental studies senior seminar class.

# The Idea That's Sweeping The Nation: Homemade Non-Toxic Household Cleaners!

Many household cleaners are toxic to our health, toxic to the environment and costly – but you probably already knew that! Leftover cleaners are "Household Hazardous Waste," and should be brought to the District Transfer Station for proper disposal. Instead of using dangerous chemicals to get your home spic and span, make your own non-toxic cleaners using regular household products! Here are a few common recipes below, but check out our entire list at AddisonCountyRecycles.org.

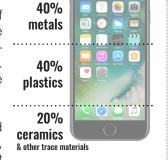


Drain Cleaner	1/2 cup baking soda 1/2 cup vinegar	Pour baking soda down drain followed by vinegar. Let it bubble for 15 minutes, then pour down a teakettle full of boiling water. For stubborn clogs use a mechanical snake.
Glass Cleaner	1/2 cup vinegar 1 cup water 2 drops liquid soap	Mix in a spray bottle. Shake and apply. Wipe clean.
Stain Remover	Salt Lemon juice or lime juice	Sprinkle surface with salt and squeeze lemon or lime juice over the area. Let sit and rub out. This can even remove rust if allowed to sit a few hours.
Tub & Tile Cleaner	1 2/3 cup baking soda 1/2 cup liquid soap 2 tablespoons vinegar 1/2 cup water, a few drops essen- tial oil (optional)	Mix soda and soap. Then add water; then add vinegar. Store in a squirt top bottle and shake before using. Rinse thoroughly to avoid leaving a residue.
Wood Furniture Polish	3/4 cup olive or mineral oil 1/4 cup vinegar 1/2 teaspoon lemon oil (optional)	Mix thoroughly in a squirt bottle. Squirt on furniture or rag and rub into wood. Shake well before each application.

#### Can You Hear Me Now??

Every year, tens of millions of cell phones become obsolete as people switch service providers or upgrade to a new phone. The more they switch, the more phones are disposed.

Cell phone batteries should NEVER be thrown in the trash, and the good news is that



phones themselves are mostly made out of recyclable materials. Actually, cell phones have the highest recycling market of any electronic material! Phones generally consist of about 40% metals, 40% plastics and 20% ceramics and other trace materials.

What to do with your old cell phone? Bring it to the District Transfer Station to be recycled free of charge. If your cell phone is reusable, we will donate it to Cell Phones for Soldiers, a national nonprofit organization that provides phones and communication services to active-duty military and veterans.



# **Employee Spotlight: Meet Rich, Our Transfer Station Operator!**

Rich has been with ACSWMD for two years now, and has a myriad of careers both past and present! While he started in the food business—as a dairy farmer and then a chef at Sugarbush Inn—he currently owns and manages a reuse store called Finders Keepers in Vergennes with his girl-friend Kate, manages an AirBnB in Bridport (with a wood stove!), is an Emergency Medical Responder (EMR), and somehow still finds the time to indulge in his hobbies such

as restoring classic cars and boating on Lake Champlain. Given his many interests, it is not surprising that his favorite part of working here is that no two days are the same. It might also be the chocolate that we keep in the office. Say hello when you see Rich working hard in the yard!



Richard Cota and girlfriend Kate!

#### **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 & composting; & 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?

Addison, Bridport, Bristol, Corn-Member towns are: wall, Ferrisburgh, Goshen, Leicester, Lincoln, Middlebury, Monkton, New Haven, Orwell, Panton, Ripton, Shoreham, Starksboro, Vergennes, Waltham, Weybridge, & Whiting. District programs & services include: the full range of services at the District Transfer Station in Middlebury (including the HazWaste Center); solid waste planning & management; public outreach; educational programs, including school workshops and events; technical support and advocacy on waste-related issues; & enforcement against illegal burning & dumping.



#### Like us on Facebook!

Search 'Addison County Solid Waste Management District,' and like our page to stay up-to-date on the happenings of 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 recycling and trash drop-off locations, or licensed haulers for curbside collection and cleanouts. The Transfer Station accepts many other items. Visit www.AddisonCountyRecycles.org for more info.

Recycling of the following landfill-banned items is mandatory for Vermont residents and businesses: 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 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 stop at the scalehouse. Thank you!

"News to Reuse" is a publication of the

ADDISON COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT, 1223 ROUTE 7 SOUTH, MIDDLEBURY, VERMONT QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? CONTACT THE EDITOR AT 388-2333, EXT. 221, OR ACSWMD@ACSWMD.ORG. THIS NEWSLETTER IS PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER.

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