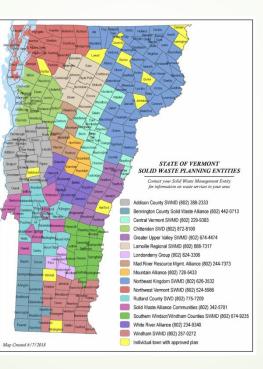
#### Management of Single-Use Products at the Solid Waste District Level



# About me

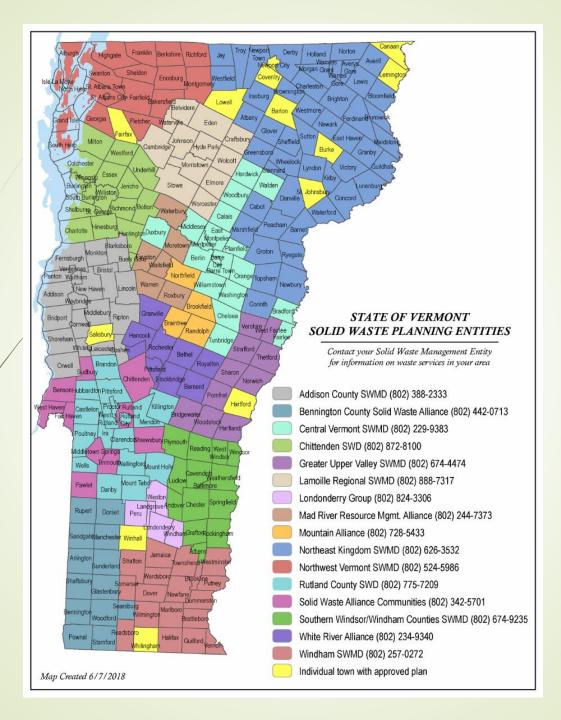
John Leddy Northwest VT Solid Waste Management District Executive Director



Vermont Solid Waste District Manager's Association -President

# Solid Waste Management Entities (SWME)

- Town
- Alliance
- District



## Solid Waste Responsibility

Under Act 78, Vermont's first major solid waste legislation much of the responsibility for solid waste planning, management and development of solid waste facilities was designated to local authorities

#### What is a Solid Waste District?

The Vermont Solid Waste District Managers Association is comprised of 14 members – 10 Waste Districts and 4 Resource/Waste Alliances.

566,954 residents in 232 towns are represented by their membership in the VSWDMA. The organization represents 91% of Vermont's total population.

- Districts are "union" Municipal Districts
- Authorized by statute in 1987

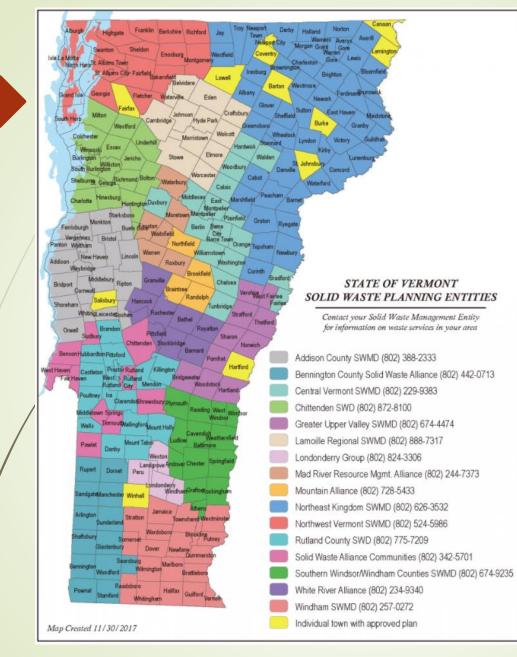
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- Taxing and Ordinance Authority
- Districts exist to serve district residents in reducing waste
- SWMEs include: Districts, Alliances, Groups, Towns

## Waste Management Priorities

Waste Disposal is to be considered in the broadest sense with reduction in the waste stream given highest priority followed, in descending order, by reuse, recycling, safe processing to reduce volume, and finally, safe disposal of remaining material in certified facilities, and landfills.

Take from the NWSWD Bylaws



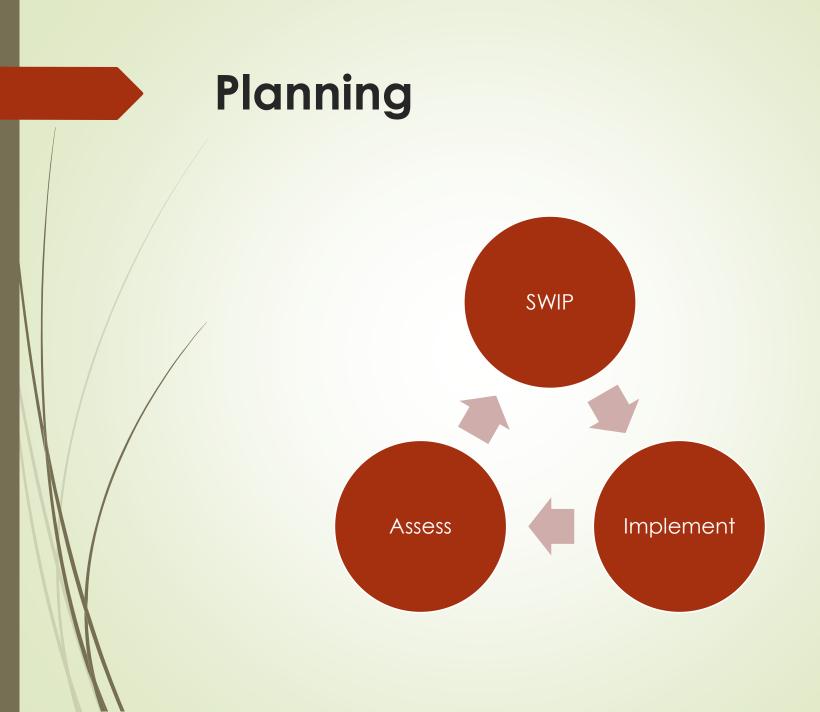
#### Vermont's Solid Waste District Map

Vermont Solid Waste Management District Directors

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# What drives/governs waste management in VT

- Vermont's Universal Recycling Law (Act 148) 2012
- State: Material Management Plan (MMP)
- Solid Waste Management Entities: Solid Waste Implementation Plan (SWIP)



#### **State and Local Plans**

Vermont's MMP:

- Framework for waste prevention, reuse, recycling, and composting
- Sets Performance Standards for the reduction of both the volume and toxicity of Solid Waste generated in the state.

Planning Entity's SWIP:

Identifies how the SWME will conform with the MMP

#### **Material Management Plan Vision**

- To prevent waste from being generated,
- To promote sustainable materials management, with a preference for highest and best uses,
- To minimize reliance on waste disposal (landfilling and incineration), and
- To conserve resources, minimize energy consumption, and reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and other adverse environmental impacts.

## Vermont's Universal Recycling Law (Act 148)

- Bans recyclable material from the landfill: Including:
  - Aluminum and steel cans
  - Aluminum foil and aluminum pie pans
  - Glass bottles and jars from food and beverages
  - PET and HDPE plastic containers, bottles and jugs
  - Corrugated cardboard
  - White and mixed paper
  - Newspaper, magazines, paper mail, and envelopes
  - Box board
  - Paper bags

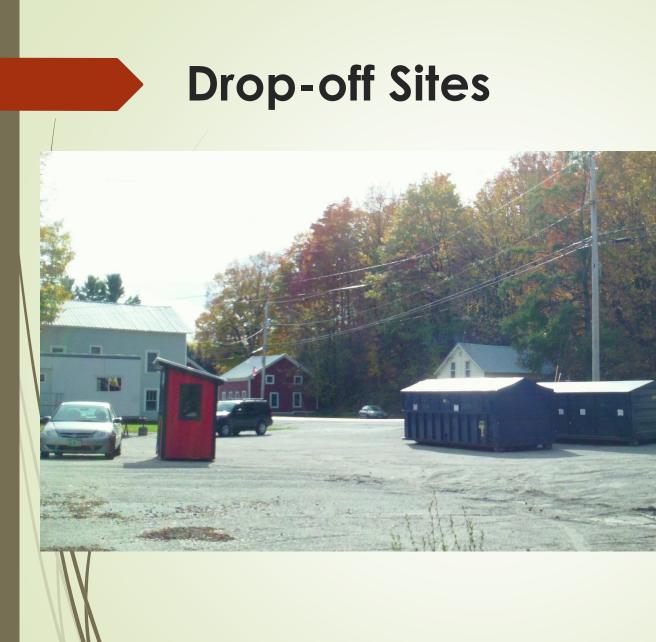
#### Let's look at the System now





## Waste Haulers (Curbside Collection)

 Largely Private though some Municipalities do offer their own collection.



#### **To Transfer Stations**





# Curbside Single Stream System





#### Chittenden/ Rutland MRF

#### **Material Recovery Facility**



Vermont Solid Waste Management District Directors

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## Dual Stream at Georgia Recycling Center



#### **Bailed and ready to ship**





#### Waste Costs Around Vermont

#### Recyclables

Middletown Springs: Addison: Bennington: Stowe: Craftsbury: Tinmouth : Windham SWD: Highgate TS: \$275 \$107.85 \$172.54 \$160.56 \$308.76 \$300 \$170 \$132.52 (tip fee only)

#### Waste Costs Around VT

#### <u>Landfill</u>

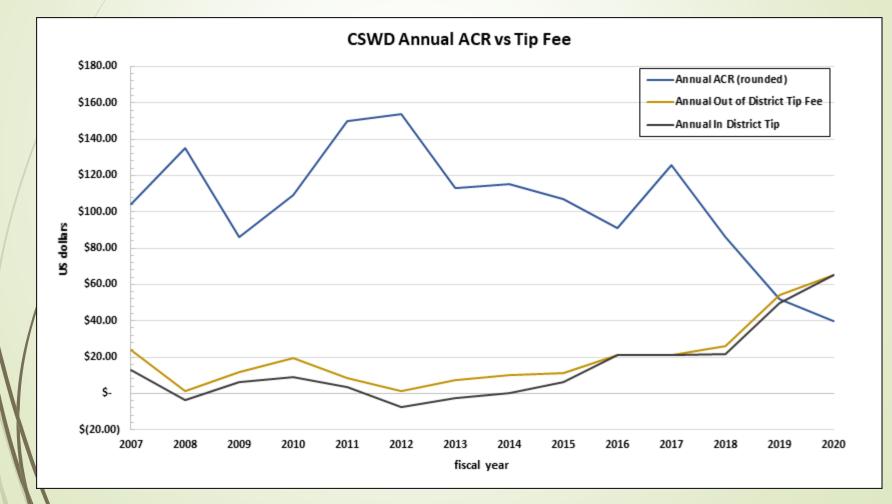
Stowe: \$82.00

Windham SWD: \$102.50

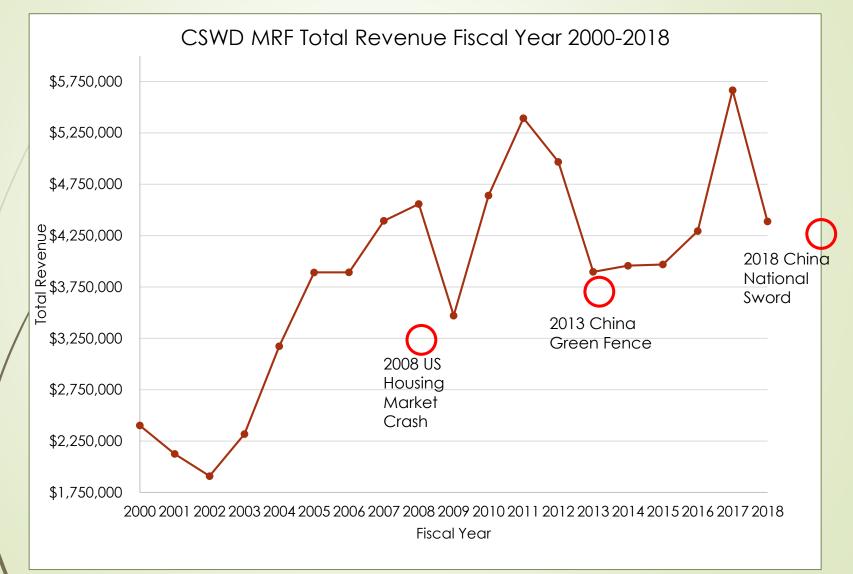
Highgate TS: \$114.90

Hyde Park TS: \$101

### CSWD MRF



## **CSWD MRF**



#### Causes For The Increase In The Cost of Recycling

- China National Sword
- Increasing transportation costs
- Changing Markets-Closing mills/plants, price of oil, shifting manufacturing
- Problem materials
  - Plastic film
  - EPS
  - Plant based plastics
  - Multi-material products
- Public confusion

## **China National Sword**

- Banned certain recyclables from import
  - Mixed Paper
  - Platics
- Set tolerances for contamination at .3% raised to .5%
- Limited imports in 2018 and 2019
- Additional impacts to markets due to ongoing trade dispute

## Resulting in....

- Stockpiling of material and gluts in domestic market
  - Focus on expanding and creating new domestic markets
- Focus on lowering contamination and increased quality of materials

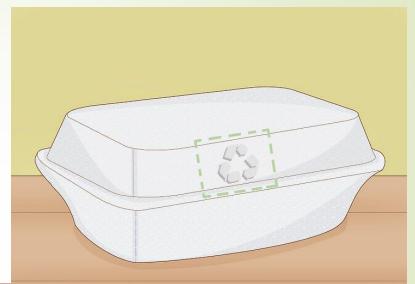
#### WISHCYCLING (verb)

R/C

Putting non-recyclable items in the recycling bin with hope they will be recycled.

### Wish Cycling Items





wiki How to Dispose of Styrofoa



# People want to do the RIGHT thing!



Vermont Solid V

# 30% of plastic packaging needs fundamental redesign before it can be reused or recycled



World Economic Forum and Ellen MacArthur Foundation The New Plastics Economy - Catalysing action (2017, www.newplasticseconomy.org).





#### Focus on domestic markets







The market demand for quality material is the new normal. Requires better equipment to clean up the stream.





#### EDUCATION!!!





#### **EDUCATION!!!**

The Unumeritar's Guide to RECYCLING

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Products Designed For.....

Reuse





#### Recycling







#### In order for:

- The state and SWMEs to meet their waste reduction and recycling goals
- Recyclable material from Vermont MRFs to be remain desirable in the marketplace
- Cost for recycling remain manageable for Vermont communities

We need to reduce the number of single use products we use in VT, and ensure that the products and packaging we do use are made from easily recyclable materials.