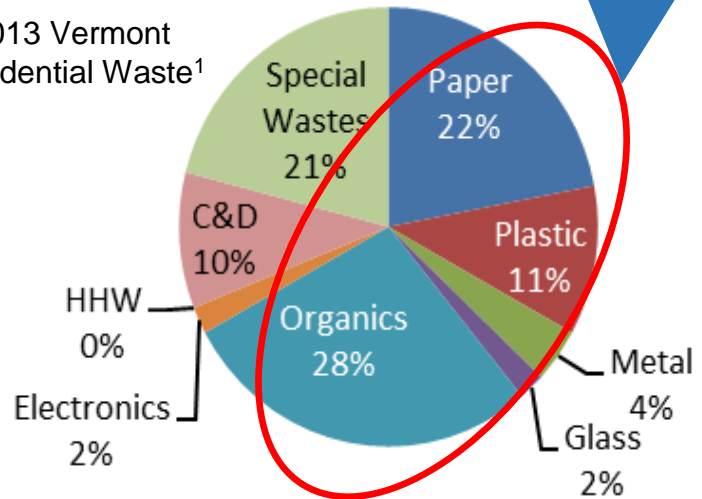


BACKGROUND

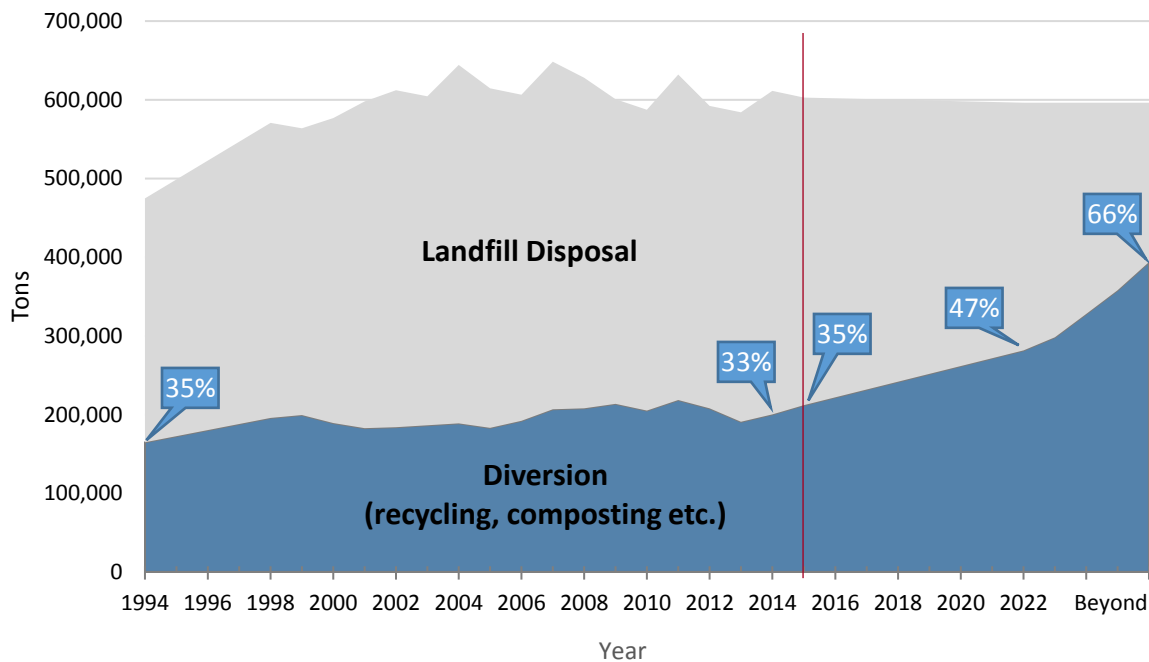
Vermont's Universal Recycling law (Act 148) was unanimously passed by the Legislature in 2012 in response to the state's stagnant recycling rates that had hovered around 30-36% for nearly two decades. As much as 50% of Vermonter's trash includes recyclable or compostable materials like food scraps and leaf and yard debris. With concern over wasting valuable natural resources and the impact of this waste on global climate change, the stage was set to boost recycling and launch statewide composting.

Up to 50% of our waste could be recycled, donated, or composted.

2013 Vermont Residential Waste¹



Vermont landfill disposal and diversion amounts over time



¹ DEC completes waste composition studies approximately every 5 years. 2013 was the most recent study with the next to be completed in 2018.



Universal Recycling Law

TIMELINE

**JULY 1
2014**

- » Transfer stations/Drop-off Facilities must accept residential recyclables at no separate charge
- » Food scrap generators of 104 tons/year (2 tons/week) must divert material to any certified facility within 20 miles

**JULY 1
2015**

- » Statewide unit based pricing takes effect, requiring residential trash charges be based on volume or weight
- » Recyclables are banned from the landfill
- » Transfer stations/Drop-off Facilities must accept leaf and yard debris
- » Haulers must offer residential recycling collection at no separate charge
- » Public buildings must provide recycling containers alongside all trash containers in public spaces (exception for restrooms)
- » Food scrap generators of 52 tons/year (1 ton/week) must divert material to any certified facility within 20 miles

**JULY 1
2016**

- » Leaf, yard, and clean wood debris are banned from the landfill
- » Haulers must offer leaf and yard debris collection
- » Food scrap generators of 26 tons/year (1/2 ton/week) must divert material to any certified facility within 20 miles

**JULY 1
2017**

- » Transfer stations/Drop-off Facilities must accept food scraps
- » Haulers must offer food scrap collection
- » Food scrap generators of 18 tons/year (1/3 ton/week) must divert material to any certified facility within 20 miles

**JULY 1
2020**

- » Food scraps are banned from the landfill

