

Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance

Arlington, Bennington, Dorset, Glazenbury, Manchester, Pownal, Rupert, Sandgate, Searsburg, Shaftsbury, Stamford, Sunderland, and Woodford

The Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance provides programs to reduce the amount of waste disposed in landfills by promoting recycling and reuse as well as resource conservation. The Alliance offers education, outreach and other assistance to businesses, schools, institutions and event organizers in 1) complying with the Universal Recycling Law and other solid waste management requirements, 2) increasing reuse and recycling, and 3) reducing the amount of solid waste disposed in landfills. These programs help residents, businesses, schools and institutions find solutions to recycling, food scrap diversion and the disposal of items such as electronic waste, fluorescent bulbs, paint and others that are banned from landfills.

The Alliance website at www.bcswavt.org and Facebook page (www.facebook.com/solidwastealliance) provide information on:

- battery recycling through the Call2Recycle program
- disposal of used motor oil at retail establishments and transfer stations that accept motor oil
- recycling of paint through the PaintCare program, including lists of retail stores that accept paint
- prescription drug disposal including drop-off locations
- recycling of textiles by the One World Center, Goodwill and others
- events for disposing household hazardous waste
- disposing of fluorescent bulbs, compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) and other mercury items at transfer stations, some retail establishments and at household hazardous waste collection events.
- disposal of E-Waste at area transfer stations, Goodwill and retail establishments
- diverting food scraps by composting and annual sales of compost bins and kitchen compost containers

This past year the Alliance provided technical assistance to over 40 businesses and three schools, as well as several major event organizers, held two household hazardous waste events, supported an E-Waste collection at the Dorset School and sold compost bins to residents. In 2020, we plan to hold two household hazardous waste events for residents and small businesses of all thirteen towns. The spring event will be held at the Bennington Transfer Station and the fall event at the Dorset School. Check the website above for updates and details. The Alliance receives most of its funding from the 13 towns, but this past year received grants from the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources and the Agency of Agriculture and Markets.