

# Rutland County Solid Waste District

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## Food Waste News

The Vermont Legislature is currently reviewing and proposing changes to a portion of ACT 148 that deals with the Food Waste Program. Several draft proposals have been made. The House Natural Resources Committee has voted out of committee with plans of some significant changes. The changes are associated with the hauler requirements, levels of tonnage produced and some changes associated with the leaf and yard waste program as well. The legislature is reviewing this as of this writing. Please follow our website at [rcswd.com](http://rcswd.com). Our face book and twitter accounts are linked to the website. The latest bill is S.285.

## Can't Remember the Last Time You Used a Phone Book? It's Time to Opt Out

Fifteen years ago, phone books were a valuable source of information. Today, however, an increasing number of Americans are turning to online search engines while their phone books sit unused. Unfortunately, the companies that produce yellow pages haven't kept up with this trend – most residents continue to receive phone books on their doorsteps, sometimes multiple times per year!

Unwanted phone books are a nuisance and a waste of resources. Virgin paper production for phone books in the U.S. uses an estimated 4.68 million trees worth of wood fiber annually – that's a forest the size of 14 football fields every single day.

That's why Rutland County Solid Waste District is joining the Product Stewardship Institute in the #GetOffMyDoorstep campaign. We're standing united to **encourage residents to take 3 minutes to opt out of getting a phone book.**

Here's how you can opt out today:

1. Visit [phonebookoptout.us/go](http://phonebookoptout.us/go)
2. Enter your zip code and create an account
3. After completing registration, click "opt out of or order directories"
4. Choose "opt out of all" option, then "save changes" and hit CONFIRM

*The RCSWD  
Still Accepts  
Leaves & Grass  
Clippings  
For FREE  
ONLY*

*We regret that we have  
had to discontinue  
The Free Brush  
Program.*

Yard waste, leaves will be accepted free of charge for District Residents ONLY. All leaves should be loose or packed in paper bags. Leaves in plastic bags must be emptied and the bags disposed of separately.

**Call 775-7209  
For information**



*HHW Rural Collection  
Schedule – see page 3*

*Green Cones – see page 11*

*Composting – see page 12*

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## Rutland Natural Resources Conservation District (RNRCD)

2018 Tree, Shrub, Berry Plant Sale

Order deadline is April 16, 2018

Pick up is April 28, 2018

For more info contact Nanci McGuire at 775-8034 ext. 117

Conifers, Hardwoods, Wildlife/Songbird Shrubs & Trees,  
Apple, Pear, Peach Trees.

Raspberries, Blueberry, Strawberry Plants.

Bluebird Houses, Bat Houses, Plantskydd Deer Repellent.

### **RCSWD SOLID WASTE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (SWIP)**

The VT Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) requires all solid waste entities to have a SWIP that outlines how they are going to meet the state standards and goals over a five year period. Based on the changes associated with ACT 148 ANR requires new SWIP's to be revised to meet the ACT 148 standards. The District's SWIP was approved of in August of 2015. The approved SWIP is currently on our website at [www.rcswd.com](http://www.rcswd.com)

Using the new format set out by ANR the new SWIP provides the following information:

- How RCSWD will educate the public on the reduction and diversion of recyclables, yard trimmings, food scraps, clean wood, hazardous waste, pharmaceuticals, textiles, and construction and demolition debris.
- How RCSWD will work with schools and businesses to improve their waste diversion programs.
- How RCSWD can educate and assist where possible waste reduction at events and public spaces.

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## 2018 HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTIONS

The HHW Depot at the Gleason Road Transfer Station will be open

Regular Hours are Monday through Saturday, 7 – 3 p.m. Businesses please call ahead.

**Pick Your Poison:** The following items are typical of the household chemicals collected through the District's Household Hazardous Waste program. These materials may be delivered to the HHW Depot at the Gleason Road Transfer Station, or dropped off at the scheduled collection events listed below. **FOR INFO CALL 770-1333.**

Kitchen/Bathroom	Garage/Workshop	Garden/Miscellaneous
Aerosol Cans	*Waste Oil	Chemical Fertilizer
Bug Sprays	Antifreeze	Fungicides
Floor Care Products	Gasoline	Herbicides
Metal Polish	Roofing Tar	Insecticides/Pesticides
Furniture Polish	Brake Fluid	Rat Poison
Oven Cleaners	Auto Body Repair Pro.	Artists' Paints, Mediums
Drain Cleaners	Automatic Trans. Fluid	Dry Cleaning Solvents
Bathroom Cleaners	Other Oils/Cleaners	Fiberglass Epoxy
Tile Cleaners	Paint (Lead & Oil Based)	Gun Cleaning Solvents
Disinfectants	Paint Thinner	Moth Balls
Toilet Bowl Cleaners	Paint Stripper	Household Batteries
Nail Polish Remover	Varnish	Photographic Chemicals
	Fluorescent Light Bulbs	Swimming Pool Chemicals

\*Waste Oil will only be taken if there is no oil tank on site

### BRANDON

May 12 – 8:00-11:00AM

June 30 – 8:00-11:00AM

Oct. 13-8:00 – 11:00 AM

### CASTLETON

Apr 21-8:00-11:30 AM

Jun 16-8:00-11:30AM

Jul 14-8:00-11:30AM

Aug 18-8:00-11:30AM

### CLARENDON

June 9 11:00 AM-1:00PM

SEPT 29 11:00AM-1:00PM

### DANBY

MAY 19 – 8:00AM-10:00AM

JUL 28 -8:00AM-10:00AM

SEPT 15 8:00AM-10:00AM

### IRA (at Town Offices)

JUL 21 8:00AM-10:00AM

### KILLINGTON

APR 28-8:00AM-12:00PM

SEPT 22 8:00AM-12:00PM

### MT. TABOR(at Danby T.S.)

MAY 19 8:00AM-10:00AM

JUL 28 8:00AM-10:00AM

### PITTSFORD

MAY 12 12:00PM-3:00PM

JUN 30 12:00PM- 3:00PM

OCT 13 12:00PM-3:00PM

### PROCTOR

MAY 5 12:00-3:00PM

OCT 6 12:00-3:00PM

### POULTNEY

APR 21 -12:30-3:30PM

Jun 16 - 12:30-3:30PM

AUG 18 -12:00-3:00PM

### WALLINGFORD

JUN 9 8:00 AM-10:30AM

SEPT 29 8:00AM-10:30AM

### WELLS

May 19 11:00AM-2:00PM

JUL 28 11:00AM-2:00PM

SEPT 15 11:00AM-2:00PM

### WEST RUTLAND

JUL 21 – 10:30AM-NOON

AUG 25 – 8:00 – 11:00AM

### MT. HOLLY

JUN 23 8:00-NOON

SEPT 8 8:00-NOON

### GLEASON ROAD

OPEN MON-SAT 7 - 3

YEAR ROUND

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SEPT 8-8:00AM-12:00PM  
SEPT8- 8:00AM-12:00PM

## Gleason Road Transfer Station Holiday Schedule

- Memorial Day** – Monday, May 28, 2018 ---- **CLOSED**
- Independence Day** – Wednesday, July 4, 2018 ---- **CLOSED**
- Labor Day** – Monday, September 3, 2018 ---- **CLOSED**
- Columbus Day** – Monday, October 8, 2018 ---- **OPEN**
- Veteran's Day** – Sunday, November 11, 2018 --- **CLOSED**
- Thanksgiving Day** – Thursday, November 22, 2018 --- **CLOSED**
- Day After Thanksgiving** – Friday, November 23, 2018 --- **OPEN**
- Christmas Eve** – Monday, December 24, 2018 --- **CLOSE AT NOON**
- Christmas Day** – Tuesday, December 25, 2018 --- **CLOSED**
- New Year's Day** – Tuesday, January 1, 2019 --- **CLOSED**



According to the Flag Code, the US flag, “when it is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, should be destroyed in a dignified way.”

The RCSWD is collecting flags from residents at our recycling center and scalehouse at the Gleason Road facility. These flags will be given to a local Veteran's Group so that they may be destroyed in a proper and dignified manner.

## Textile Recycling Program

Textile recycling and reuse programs allow our communities to reduce the waste that enters the landfills. Look for the **Blue Metal Container Box** at the Recycling Center at the RCSWD Gleason Road facility. All items must be put in bags. Cleaned clothing and shoes only. We have had some problems in the past with materials that should not have been placed in the recycling containers including clothing that is moldy.

Two other places that you can bring clothing to is the newly opened GoodWill at 230 Tennybrook Sq., in Rutland or the Open Door Mission at 31 Park Street in Rutland.

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## Free Hardcover Book Recycling

The RCSWD is sponsoring a free hardcover book recycling program. Any RCSWD resident, organization or business may bring to the Gleason Road Recycling Depot hardcover books for recycling at no charge. The books can be dropped off Monday through Saturday when the Recycling Center is open. There is a box trailer on site where residents can put their books. For more information contact the RCSWD at 775-7209.

**NO ENCYCLOPEDIAS, LAW BOOKS, MEDICAL JOURNALS PLEASE!**



## What to do with Latex & Oil Based Paint?

In 2013, the Vermont Legislature passed a law for the process of recycling latex paint. Vermont became the 8<sup>th</sup> state to pass such a law. Participating Hardware Stores and Paint stores, (on a voluntary basis), will be able to accept old paints and stains at their locations. The RCSWD will also be collecting them as well. Due to the amount of volume expected limitations on the number of gallons accepted may have to be put in place. The company that will be overseeing this program is PaintCare. The program began in May of 2014.

All cans must have labels on them and not rusted. Here is a list of participating stores

Ace Noble Hardware	261 N. Main Street Route 7 Rutland	773-2758
LaValley's Hardware	48 Windcrest Road Rutland Town	775-0175
Sherwin Williams	76 Woodstock Ave., Rutland	773-9212
Yankee Paint/Benj. Moore	172 Woodstock Ave., Rutland	747-9222
Aubuchon Hardware	10 Center St., Brandon	247-6059
Brandon Lumber & Mill	11 Grove St., Brandon	247-6000
Williams Hardware	51 Main St., Poultney	287-5791
Aubuchon Hardware	VT - 22 A, Fair Haven	265-3677

For further information contact the RCSWD Hazardous Waste Depot at 770-1333 or the main office at 775-7209 or check out the district's website at [www.rcswd.com](http://www.rcswd.com). You can also look at Paint Care's website at [www.paintcare.org](http://www.paintcare.org)

## BATTERIES

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## Vermont Passed the First-in-Nation Battery Recycling Law

Single-use household battery manufacturers that sell or manufacture their products in the state of Vermont are required to plan, implement, and manage a statewide battery collection program in 2016, per House Bill 695 passed by the VT Legislature last year. The District is already taking numerous kinds of batteries—please refer to the list below.

With all the electronic gadgets used today people are sure to buy, use and dispose of numerous batteries. Household batteries may contain heavy metals such as mercury, cadmium and lead. Improper disposal may provide a means for these heavy metals to be released into the air, groundwater, lakes, and streams via landfill runoff and incineration. You may contact Barry Sadowski at 770-1333 at our Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Depot at Gleason Road.

## Alkaline, Manganese, Carbon-zinc, and Zinc-air

- ❑ Used for: flashlights, calculators, toys, clocks, smoke alarms, remote controls, garage door openers, transistor radios.
- ❑ Sizes: AAA, AA, C, D, and some in 6V, 9V.
- ❑ Proper Disposal: Take to our HHW Depot. Please note: Alkaline batteries manufactured before 1996 may contain higher levels of mercury so bring them to our HHW Depot.

## Button

- ❑ Used for: watches, hearing aids, toys, remote controls.
- ❑ Sizes: vary, but resemble “buttons” in shape.
- ❑ Proper Disposal: These batteries contain mercury and silver. Bring to the HHW Depot for safe disposal. If you can please separate in a plastic zip lock bag from all other batteries.

## Lithium

- ❑ Used for: cameras, calculators, computer memory back-up, sneakers, greeting cards.
- ❑ Sizes: 3V, 6V, 3V button; usually has “lithium” label on the battery.
- ❑ Proper Disposal: Bring to the HHW Depot.

## Nickel Cadmium (Ni-Cd or Ni-Cad) Rechargeable and Lithium Ion Rechargeable

- ❑ Used for: flashlights, toys, cell phones, power tools, computer packs.
- ❑ Sizes: AAA, AA, C, D, 6V, 9V
- ❑ Proper Disposal: Both batteries contain metals and are hazardous wastes. Bring to the HHW Depot.

## Nickel Metal Hydride (NI-MH) Rechargeable

- ❑ Used for: cordless power tools, cellular and cordless phones, laptop computers, camcorders. Proper Disposal: Bring to the HHW Depot.

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## Proper Disposal of Syringes and Needles

At-home treatment of diabetes, allergies, and other medical symptoms generates waste syringes, lancets, and other sharp items (called "sharps"). Discarding loose sharps with other household trash can hurt people. Anyone who handles the trash may be stuck accidentally. Used sharps can transmit germs. Diseases, such as Hepatitis B, can result from someone being accidentally stuck.

A safe way to dispose of sharps is to use plastic bottles. The #1 PETE soda bottle is recommended because it is more puncture resistant than most other types of plastic bottles. Laundry detergent bottles work just as well. Label the bottle with the warning "DO NOT RECYCLE!" and carefully put each of your used sharps into the bottle. Keep the bottle out of reach of children. Seal the bottle with heavy tape (like duct tape) over the closed bottle cap when the bottle is full. Dispose of the filled bottle in your household trash.



## Unwanted or Unused Medications

The proper disposal of unused or unwanted medications is a major problem. It is recommended that **you never** flush medications down the drain because this can lead to water contamination and has been found to affect fish, frogs and drinking water supplies. Render unwanted or unused medications by double bagging them in plastic zip lock type bags and/or place or seal them in gibber plastic containers before putting them in the trash. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration have new guidelines and information available at: [www.fda.gov/Drugs/ResourcesForYou](http://www.fda.gov/Drugs/ResourcesForYou)

**Drug Take Back Collection** the Rutland County Sheriff's Department is collecting unwanted medications at their office on Grove Street in Rutland during regular business hours throughout the year. For info call 775-8002.



## Trash Burning

Trash burning is illegal in Vermont. The Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) has a public education effort called, "Don't Burn Vermont," to inform Vermonters about the harmful effects of trash burning, the penalties for violating the law, and low cost and convenient alternatives to burning trash. You can find out more by visiting their website at [www.dontburnvt.org](http://www.dontburnvt.org) or also check the RCSWD's website as well.

### Used Oil

For years the Rutland County Solid Waste District has accepted used motor oil from residents. The District would like to remind residents and businesses that we do not accept oil from transformers but will direct you to the proper collection company. The District requests that if you have any questions about any stored liquids or oils that you have and are unsure of its origin to please contact our Household Hazardous Waste Coordinator, Barry Sadowski at 770-1333. The District also asks that residents only drop off oil during hours the HHW Depot is open which is Monday through Saturday 7:00 – 3:00 p.m.

### Old Home Heating Oil Tanks

The RCSWD often receives used 275 gallon home heating oil tanks from residents or contractors as they are doing renovation work or updating a heating system. The District would like to remind residents that all tanks need to be pumped clear of all oil and that the tanks should be cut in half before placing them in our metal pile.



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## Free E-waste Recycling

The ***Rutland County Solid Waste District*** is a registered collector under Vermont's E-waste Recycling Program. Vermont's electronic waste law banned the disposal of electronic waste started January 1, 2011. **Statewide**, the total electronic waste collected in the second program year **October 1, 2012 to September 30, 2013 was 4,865,266 pounds** of material compared to **4,819,602 pounds** from the previous year. That number is only for the computers, monitors, televisions, printers and computer peripherals and does not include all the other items.

**The following entities are able to drop off SOME of their electronics for free:**

- ❖ Individual Households , Businesses with up to 10 Employees\*, Public School Districts\*
- ❖ Charities and anyone with seven (7) **covered items** (TV, Computer, Printers and computer peripherals.) only.

\*Please note that we ask that schools and businesses call the RCSWD main office at 775-7209 to make arrangements before dropping off any electronics.

Haulers transporting E-waste from other generators, businesses with more than 10 employees and all others must still pay the standard recycling fees.

**The items that the above listed entities can drop off for FREE include:**

- TVs
- Computers
- Computer Monitors
- Computer Peripherals (mouse, keyboard, speakers, scanner, external hard drive, computer speakers, etc.)
- Tabletop Printers (including all-in-one machines that print/fax/scan).
- ALL OTHER ITEMS ARE SUBJECT TO A CHARGE**

**All other E-waste not listed above will still be accepted but there will be a recycling fee that applies. Note: All other E-waste cannot go in the trash and cannot go into the metal pile.**

**There is a MINIMUM CHARGE for items such as (but not limited to):**

**Cordless phone/Charger, Answering Machine, Digital TV Converter Box, Video Game Console, Small CD players/Radios, VCR's, DVD players, Vacuum Cleaners, Toasters, Coffee Machines, Adding Machines, Old Phones, Clock Radios, Projectors, Most Kitchen Appliances, etc**

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The following District Towns are collecting electronics:

- Town of Castleton, Clarendon, Danby, Killington, Mount Holly, Poultney, Rutland City (RCSWD Gleason Road Transfer Station), Wallingford, Wells.
- 

The VT Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) has just released a *report (2014 E-Cycles Report to the Legislature)* with the data regarding how the program is working. That report lists some of the following information:

- ❖ The statewide recycling goal for the first program year was **5.5 pounds per capita**. Vermont far exceeded that goal by collecting approximately **7.7 pounds per capita**-which is the highest per capita rate collected by any state to date for the first and second year of the program.
- ❖ On average **405,439 pounds of e-waste was collected per month** statewide during the second year of the program.
- ❖ Approximately **532,864 pounds** of other banned electronics were collected during the second program year along with the **4,865,266 pounds** of the covered electronics.
- ❖ **Rutland County was the fourth highest** in the amount of material collected for the second program year. **RCSWD collected over 418,543 pounds** of material. Chittenden County was the highest with 1,382,020 with Windsor County coming in second with 609,115 pounds.

**May 5, 2018 – Green Up Day.** Come help clean up your neighborhood in helping to keep Vermont litter-free. For information on how to get involved in your town you can call 800-974-3259 or 802-229-4586 or also check to see who your local coordinator is by looking at the Green Up Day website at [www.greenupvermont.org](http://www.greenupvermont.org).



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## Reduce Waste and Its Impact on Global Warming with Green Cones

Food scraps create methane as they decompose in the landfill and methane is a greenhouse gas with 23 times the heat-trapping capacity of carbon dioxide. For every ton of food scraps kept out of the trash, the equivalent of 6 tons of carbon dioxide is removed from the atmosphere thanks to reduced methane emissions. 1,000 homes taking this one simple action would equal taking about 400 cars off the road each year.

Managing food scraps where they're produced further reduces carbon emissions by eliminating the need to haul them to a composting facility or transfer station.

The Green Cone food scrap digester allows residents to manage all food scraps including meat, fish, dairy, and bones on site--- materials that are not commonly composted at home because of potential problems with pests and pathogens.

## How Green Cones Work

Green Cones are in-ground digesters that are sited in yards, gardens, even right next to the house. The bottom part of the cone is buried in the ground, enabling the micro-organisms and insects in the soil to break down the waste underground. The sun heats up the top part of the cone, helping to speed up the decomposition process. The food scraps are broken down into water, carbon dioxide, and a very small residue that remains in the bottom of the cone. Unlike compost bins, the cones do not produce compost. Rather, the nutrients are released into the soil during decomposition, nourishing plants near the cone.

Once our Green Cone is in place, simply open the lid, add food scraps, and close the lid. That's, it! Any sunny location and good or modified drainage are also critical to the process. Decomposition quickens during warm weather and slows during cool weather.

The cones come with a detailed installation manual, instructions for use, a kitchen caddy for collecting food scraps, and accelerator powder to start the digesting process.



The Green Cones are available at the  
Rutland County Solid Waste District Main Office  
1 Smith Road, Rutland, VT  
Cost: \$120  
For more info call 775 - 7209

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## Backyard Composting

Compost is decomposed organic matter, made from leaves, grass clippings, wood chips and fruit and vegetable scraps. Added to your soil or sprinkled on your yard and garden, it helps grass and plants to thrive. Unlike some fertilizers, compost will not run off your yard and pollute local creeks and waterways. Since about 40% of the waste we each create is food and yard waste, composting can also help reduce the amount of materials you send to the landfill and help cut your trash bill down to size.

Composting is easy. Simply put different yard trimmings such as leaves and grass clippings in bin or pile. You should have a mix of green material and brown material. Add water so the pile is slightly damp. Let the pile sit for 12 or 16 months. You can add fruit and vegetable scraps and other materials as generated. Cover new kitchen scraps with leaves or bury them in the pile. If the pile dries out, add more water to keep it damp.

After 12 to 16 months, most of the material at the bottom of the pile will be dark, rich sweet-smelling compost. Sift or sort out large undecomposed materials and sprinkle the rest on your yard or garden. For faster results, turn the pile at least once a month. The pile should reach a temperature of 130° to 160° degrees and will be ready in 6 to 9 months. The more frequently you turn the pile the faster your compost will be ready. For more information contact the RCSWD at 775-7209.

## COMPOSTERS AND KITCHEN SCRAP CARRIERS FOR SALE



### Kitchen Scrap Carrier

Size: 8.5" x 9" x 11"H

Capacity: 9.6 quarts

Usage: Temporary storage of kitchen waste.  
Easily hangs on cupboard door or sits firmly on the counter.

Only \$10.00

13 Cubic Ft.  
Large enough for use  
By a family of 5

Only \$40.00  
District residents  
\$47.50  
Non-District residents

Own your own Home  
Composter. Just throw scraps  
in the top, water and wait.  
Within a few months you can  
gather humus rich plant food.  
Call 775-7209 for information.

