

## Theron Lay-Sleeper – Community Zero Waste Assistant



Theron Lay-Sleeper is serving at the Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District this year. As we approach the full implementation of ACT 148 (Vermont’s Universal Recycling Law), Theron has been conducting outreach with businesses in the district about their waste management practices and how the new law is going to affect their current methods of recycling and composting. He teamed up with his colleagues and some folks from ANR to help educate businesses on how to remain compliant under the full effect of the new law. Theron has organized and staffed events in the district including the state’s first ever mattress recycling event, the Montpelier repair cafe, and an E-Waste Collection event. The repair cafe was held at the end of March, and about 50% of the items that were brought in were able to get fixed! On Earth Day Theron and the district held an E-Waste Collection event with the help of volunteers and were able recapture and divert loads of electronic waste. In May, Theron and the district held the first ever (in Vermont) mattress recycling event in Barre! With the help of a handful of awesome volunteers, they were able to divert 124 mattresses from the landfill! In the coming weeks, Theron is assisting Twinfield High School by building a waste sorting station for the cafeteria so students can sort food scraps, recyclables, and trash. He is also helping build a new community compost site at a housing development in Barre to help residents turn their food scraps into compost. Keep up the great service for central Vermont, Theron!