Insert Logo or Image (optional)

SWME Name

2025 Solid Waste Implementation Plan

Date Adopted:

Name and title

Signature

This Solid Waste Implementation Plan (SWIP) conforms with Vermont’s 2024 Materials Management Plan (MMP).

# SWME Solid Waste Implementation Plan

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| **Name of SWME** | Click here to enter text. |
| **Year Chartered (if applicable)** | Click here to enter text. |
| **Mission for Sustainable Materials Management** | Click here to enter text. |
| **Names of Member Town(s)** | Click here to enter text. |

# Data and Reporting

| **S1.1** | **Disposal and Diversion Reporting.**   1. **DISPOSAL RATE:** To track progress with state waste reduction goals, SWME Name must report their disposal rate in SWIP years one and five. SWMEs may use the method in the *ANR Data Guidance* to calculate their disposal rate or another method approved by ANR. Disposal rate reports must be based on calendar year data and be submitted to ANR via ReTRAC by April 1st.   **DOCUMENTATION in Annual SWIP Report:**   1. First (1st) Year SWIP Report: report year 1 annual per person per year disposal rate. 2. Fifth (5th) Year SWIP Report: report year 5 annual per person per year disposal rate. 3. **DIVERSION RATE:** SWMEs are not required to report diversion rates to ANR; however, it is strongly recommended that SWMEs track their diversion efforts to determine the success of their programs and services. |
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| **Describe method to be used for calculating Disposal Rate:** | Click here to enter text. |
| **Sign and date to commit to requirement:** | Click here to enter text. |

# Outreach

| **S2.1** | **Accessible Communications.** To ensure that all Vermonters have equal access to information and to minimize barriers to information access, SWME Name must critically evaluate their communications in light of best practices for accessibility.   * + - 1. During SWIP Year 1, SWME Name must attend accessible communications training provided by ANR (or another training approved by ANR) on topics such as web design, plain language, accessible graphic design, public outreach and/or engagement, etc.       2. SWME Name must review accessible communication best practices during SWIP Years 2-5.   **DOCUMENTATION in Annual SWIP Report:**  Year 1: List training taken by SWME Name staff.  Years 2-5: Confirm review of accessible communications best practices. |
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| **Sign and date to commit to requirement:** | Click here to enter text. |
| **S2.2** | SWME Name **Material Management Website.** To ensure community members have access to local waste, recycling, and materials management information including state laws; disposal bans; how to reduce, reuse, recycle, donate, compost, and safely dispose of unwanted materials; and local hauler services; SWME Name must develop and annually maintain a website with:   1. **SWIP**: post approved SWIP on website within one month of ANR approval. 2. **A-Z Waste and Recycling Guide**: maintain an accurate A-Z guide with regional management options for various materials.    1. A-Z link must be easily found on website within 2 clicks or fewer from homepage.    2. The A-Z Guide must contain, at a minimum, information on how to manage, recycle, or divert all regional recycling and safe disposal options for all of the categories and key words in the ANR A-Z Waste and Recycling Guide Minimum Requirements document.    3. Each entry must contain contact information, such as address and telephone number for collection location(s) OR a direct link to webpage with contact information.    4. Entries for disposal-banned materials must indicate that the material is banned from disposal in the trash by state law.    5. Entries for items that are accepted as a part of an EPR program must link to information on the EPR program.    6. Entries for items that can be recycled only through special collection must clearly explain that the collection of these materials is separate from curbside, or blue bin, recycling. 3. **Hauler Services List:** establish and maintain an up-to-date hauler Services List with contact information for trash, recycling, and food scrap pick up services offered by all known commercial solid waste haulers operating within the SWME region. 4. **Waste Reduction for Events Resources:** maintain a web page that encourages waste reduction at events such as bin signs, options for bin rental or loan, haulers for recycling and food scrap collection at events, and tips for successful diversion at events (can link to ANR web page for the tips).   **DOCUMENTATION in Annual SWIP Report:**   1. Year 1, provide links to:    1. SWIP;    2. Updated A-Z Waste and Recycling guide;    3. Hauler Services List;    4. Waste Reduction for Event Resources. 2. Years 2-5: Describe any significant website updates or changes. |
| **Sign and date to commit to requirement:** | Click here to enter text. |

| **S2.3** | **Digital Outreach.** To build awareness of waste management topics and services provided by SWMEs and those available within their region, SWME Name must conduct annual outreach on at least two digital platforms such as Front Porch Forum, social media, electronic newsletters, etc. SWMEs may use existing ANR content or create their own. This requirement is separate from maintaining a materials management website.   * + 1. Annual digital outreach must include at least two forms of outreach per year on each of the following topics:   1. The A-Z Guide and disposal bans.   2. Waste reduction and diversion.   3. Household hazardous waste reduction and proper disposal.   4. Extended Producer Responsibility programs (i.e. batteries, E-cycles, mercury-containing products, paint, HHW EPR).   **DOCUMENTATION in Annual SWIP Report:**   1. Describe the two digital outreach methods used per SWIP year, including platforms used for each topic covered. |
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| **List platforms to be used for Digital Outreach:** | Click here to enter text. |
| **Sign and date to commit to requirement:** | Click here to enter text. |

| **S2.4** | **Print Outreach.** To reach community members who do not use digital modes of communication, SWME Name must conduct at least one annual outreach in printed documents, such as press releases, newsletters, post cards, letters to editor/articles/ads in local newspapers. SWME Name must:   1. Year 1: Issue one press release about their SWIP to local newspapers or other media outlets within two months of SWIP approval. 2. Years 2-5: Issue one printed outreach per year related to the main MMP goals and/or ANR or SWME Name initiatives related to materials management. Press releases could also be completed in partnership with ANR. Mailings can count but are not required. HHW event mailings or advertisements and press releases announcing grant receipt do not count toward this requirement.   **DOCUMENTATION in Annual SWIP Report:**   * + - 1. Year 1: provide a copy of the SWIP press release along with the date released and list of newspapers where it was sent.       2. Years 2-5: provide copy of press release along with topic, date released, and list of newspapers where it was sent OR copy of print outreach along with topic, date of release, and number of recipients. |
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| **Sign and date to commit to requirement:** | Click here to enter text. |

| **S2.5** | **Municipality and Facility Connections.** To further develop relationships with their local municipalities and to better understand local challenges and opportunities related to the movement of waste, SWME Name must conduct outreach to solid waste facilities, town offices, and public libraries. SWME Name must:   1. Within the SWIP term, SWME Name must conduct an in-person visit to each solid waste facility included in the SWIP. 2. Each year, for each municipality within the SWME region, SWME Name must reach out to the town office and public library (as applicable). Outreach may be conducted in-person, via phone, or via email and must include:    1. Introduction of SWME Name and their role in the community.    2. Updates on any materials management-related laws, events, or initiatives.    3. For town offices: Discussion of collection plan for disaster debris and disaster-related Hazardous materials (see also C7 – Collection of Disaster Debris and Disaster-related HHW).   **DOCUMENTATION in Annual SWIP Report:**  1. Provide a list of solid waste facilities, town offices, and libraries contacted. |
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| **Sign and date to commit to requirement.** | Click here to enter text. |
| **List the town offices, libraries, and solid waste facilities in** SWME Name **region.** | Click here to enter text. |

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| **S2.6** | **School Outreach.** To ensure all K-12 public and private schools are aware of the Universal Recycling law, state disposal bans; and how to reduce waste, reuse, repurpose, recycle, compost, donate, and safely manage materials responsibly; and that waste reduction and diversion programs are being implemented effectively, SWME Name must:   1. Conduct in-person outreach and assistance to K-12 public and private school administrators and/or facilities and food service staff at a minimum of 10% or 2 schools (whichever is greater) within their jurisdiction each year. SWMEs should prioritize outreach to schools that have not yet been visited, but SWMEs may need to visit schools annually to meet the requirement. 2. The outreach to each school must focus on school-wide waste reduction and diversion programs covering, at minimum:    1. Disposal ban information.    2. How to recycle correctly.    3. How to separate food scraps for composting or anaerobic digestion.    4. How to reduce wasted food and donate (such as through the use of share table) what is appropriate.    5. How to responsibly manage hazardous waste.    6. Collection options available from Vermont’s Extended Producer Responsibility Programs for HHW, electronics, paint, batteries, mercury-containing bulbs and thermostats. 3. If SWME Name is not able to reach school administrators or relevant staff in-person, phone calls, video calls, or emails may be conducted instead, with prior ANR approval. 4. To keep track of their school outreach, SWMEs may use the ANR tracking spreadsheet template or another system of their own that meets ANR approval. 5. Outreach to teachers and students is encouraged but is not required, although SWMEs may find it useful to talk to science, art, and shop teachers about proper management and disposal of hazardous materials. 6. One of the primary roles of a SWME is waste reduction, diversion, and hazardous waste reduction outreach and assistance. If a school is not in compliance with the Universal Recycling law or other waste-related laws, and assistance is not effective, or if a SWME is not able to obtain a response from a school at all, SWMEs are encouraged to request follow-up assistance from ANR.   **DOCUMENTATION in Annual SWIP Report:**   1. Provide a spreadsheet or other document including:    1. List of schools and person contacted;    2. b. Dates visited/contacted;    3. c. Status of recycling and food scrap diversion programs. 2. Describe outreach efforts, including notable successes or challenges. |
| **Provide the number and list schools in** SWME Name **region. Describe school outreach plan including the number of schools to receive outreach each year.** | Click here to enter text. |
| **Sign and date to commit to requirement.** | Click here to enter text. |

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| **S2.7** | **Business Outreach.** To ensure businesses and institutions (hospitals, nursing homes, colleges, correctional facilities, and other large waste generators) understand the requirements of the Universal Recycling law, state disposal bans, how to reduce waste, reuse, recycle, compost, donate, and safely manage materials responsibly; and that waste reduction and diversion programs are being implemented effectively, SWME Name must:   1. SWME Name must conduct business outreach and education either in person or via phone to at least 2% or 15 businesses/institutions (whichever is greater) within their jurisdiction each year.    * 1. The number of businesses in a SWME region may be estimated by the Department of Labor list (instructions provided by ANR in Year 1 of the MMP term), or a SWME may use a different method that meets ANR approval.      2. SWMEs should prioritize outreach to businesses that have not yet been contacted or visited or those whose status is not yet known. 2. The business outreach and education to each entity must cover, at minimum:    * 1. Disposal ban information.      2. How to recycle correctly.      3. How to separate food scraps for animal feed and/or composting or anaerobic digestion.      4. How to reduce wasted food and donate what is appropriate.      5. Single-Use Products law.      6. Resources for safely managing hazardous waste.      7. Collection options available from Vermont’s Extended Producer Responsibility Programs for HHW, electronics, paint, batteries, mercury containing bulbs and thermostats. 3. To keep track of their business outreach, SWMEs may use the ANR tracking spreadsheet template or another system of their own that meets ANR approval. 4. One of the primary roles of a SWME is outreach and assistance. If a business is not in compliance with the Universal Recycling law or other waste-related laws, and assistance is not effective, SWMEs are encouraged to request follow-up from ANR.   **DOCUMENTATION in Annual SWIP Report:**   1. Provide a spreadsheet or other document including:    1. List of businesses and person contacted;    2. Dates visited/contacted;    3. Status of recycling and food scrap diversion programs;    4. Interaction type (in person or phone). 2. Describe outreach efforts, including notable successes or challenges. |
| **List the number of businesses in** SWME Name **region. Describe business outreach plan, including the number to receive outreach each year.** | Click here to enter text. |
| **Sign and date to commit to requirement.** | Click here to enter text. |

# Collection Infrastructure

| **S3.1** | **Variable Rate Pricing.** To encourage waste reduction, SWME Name must:   1. Implement a variable rate pricing system that charges for the collection of municipal solid waste from a residential customer for disposal based on the volume or weight of the waste collected. SWMEs may elect to establish licensing or registration programs to accomplish this requirement and can refer to the [Variable Rate Pricing Guide](https://dec.vermont.gov/sites/dec/files/wmp/SolidWaste/Documents/Universal-Recycling/VariableRatePricingGuideOrdinance_2015.pdf) for more information.   **Documentation in Annual SWIP Report:**   1. Year 1: explain the method used to ensure haulers and facilities are charging residents for trash based on volume or weight. 2. Years 2-5: provide any updates and/or instances of hauler or facility non-compliance. |
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| **Sign and date to commit to requirement:** | Click here to enter text. |

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| **S3.2** | **HHW Collection Events and Facilities.** To ensure community members have convenient access to safely dispose of Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) and Very Small Quantity Generator (VSQG) hazardous waste (previously defined as Conditionally Exempt Generator hazardous waste (CEG)), SWME Name must provide access to one of the following:   1. A permanent HHW/VSQG collection facility defined within this MMP as a facility that is open at least one day per week, at minimum from May through October (ANR may consider approving requests for alternative operating days and seasonal openings and closures of permanent facilities when necessary).    1. Due to increased user convenience, lower costs per participant, and slightly higher participation rates for regional HHW facilities, SWMEs that provide access to a permanent HHW collection facility in their region are exempt from the requirement to offer all towns at least one annual collection event within 20 road-miles.   **OR**   1. A minimum of two (2) HHW/VSQG hazardous waste collection events per year. SWMEs utilizing collection events must at minimum offer at least one HHW and VSQG collection event scheduled in the spring and one in the fall and events must operate for a minimum of four (4) hours.    1. SWMEs that only offer collection events or operate HHW facilities with operating hours similar to collection events must annually provide each of its towns with access to at least one collection event (or to a facility) within 20 road-miles; meaning a maximum distance of 20 road-miles from any point in the town.    2. If a SWME provides additional events above the minimum requirement, waivers to the minimum duration for each event may be considered by ANR.    3. To meet this 20 road-mile convenience requirement, certain regions may need to hold more than two collection events each year.   **Sharing Facilities or Events:** SWMEs are encouraged to share access to events and facilities, provided a signed agreement confirming access by the SWME’s community members is obtained; and provided that a facility or event is within 20 road-miles from any point in a town that would be using that facility or event.  **Documentation in Annual SWIP Report:**   1. Provide the HHW facility address and seasonal operating schedule, including days operating and hours of operation, **OR** the dates of the HHW events. 2. Provide the number of participants, the household participation rate, and the amount of HHW/VSQG hazardous waste collected in HHW ReTRAC report. |
| **Describe how HHW Collection services will be offered to residents and VSQGs.** | Click here to enter text. |
| **Sign and date to commit to requirement:** | Click here to enter text. |

| **S3.3** | **Collection of Landfill/Disposal-Banned and Dangerous Materials.** To ensure that all Vermonters have year-round collection options for landfill-banned and dangerous materials, SWME Name must:   1. Demonstrate that year-round collection options exist in their region (within SWME boundary OR within 20 miles of an Independent Town) for the following landfill/disposal banned materials: **batteries, mercury containing lamps, mercury thermostats, gas cylinders as defined in Vermont’s HHW EPR law 10 V.S.A. §7181, electronics, paint, tires, used oil, and appliances (including discarded refrigerators, washing machines, clothes dryers, ranges, water heaters, dishwashers, freezers, air conditioners, and dehumidifiers)**. 2. Collection locations can be privately or publicly owned, such as auto parts stores collecting used oil, or hardware stores collecting paint and fluorescent lamps. However, if the only collection location for a required material closes or reaches maximum capacity for collection during the SWIP term, the SWME must provide a collection option for its region. 3. All collection locations must be open at least one weekday and one weekend day per week.   **Documentation in Annual SWIP Report:**   1. Confirm that this requirement is met. 2. Describe any changes in collection options from the previous year. |
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| **List current collection locations within SWME boundary or 20 miles of independent town) and open hours for each material:** | Click here to enter text. |
| **Sign and date to commit to requirement:** | Click here to enter text. |

| **S3.4** | **Disaster Debris Plan.** To ensure all Vermont towns are prepared to manage disaster-related debris, like HHW, hazardous waste, trash/MSW, construction and demolition (C&D) debris, and woody debris, during and after a disaster such as a flood, fire, storm, or other emergency, SWME Name must, by the end of Year 1 of the SWIP term:   1. **Submit a Disaster Debris Plan:** work with each municipality to create a Disaster Debris Plan (“Plan”) for the management of disaster-related trash, C&D debris, and hazardous debris. The Plan must use the ANR Template, must cover all municipalities in the SWME Name region, and must include, at minimum:    1. **Municipal Disaster Debris Contacts:** Contact each municipality and obtain contact information for the emergency personnel who would be the point-of-contact for coordinating temporary disaster-related hazardous materials storage in that municipality. Referring to your local emergency management director is recommended.    2. **Disaster Hazardous Materials Staging Areas:** identify appropriate "Disaster Hazardous Material Staging Areas” (DHMSA) within the SWME region for the temporary storage of disaster-related hazardous materials and dangerous wastes. DHMSAs must be located:       1. On publicly owned land.       2. Within either each municipality (which is recommended) or at minimum, one for the whole SWME region.    3. **Trash and C&D Disaster Debris Management:** This may include the identity of certified public and/or private solid waste transfer facilities that could be used for disaster trash and C&D debris management.    4. **Clean Wood/Vegetative/Inert Debris Management Sites:** list the locations of clean wood/vegetative/inert debris sites as required below in S-3.5.       1. S-3.5 is not due until Year four of the SWIP term. Re-submit the Plan after year four, if necessary.  * NOTE: Attending training by ANR and/or Vermont Emergency Management (VEM) is recommended. See ANR Action A-5.2 above for more details. * NOTE: For communities wishing to pursue FEMA reimbursement: trash/MSW/C&D disaster debris management destination locations (like transfer stations, landfills, categorical disposal/recycling facilities like stump dumps and wood waste management sites must be certified, be out of a flood zone, have controlled access, and follow other debris tracking methods to ensure FEMA reimbursement requirements can be met. * NOTE: During the historic flooding of July 2023 the State of Vermont Department of Public Safety, Vermont Emergency Management Division, the Department of Buildings and General Services, and the Department of Environmental Conservation, Solid Waste Management Program engaged a statewide debris contractor to assist towns with collection and disposal of disaster related debris when the capacity of local and regional resources were exceeded. Communities with a sound disaster debris plan may respond more quickly from a disaster, getting debris removed and properly managed or disposed of so that impacted residents and businesses have life return to normal in less time.   **Documentation in Annual SWIP Report:**   1. Year 1 only: provide Disaster Debris Plan with:    1. List of emergency personnel in each municipality within SWME region    2. Locations of temporary “Disaster Hazardous Materials Staging Areas.”    3. Trash and C&D Disaster Management.    4. Locations of clean wood/vegetative/inert debris management sites. 2. Year 4 only: Re-submit Plan if there are updates to the clean wood/vegetative/inert debris management sites per S-3.5. |
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| **Sign and date to commit to requirement:** | Click here to enter text. |

| **S3.5** | **Clean Wood and Inert Debris Management.** To ensure Vermonters have access to management sites for clean wood (“wood waste”) and other inert debris during normal times and after a disaster, such as a flood, fire, storm, or other emergency, SWME Name must:   1. By the end of Year 4, identify at least one location within the SWME Name region to site and permit a categorical disposal or storage/transfer area (“stump dump”) that can be used to manage both normal clean wood and disaster-related clean wood/vegetative debris and other inert debris including: clean silt, soils, and gravel, brick and concrete, branches, trees, stumps, and wood that is untreated and free from paint, staining, is not odorous or otherwise suspected of contamination.    1. SWMEs may share access to categorical disposal areas. The municipalities sharing access must provide a signed letter or agreement that documents this shared access.    2. Clean Wood and Inert Debris Management Sites should be adequate in size and operate frequently enough to meet the needs of the municipality(ies) they serve.    3. Having a permitted categorical disposal area for disaster debris management in every municipality within a SWME is recommended, but not required.   **Documentation in Annual SWIP Report:**   1. Year 4: list location of the permitted categorical disposal facility or other facility in the SWME Name region where clean wood and inert debris can be managed. |
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| **Sign and date to commit to requirement:** | Click here to enter text. |

| **S3.6** | **Collection of Textiles.** To ensure community members have access to textile reuse and recycling centers where used clothing and textiles can be donated, SWME Name must:   1. Annually ensure that at least one collection location exists within their region (within SWME boundary OR within 20 miles of an Independent Town). Textile reuse/recycling locations can be either privately or publicly owned. 2. If the only collection location closes or ceases collection during the SWIP term, then the SWME Name is responsible for providing a collection option for its residents. Collection of rag-quality (unwearable) items is encouraged but not required. 3. Collection locations can also be shared amongst SWMEs so long as the facility is within the same county or SWME region. SWMEs must list where to donate and reuse/recycle “clothing/textiles” in their A-Z Guides.   **Documentation in Annual SWIP Report:**   1. Confirm that textile collection is available. 2. Describe any changes in collection options from the previous year. |
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| **List textile collection location(s):** | Click here to enter text. |
| **Sign and date to commit to requirement:** | Click here to enter text. |

# Residuals Management Meeting

| **S4.2** | **Residuals Recycling Meetings.** To reduce pollutants in wastewater and septic systems that can hinder the reuse and recycling of biosolids and to increase awareness of topics of concern, like PFAS and other emerging contaminants, SWME Name must:   1. Attend the annual, virtual ANR meeting on residuals management each year during the SWIP term. ANR Residuals Program staff will organize the meetings and may choose to not hold a meeting in a given year.   **Documentation in Annual SWIP Report:**   1. Confirm meeting attendance, as applicable. |
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| **Sign and date to commit to requirement:** | Click here to enter text. |

**Additional SWIP Requirements**

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| **Solid Waste facility Siting Criteria** | Describe siting criteria that will apply to solid waste facilities which may be proposed by any public or private entity in the SWME Name region. Siting criteria shall not be less stringent than the criteria in Vermont Solid Waste Management Rules. |
| **Description:** | Click here to enter text. |

| **Specify Facilities Included in SWIP & Describe How Proposed Facilities will be Reviewed for Inclusion** | Explain the process and standards to be used to determine if newly proposed solid waste facilities would be included in the SWIP. The process may reference siting criteria and existing zoning ordinances, may require a host town agreement, or may defer to requirements in the Vermont Solid Waste Management Rules for some or all types of solid waste facilities. The standard(s) for being included in the SWIP should be clear. Under State law (10 V.S.A. §6605(c)), the Agency shall not issue a certification or recertification for a solid waste facility (except for a sludge or septage land application project) unless it is included in the municipal solid waste implementation plan. *Note: The plan should also include any known solid waste landfills which have been closed since 1989 so that they can receive post-closure certifications.* |
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| **List current facilities and process for inclusion of new facilities:** | Click here to enter text. |

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| **Public Participation in the SWIP Approval Process** | Describe the process to be used to ensure public participation in the development and implementation of the SWIP. The local community should be notified of opportunities to participate in the SWIP development and implementation. In accordance with state statute, SWME Name must hold at least two public meetings on the draft SWIP. |
| **Describe process:** | Click here to enter text. |
| **Sign and date to commit to requirement:** | Click here to enter text. |

| **Ordinances** | Include copies of any solid waste related ordinances with the SWIP. |
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| **List attached ordinances:** | Click here to enter text. |

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| **Conformance with Other Plans** | Demonstrate that the SWIP is in conformance with any regional plan adopted in accordance with 24 V.S.A Chapter 117. Demonstration may be in the form of a letter from the applicable regional planning commission regarding conformance of the solid waste implementation plan with the regional plan(s), copies of pertinent sections of the regional plan(s), or other documentation that proves conformance. |
| **List attached letter or documentation:** | Click here to enter text. |