

Recycling Resimplified.

Recycling FAQs

Q: What are the benefits of recycling?

A: There are several benefits:

- Keeping material out of the landfill. We have only one large landfill operating in Vermont now, and the more we send to it, the sooner it will fill up.
- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions. An aluminum can from recycled material requires 90% less energy than one made from new materials.
- Whether it is staffing Vermont's Material Recovery Facilities or the development of creative new uses for old materials, recycling is a job creator.

Q: Why is a recycling law needed?

A: More than 50% of what the average Vermonter throws away at home trash can be easily recycled or composted instead---and it's been that way for more than two decades. These materials are valuable and throwing them out is a waste of money, energy, and shared resources.

Q: When do I need to begin to recycle?

A: On July 1, 2015, all residents and businesses are to begin participation. If you already recycle--keep it up! You won't see any major changes. If you don't recycle, simply add a second container in your home or work place next to any trash containers so you have an easy alternative. Recyclables are banned from landfill disposal starting on July 1, 2015.

Q: What items need to be recycled?

A: Everywhere in Vermont you can recycle these six items: Paper, Aluminum, Cardboard, Steel, Glass, and Hard Plastics.

For additional recyclable items in your area, check with your local solid waste district or town.

Q: Is anyone going to enforce the landfill bans at my home?

A: The Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) has enforcement authority. However, the initial strategy is to push education and outreach to residents and businesses so that everyone knows what, where, and how to recycle. ANR is currently focused on ensuring haulers and facilities are offering recycling services statewide so that recycling is easy for everyone.

Q: What if I don't have collection or drop-off options for recycling in my area?

A: All solid waste haulers and facilities are required to collect and accept the six listed recyclables. If these services are not offered by your trash hauler or transfer station, call the Agency of Natural Resources at 802-828-1138.

Q: Where can I find information on facilities or haulers who can collect my recycling or trash? And other products such as paint, electronics, or hazardous waste?

A: Visit our website, and contact your local solid waste district, alliance, or town clerk for information on recycling and disposal options near you: VTrecycles.com

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Department of Environmental Conservation

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Vermont's Recycling & Composting Initiative