



**State of Vermont
Department of Environmental Conservation
Waste Management & Prevention Division
1 National Life Drive – Davis 1
Montpelier, VT 05620-3704**

AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

May 1, 2014

RE: Vermont's Universal Recycling law and July 1, 2014 and 2015 requirements for certified solid waste facilities.

Dear Facility Manager:

As the owner or operator of a certified transfer station, landfill, or recycling center offering trash disposal services in Vermont, your facility will be required to make some changes to your operations to be in compliance with Vermont's Universal Recycling law (Act 148). Starting this summer (**July 1, 2014**), facilities that offer trash collection must also offer collection of listed recyclables to residents and businesses that self-haul—at no additional charge.

The goal of Universal Recycling is to keep valuable materials out of Vermont's landfill by diverting materials towards beneficial uses, such as recycling markets, composting facilities and farms. This goal is achieved by instituting phased-in bans on certain materials (recyclables, food scraps, and leaf and yard debris) and by requiring parallel collection (collection of these materials at the same location where trash is collected) by solid waste facilities and haulers.

Municipalities, solid waste facilities, haulers, food scrap generators, residents and businesses are all affected by the law. This letter provides your facility with notice of the most immediate compliance requirements of the Universal Recycling law and also serves to give you notice of future compliance dates you will need to meet. Under the requirements of this new law your facility will be responsible for the following:

Recyclables

Facilities (transfer stations, drop-offs, landfills) that offer collection of trash must also offer collection of listed recyclables to all customers by **July 1, 2014**. Facilities are not required to accept listed recyclables from commercial haulers.

The following recyclables (referred to as "listed recyclables") are banned from the landfill by **July 1, 2015**:

- **Metal:** aluminum and steel cans, aluminum foil and pie plates,
- **Glass:** bottles and jars from foods and beverages,
- **Plastics:** #1 and #2 (PET and HDPE resin types) containers,
- **Paper:** corrugated cardboard, white and colored paper, newspaper, magazines, paper mail and envelopes, boxboard, and paper bags.

What does this mean for my facility?

Facilities may not charge a separate fee for the collection of listed recyclables, to either residents or businesses that self-haul, but may incorporate the cost of the collection of listed recyclables into the cost for the collection of solid waste and may adjust the charge for the collection of solid waste. No separate fee may be charged to residents or business customers that self-haul listed recyclables **only** to the facility.

Facilities that wish to collect listed recyclables from commercial haulers may charge a fee for collection.

Variable Rate Pricing (also known as “unit based pricing” or “pay as you throw”)

Beginning **July 1, 2015** all municipalities (including independent towns, solid waste districts, groups, and alliances) must implement unit based pricing systems for solid waste that are based on either volume or weight (such as price per bag or per container of trash, or a price per pound). Satisfaction of this requirement includes the expectation that all haulers and solid waste facilities operating within these jurisdictions are using a unit-based pricing system that adheres to local ordinance. **For information on local recycling ordinances** please contact your solid waste planning entity found at the link below, or contact your town manager. www.anr.state.vt.us/dec/wastediv/solid/swmdlist.htm

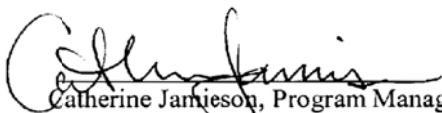
State Standardized Symbols Available

Lastly, ANR encourages you to use the **state standardized recycling symbols** for all containers and signage. Symbols are available for free download from the ANR Solid Waste Program webpage here: www.anr.state.vt.us/dec/wastediv/solid/urs/index.htm.

If you have questions concerning Universal Recycling, your obligations, or those of other facilities operating in your region, please contact Josh Kelly at (802)522-5897 or by email at josh.kelly@state.vt.us.

Thank you for your assistance with implementing the Universal Recycling law.

Sincerely,



Catherine Jamieson, Program Manager
Solid Waste Management Program
Department of Environmental Conservation