VERMONT
AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

State of Vermont, Department of Environmental Conservation
Waste Management & Prevention Division
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Guidance on Explaining Recycling Costs for Solid Waste Haulers

Current Recycling Requirements: The Universal Recycling law (Act 148 of 2012) requires both curbside and bag-drop haulers (aka "fast trash" or "mobile solid waste collection operations") to bundle recycling and trash collection fees for residential customers and does not permit haulers to list these recycling charges as a separate line item on a residential customer's bill. Solid waste haulers may charge separate recycling fees for collection from commercial customers.

Showing Recycling Costs: Solid waste haulers are not prohibited from disclosing and explaining the collection costs for mandated recyclables to their customers. Further, haulers may provide signage or handouts explaining recycling costs to customers and haulers may explain these costs on a bill so long as they are not listed as a "separate line item fee." Here are few examples:

EXAMPLE 1. Recycling Costs Signage or Handout

RECYCLING IS NOT FREE
$1* of your trash bag fee
pays for recycling costs.

EXAMPLE 2. Hauler Invoice with Recycling Costs Explained

COMPANY NAME
Address
Phone (802) 123-1234

DATE: 1/1/2111
INVOICE #: 1
Customer ID: 123

BILL TO
Customer Name
Address

Date	Description	Quantity	Amount
1/1/2111	Weekly Curbside Solid Waste Service (64 gallons)	1	$30.00*
		TOTAL DUE:	$30.00*

COMMENTS
Recycling costs make up $10* of this bill. As required by state law, your trash collection costs are combined with recycling costs on your bill. We make every effort to reduce your cost and help you recycle. Thank you for your business.

Note: any dollar figures shown are samples only, recycling costs vary.