

Household Hazardous Waste Stakeholders Group Minutes – June 22, 2017

Group Members Present:

Cathleen Gent	Central VT Solid Waste Mgmt. District
Carl Witke	Central VT Solid Waste Mgmt. District
Christy Pion	Town of Lowell
Heather Shouldice	William Shouldice and Associates
John Leddy	Northwest Solid Waste District
Jeff Frederick	ENPRO Services of VT-NRC
Johanna de Graffenreid	VT Public Interest Research Group
Shaina Kasper	Toxics Action Center
Corey Raymond	Northeast Kingdom Waste Mgmt. District
William Driscoll	Associated Industries of VT
Esther Fishman	The Londonderry Group
Allison DeMag	Morris and DeMag
Cheri L'Esperance	William Shouldice and Associates
Erin Sigrist	VT Retail and Grocer's Association
Matt McMahan	MMR

By phone

Representative David L. Deen
House Natural Resources Fish and Wildlife Committee

ANR Staff Present:

Rebecca Ellis	DEC Deputy Commissioner
Cathy Jamieson	Solid Waste Program Manager
John Fay	Solid Waste Program
Rebecca Webber	Solid Waste Program
Dennis Fekert	Solid Waste Program
Karen Knaebel	Solid Waste Program
Mary Clark	Drinking Water and Groundwater Protection Division- Indirect Discharge

Presenters:

Andy Johnson	ENPRO Services of VT- NRC
Don Maglienti	Addison County Solid Waste Mgmt. District
Jen Holliday	Chittenden Solid Waste District
Kim Crosby	Casella Waste Systems
Joyce Majors	Lamoille Solid Waste Mgmt. District
Matt Moran	Sites Management Program
Mia Roethlein	Solid Waste Program

Minutes

- 1:05pm – Rebecca Ellis started the meeting by describing the “2015 Beyond Waste Stakeholder Group” process and that HHW was one of the materials identified as a top priority to be further evaluated
- Cathy Jamieson continued with group introductions, goals for the series of meetings and gave overview of current situation with HHW management.

- Problem: *HHW is toxic, flammable, or highly acidic/basic; it is very costly for solid waste management entities to collect/manage and we're not capturing all of it.*
- Goal: *Group to make a recommendation to ANR on how HHW should be effectively and conveniently collected in a manner cost-effective for municipalities*
- What does Success Look Like to ANR:
 - *Vermonters are aware of risks with HHW, and either reduce use or divert from disposal.*
 - *There are convenient HHW collection options for all Vermonters.*
 - *The cost burden to municipalities and state are reduced*
 - *Over time, there are an increased number of non-hazardous products available to consumers, result in decrease in HHW needing to be managed*

Presentations

- 1:25pm-
 - **What is HHW and Why good management is important- Don Maglienti, ACSWMD**
Don presented on the risks HHW poses at home and small businesses including to human and environment health, farms and water quality.
 - HHW hidden in trash can be a safety hazards to facilities, haulers and workers and an issue for the landfill.
 - Improper storage can lead to site contamination and potential hazards to first responders.
 - Must provide affordable and convenient disposal options to both resident and small business.
 - Need outreach and education to encourage purchasing/using less toxic products.
 - **Environmental Issues at Landfill- Kim Crosby, Casella**
Landfill does not want household hazardous waste for the following reasons:
 - Not permitted to take it.
 - When someone does dispose of it in their trash, Casella incurs cost of proper disposal. Don't like to encourage employees to get out and pull out HHW from tipping floor (employee hazard).
 - Leachate that comes back as hazardous waste would require whole tank to be treated as haz waste (very costly).
 - Spills can shut down facility, be very costly/time consuming/dangerous to remediate. (Example: gasoline tank spill, took months, cost \$10,000; asbestos dump-quarantine, contractor, move working face; pool chemicals react with water—looks like fire.)

Need to ensure convenient proper disposal options as people are likely to hide in trash rather than wait for event.
Landfill sees less HHW in loads than there used to be: attributes that to success of e-cycles, paint, lamp, battery stewardship programs.
- 1:45pm - **Potential costs of site cleanup -- Matt Moran, DEC Sites Program**
Ways his work interacts with HHW (State hazardous materials team, Spill Response Team, Contaminated Sites Program).
 - High School lab fire with toxic fumes
 - Hazardous materials team and spill team both responded to an elder woman with multiple containers in basement, including picric acid that was crystallized. This can explode if moved so VT State Bomb Squad became involved.
 - Improper Disposal into trash dumpsters leads to bigger clean up issues and costs.
 - If able to identify disposer then they must cover costs. If not, there is some available funding in an Environmental Contingency Fund.
 - Auto garage business at residence with drain going to dry well, gasoline going down drain and migrating to curtain drain, contaminating house. Cost approximately \$50k to clean up.
 - Proper disposal in all situations would have prevented high clean-up costs and health risks.
- 2:10 **HW Contractor's role in collection system -- Andrew Johnson, ENPRO Services of VT-NRC, Williston**
 - Operate a hazardous waste storage facility in Williston.
 - Hold contracts for operating many of the one-day collection events for municipalities in VT
 - Things that make it difficult and expensive to operate one day events:
 - They want to assist with HHW collection, but in comparison with business waste- they receive about 3000 drums/month from businesses, etc. (VT, NE, NY) – HHW is small proportion
 - Hard to find staff to work events.
 - Saturday HHW events trucks that come in late tie up regular business Monday/Tuesday.

- Multiple events on the same day throughout state make it a struggle to cover staffing and trucks
 - High Set up fees come from: it is a gamble as to how many cars and waste will be collected, staffing level unpredictable, Saturday is overtime, distance from Williston facility (add the travel time to time of event), trucks and fuel. Out of state staff need lodging.
 - High cost of employee training
 - Packing and shipping of material – HHW is RCRA exempt, but still hazardous under DOT regs—needs to be properly packed and shipped (he tries to send 2 trucks to separate out certain materials).
 - One day collection events pose safety risks with unidentified materials and large bulk drums showing up. Best handled onsite by one of their staff.
 - Hard to operate an event well on a dirt parking lot and many event sites are.
 - Bags of trash mixed with HHW pose issue for workers
- Williston Facility tours are available for those interested.
- 2:25pm **Factual Info about current HHW collection system and costs- Mia Roethlein**
 - VT Materials Management Plan
 - 1992: SWMEs required to manage “unregulated haz waste” via SWIPs
 - 2001 state SWMP required at least 2 events per year, some offer up to 20
 - 5 permitted HHW facilities (1 seasonal or 4 year-round), over 70 annual events spring-fall
 - SWIP grants offset a portion of costs. State issues about \$400,000/year that can be used towards HHW programming.
 - Permitted facilities have more convenient service hours, able to consolidate materials.
 - One day Events are costly, but convenient for rural.
 - Current participation rate – range from .5% to 8% (15% is considered a successful participation rate nationally.)
 - Want to encourage participation by making access convenient and affordable.
 - As of 2012 Waste Comp study, 640 tons of HHW still being disposed of in landfill annually. 2018 Waste Composition study will show us how much (if any) may still be going into landfill.
 - Need to also consider other improper disposal methods such as down drain or toilet.
 - 2014 Materials Management Plan(MMP) requirements
 - Increase from 2 to 4 events (over 5 years of the MMP) or access to permanent facility and 15 mile convenience year 4 requirement
 - We are currently in Year 3, access to 3 events or permanent facility.
 - SWMEs can choose to share access to events or facilities with others.
 - Must ensure year-round collection: batteries, lamps, thermostats, 1-20lb propane tanks, electronics, paint, used oil (can refer to private retailers—not needing to be owned, operated by muni)
 - Survey of SWMEs re: Amount of HHW collected and collection costs
 - Collection totals are going up significantly (524.5 tons in 2013 to 1084 tons in 2016).
 - Total collection Costs in 2016: \$1,518/ton or \$1,645,832.00 total.
 - HHW collection tends to be the highest programming costs for many SWMEs.

- **Examples of specific local costs and use of collection services**

- **Jen Holliday, CSWD**

- CSWD Environmental Depot serves Businesses 5days/wk by appt and Residents 4 days/wk
 - Important to provide service to CEG Businesses as there are options are limited and using a HW contractor directly can be very costly.
 - Mobile seasonal collection “Rover” – Rover goes to 16 towns (1x/yr per town). This allows CSWD to bring HHW back to their facility for consolidation and not be dependent on HW contractor to run event.
 - 4 full time staff at HHW facility. 400 seasonal hours. Program in place since 1991.
 - Combination of roving events and facility is one of most convenient ways to ensure access.
 - 40-45% of what is collected is paint so very good that there is a paint stewardship program to offset some costs– but won’t typically pay for labor, outreach and education, so doesn’t cover all costs of collecting paint.
 - Even though paint is highest volume, not necessarily correspondingly largest cost for disposal.
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- i.e. some materials are very high to process- one 2-part insulating foam cylinder tank might cost \$300.00.
- Participation rates increasing- close to that 15% = success goal
- Good but less participants would be better if need/use of HHW went down.
- CSWD has \$914,893 budget for FY18. See slides for detail.

Don Maglienti, ACSWMD

- Permanent facility (within Transfer station) opened 2005. Before that, they were doing 22 events per year (very expensive). Started 3 days a week plus Saturdays, have now expanded to 6 days a week, most of day that TS is open.
- Consolidate most of the waste collected. Hire contractors for lab packs and unidentified materials.
- Serve residents and CEG businesses
- Count “special wastes” separately (batteries, etc.) – his graph doesn’t include them for continuity
- Participation rate is 15.9% (14,219 households)
- Total costs: \$105,317 see slides for detail.
- Currently do not operate events, but will have to offer some next year to meet 15 mile convenience requirement.

Joyce Majors (Lamoille Regional SWMD) – collection events

- The district offers 2-3 collection events per year, soon to go up to 4 events per year.
- Small event: 20-50 cars. Big event: might be 300 cars in 3-4 hours.
- Mostly in parking lots. Should have good ingress/egress, good signage. Cars could be lined up around block, so need to plan for that.
- Keeping same location, same time of year, people look for it, grateful to have them.
- Might get 4-5 proposals from RFP for HW contractors. Setup can be 1700-2000 or 3200-4000.
- Average disposal cost: \$16,000-\$35,000
- Outreach, admin, trash and recycling roll-offs, equipment rental are all extra costs
- Why collect HHW?
 - Right thing to do.
 - Schools depend on them for cleanouts.
 - Didn’t need state requirements to know they needed to collect HHW. It was becoming a blatant issue as they were seeing HHW in trash coming into their 6 Transfer stations.
- Need a permanent facility. Events are not the best way to go for safety and many reasons. Not sure how long the event only scenario can be maintained.
- Need education on reduction.

2:50 Next Steps

Next meeting, Aug 2nd 1-3pm CAPS VT College, Montpelier

ANR to post on website the agenda, meeting notes, presentations

Strategies and options in advance so folks can prepare for next meeting’s discussion.

Homework:

-Look over information provided today. Will be posted on website.

-Email us any strategies and options you would like considered for the next meetings.

Meeting #2: August 2nd, 1 pm

Purpose: to discuss potential options and strategies for managing HHW

Meeting #3: September 7th, 1pm

Purpose: to prioritize options, make recommendation(s) to ANR