

Vermont Disposal Requirements

VT LAW, ACT 148 – RECYCLABLES, FOOD WASTE & YARD WASTE



In July 2012, the Vermont legislature passed the Universal Recycling Law commonly referred to as “Act 148”. This information is intended to provide Vermonters with an overview of the law as it applies to your business and residence. This law focuses on eliminating landfill disposal for three main components of our waste stream: Recyclables, Food Waste, and Yard Waste.



The Law on Recyclables

On July 1, 2014, all solid waste facilities are required to collect recyclables. By July 1, 2015 all haulers that offer trash service to residential customers are required to offer recyclables collection. In 2015 recyclables were banned from landfill disposal entirely. All businesses and residents are required to recycle. Businesses and residents using curbside services are required to obtain a separate container for recyclables from their hauler.

Casella's Role with Recyclables: Casella is a leader in recycling in the State of Vermont. We currently operate two Zero-Sort Recycling Facilities in the state and we continue to expand and develop technology to increase recycling. We offer our customers a wide variety of recycling choices from toters, dumpsters and compactors to convenient drop-off sites.



The Law on Yard Waste & Clean Wood

By July 1, 2015, all solid waste facilities will be required to have a leaf and yard waste drop-off area between April 1 through December 15. By July 1, 2016 leaf and yard waste and clean wood will be banned from landfill disposal. Clean wood is brush, Christmas trees and untreated & unpainted lumber free of nails, staples, etc.

Casella's Role with Yard Waste: All of Casella's solid waste facilities accept leaf and yard waste between April 15 through December 15. All of our facilities were able to accept leaf and yard waste in compliance with the July 1, 2015 deadline.



The Law on Food Waste

As of July 1, 2020 all solid waste haulers are required to collect food waste from nonresidential customers and apartment buildings with four or more residential units. Commercial haulers are not required to offer collection of food residuals if another commercial hauler provides collection services for food residuals in the same area and has sufficient capacity to provide service to all customers. All food waste is banned from landfill disposal entirely for all businesses and residents as of **July 1, 2020.**

Casella's Role with Food Waste: Casella is an industry leader in the transportation, recycling and processing of organic resources. Handling food waste in particular can be challenging. It's often odorous and wet, which tends to attract unwanted pests and provide a potential for surface water contamination.

Our solution is two-fold...

1. We are working to develop the best possible collection system that will attempt to provide the most efficient and effective means of collecting food waste.
2. We've built a network of environmentally sound recovery options to properly manage food waste for our customers. These options include composting, anaerobic digestion and on-site waste processors.

Visit casella.com/RecycleYourFood-VT for resources to help navigate the food waste guidelines and to inquire about service in your area.

Call us today at 800-CASELLA if you have any questions or to schedule a FREE Waste Analysis for your business to save you time, money and effort!



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Mountain Alliance Solid Waste Newsletter **- December 2020 -**

*The Mountain Alliance includes the Towns of
Randolph, Northfield, Brookfield, Braintree and Roxbury*

2020 Household Hazardous Waste Event: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, only one event was held in 2020. During this event, 85 households participated and disposed of over 3 tons of hazardous waste. Stay tuned for 2021 HHW event dates. Visit **www.mtalliance.org** for more information.

Food Scraps: As of July 1, 2020, food scraps are banned from disposal for all Vermonters (residential and commercial alike). Many of you have already started composting at home or opted for a pickup service. During the holiday season, please consider food donation to your local food shelf or the Vermont Foodbank. Visit **www.mtalliance.org** for more information.

Pharmaceuticals: If you use sharps and need to dispose them place them in a sealed sturdy container, such as an empty laundry detergent bottle, and place the container in the trash. For leftover medications, there are several locations to bring them to – please do not flush them down the drain or place them in the trash. Visit **www.healthvermont.gov/alcohol-drugs/services/prescription-drug-disposal** to find a location near you.

Reduce Your Waste During the Holidays: The holiday season is a time for gifts, decorations, lots of wrapping paper and with that comes a lot of extra waste! Consider using recycled wrapping paper, avoiding unnecessary packaging, sending electronic cards instead paper cards and avoiding disposable plates, napkins and utensils whenever possible.