



Bennington Spring 2018 Newsletter from the Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance

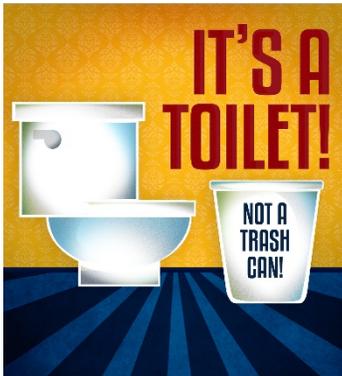
The Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance (BCSWA) includes the Towns of Arlington, Bennington, Dorset, Glastenbury, Manchester, Pownal, Rupert, Sandgate, Searsburg, Shaftsbury, Stamford, Sunderland and Woodford and provides technical assistance to businesses, schools and institutions within the thirteen towns to encourage recycling and waste reduction.

2018 Household Hazardous Waste Events: The Alliance will hold the next event on May 12, 2018 at the Bennington Transfer Station at 904 Houghton Lane in Bennington from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM for residents of the 13 Alliance towns. We will hold a fall event at the Dorset School on September 15, 2018.



Compost Bin Sales: The Alliance will be selling Soil Saver Compost Bins for backyards as well as Kitchen Composters and five-gallon pails for collecting in your kitchen. Distribution will likely occur in May at the Bennington Highway Garage on Orchard Street in Bennington and at the Yellow Barn in Arlington. We will announce when we are taking orders on our website and on Front Porch Forum, so stay tuned!

Sharps: If you use sharps including needles, and need to dispose of them, visit <http://www.bcswavt.org/programs-and-projects/what-do-i-do-with/> and scroll down to ‘Needles and Sharps’ on how to seal them in a sturdy container for disposal. Sharps can’t be recycled and are dangerous if not disposed of properly.



Be Careful What You Put Down the Drain: Many materials, especially household hazardous waste, should NOT be poured down the drain, either to a septic tank or field or to wastewater treatment plants. These chemicals are toxic, will kill the organisms that break down waste, and will enter surface and groundwater supplies. Flushing prescription drugs down the toilet should also be avoided as these have been shown to harm fish and amphibians. Visit <http://www.bcswavt.org/programs-and-projects/sludge-septage-residual-waste/> for more information that will protect our water supplies.

Batteries, Fluorescent Bulbs, E-Waste, Textiles and Paint: Many retail stores accept alkaline and rechargeable batteries, fluorescent bulbs, including both tubes and CFLS and latex and oil based paint for FREE! Goodwill in Bennington accepts clothing and has trucks on weekends in Arlington and Manchester for donations of clothing. There are textile boxes located all over Bennington County, including at the transfer stations, where you can donate clothing. Goodwill also accepts donations of clothing and other items. Visit them at www.goodwill-berkshires.com. The Bennington, Northshire, Pownal, Searsburg and Sunderland Transfer Stations accept E-Waste. Several retail businesses accept bulbs and batteries as well. Visit www.bcswavt.org to find locations for disposing these materials.

Business and School Outreach: The Alliance provided outreach to 50 businesses in 2017. This free service provides guidance on methods of recycling, disposing hazardous materials, and properly diverting food scraps and organics from landfills. This past year, the Alliance worked with Pownal Elementary, Stamford Elementary and Burr and Burton on improving their recycling efforts. If your school, business or institution is interested in having someone visit to discuss better ways to handle solid waste, organics, recyclables and other materials, please contact Michael Batcher at 802-442-0713 x 2 or mbatcher@bcrcvt.org.

Need More Information? Visit www.bcswavt.org to find information on recycling, composting, disposing prescription drugs, and services offered by waste haulers. Many plastics as well as paper, cardboard, glass, electronic waste and other items are banned from landfills but are accepted by haulers and transfer stations. Talk to your hauler about recycling and how you can save money by disposing of materials properly. Check with your town hall to

find out how you can access your town transfer station. Contact Michael S. Batcher at (802) 442-0713 x 2 or mbatcher@bcrcvt.org or visit the Alliance website at www.bcswavt.org for more information. You can also find us on Facebook.