

The Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance (BCSWA) includes the Towns of Arlington, Bennington, Dorset, Glastenbury, Manchester, Pownal, Rupert, Sandgate, Searsburg, Shaftsbury, Stamford, Sunderland.

**2018 and 2019 Household Hazardous Waste Events:** In 2018 BCSWA held household hazardous waste events in Bennington, Searsburg, Stamford and Dorset. 484 households participated along with several businesses. The Alliance will hold the next event on Saturday, May 18, 2019 at the Bennington Transfer Station at 904 Houghton Lane in Bennington from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM for the 13 Alliance towns.



**Business and School Outreach:** The Alliance reached 40 businesses in 2018 providing guidance on recycling, disposing hazardous materials, and properly diverting food scraps and organics from landfills. This past year, the Alliance worked with Mt. Anthony Union High School and the Dorset School on improving their recycling efforts. If your school, business or institution is interested in learning about ways to handle solid waste, organics, recyclables and other materials, please contact Paula Kamperman at (518) 788-2553 or paulakamperman@gmail.com.



**Visit Your Transfer Station:** There are seven transfer stations serving the Alliance including the Bennington, Sunderland and Northshire Transfer Stations operated by Casella and the Pownal, Searsburg, Shaftsbury and Stamford Transfer Stations operated by and serving those towns. Transfer stations accept food wastes and several accept batteries, fluorescent bulbs, and E-Waste among other materials. For more information on services provided by the transfer stations, visit <http://www.bcswavt.org/programs-and-projects/transfer-stations/>.

**Reduce Your Waste During the Holidays:** Visit <http://foodshift.net/blog/8-tips-reduce-waste-thanksgiving/> on ways to reduce food waste during the holidays. Better meal planning, creative cooking with leftovers, composting, and giving extra food to those in need can all help reduce waste and save money. The BCSWA website also has a new section on donating food to food pantries. For the holidays, using recycled wrapping paper, avoiding unnecessary packaging, sending electronic cards instead of paper cards and other planning can save a lot of waste at this time of year.

**Sharps:** If you use sharps including needles, and need to dispose of them, visit our web page 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 are accepting 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](http://www.goodwill-berkshires.com). Several of the transfer stations accept E-Waste, batteries, fluorescent bulbs and other materials. Visit [www.bcswavt.org](http://www.bcswavt.org) to find locations for disposing these materials.

**Pharmaceuticals:** There are several locations to drop off pharmaceuticals including:

**Bennington Police Department**, 118 South St., Bennington, VT 05201; Open 24/7; Accepting pills and patches; Phone: 802-442-1030

**Manchester Police Department**, Public Safety Facility, 6041 Main St., Manchester Center, VT 05255; Open 24/7 Accepting pills and patches; Phone: 802-362-2022

**Bennington County Sheriff**, 811 US Route 7, Bennington, VT 05201; Open M-F 7:00 AM to 4:00 PM Accepting pills and patches; Phone: 802-442-4900 (ask for dispatch)

**Southwestern Vermont Medical Center**, 100 Hospital Dr., Bennington, VT 05201

Phone: 802-442-6361; Open 24/7; Accepting Pills, Patches, Liquids, Aerosols

You can also order **FREE envelopes** to mail back up to 8 ounces of unwanted medicine from: <http://www.healthvermont.gov/free-prescription-medication-mail-back-envelopes>



**Next BCSWA Board Meeting:** The next BCSWA board meeting will be on Wednesday, January 16, 2018 from 4:00-6:00 PM at the Arlington Town Hall 3828 Vermont Route 7A, Arlington, VT 05250. An agenda will be at [www.bcswavt.org](http://www.bcswavt.org) at least two weeks prior to the meeting.

**Need More Information?** Visit [www.bcswavt.org](http://www.bcswavt.org) to find information on recycling, composting, disposing prescription drugs, and services offered by waste haulers or contact Michael S. Batcher at (802) 442-0713 x 2 or [mbatcher@bcrcvt.org](mailto:mbatcher@bcrcvt.org).