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Contact: Paula Kamperman, BCSWA  
Phone:(518) 788-2553  
Email: [PaulaKamperman@gmail.com](mailto:PaulaKamperman@gmail.com)

## The Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance receives grant from the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation to support Household Hazardous Waste Events

Bennington, VERMONT- The Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance has received a grant of \$129,997.91 from the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation. The grant which was awarded by the DEC, an arm of the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources and will be used by the Alliance to fund household hazardous waste collection events for member towns of the Alliance which include Arlington, Bennington, Dorset, Glastenbury, Manchester, Pownal, Rupert, Sandgate, Searsburg, Shaftsbury, Stamford, Sunderland and Woodford from 2020 through 2024.

In the past, two household hazardous waste events have been scheduled each year to assist residents and businesses to safely dispose of paint, paint thinners, many types of household cleaners that contain toxic substances, herbicides, pesticides, automotive products, and other chemicals. These materials are not accepted in landfills as they are corrosive, toxic or combustible. Starting in 2021, the Alliance will expand the program to include three events next year to provide all residents in the Alliance access to an event location within a 20-mile radius.

“The popularity of this event continues to grow with more than 200 participants at each event.”, says Michael Batchner of the Alliance. “I am surprised we don’t have more businesses making use of this event. While businesses do have to pay the fees to dispose of the hazardous waste, the cost is still less than having a disposal company come to the business for a dedicated pickup of the waste.”

The Alliance rescheduled the spring event to August 18, 2020, and over 300 households participated. The next Household Hazardous Waste event is Saturday, September 12, 2020 at the Dorset School 130 School Drive, Dorset from 9 AM to 1 PM. Event information can be found at <https://www.bcswavt.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Dorset-Fall-2020-HHW-Flyer.pdf>. Residents can also use the permanent facility throughout the year for collecting household hazardous waste operated by the Rutland County Solid Waste District. In addition, several of the transfer stations and local retail establishments accept paint, fluorescent bulbs, used motor oil, computers and

electronic waste and other materials banned from landfills. For more information, visit [www.bcswavt.org](http://www.bcswavt.org) or contact Michael Batchner at 802-442-0713 ext. 2.

The Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance (BCSWA) was formed in 2015 by the towns of Arlington, Bennington, Dorset, Glastenbury, Manchester, Pownal, Rupert, Sandgate, Searsburg, Shaftsbury, Stamford, Sunderland and Woodford to adopt a solid waste management plan to implement Vermont's recycling laws. The Alliance provides education and outreach on reducing waste, recycling and proper disposal of hazardous materials to residents, businesses, schools and institutions in the thirteen towns. A complete list of disposal resources and information about its programs can be found at [www.bcswavt.org](http://www.bcswavt.org).

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