
Solid Waste Implementation Plan

For the Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance

Member Towns:

**Arlington, Bennington, Dorset, Glastenbury, Manchester,
Pownal, Rupert, Sandgate, Searsburg, Shaftsbury, Stamford,
Sunderland, and Woodford**

**Adopted November 12, 2020
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SWIP Year 1: Jan. 1 – Dec. 31, 2021
SWIP Year 2: Jan. 1 – Dec. 31, 2022
SWIP Year 3: Jan. 1 – Dec. 31, 2023
SWIP Year 4: Jan. 1 – Dec. 31, 2024
SWIP Year 5: Jan. 1 – Dec. 31, 2025

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Acknowledgements

This plan was developed by representatives of the Towns of Arlington, Bennington, Dorset, Glastenbury, Pownal, Rupert, Sandgate, Searsburg, Shaftsbury, Stamford, Sunderland and Woodford with assistance from the Bennington County Regional Commission, Paula Kamperman, Outreach Program Manager, and staff of the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, Waste Management Division. Funding was provided by the thirteen towns.

I. Introduction and Purpose

A. Universal Recycling Law

Vermont has several pieces of legislation governing the management of solid waste. Probably the most well known is the Universal Recycling Law or Act 148, passed by the Vermont Legislature in 2012. The primary purpose of this law is to significantly reduce the amount of material going into landfills and to increase recycling and reuse as well as other forms of diversion. The Universal Recycling Law seeks to provide more choices and convenience for Vermont residents, businesses, and institutions to make it easier for them to recycle. The law created a series of benchmarks, each taking place on July 1st of the years listed below:

2015

- Pricing of residential trash to be based on per unit charges. Towns or districts were required to adopt ordinances enforcing unit-based pricing.
- Transfer stations and bag-drop haulers were required to accept leaf and yard debris.
- Haulers were required to offer recycling at no separate charge.
- Public buildings were required to provide recycling containers alongside trash containers.
- Food scrap generators of 1 ton/week or greater must divert food waste to a certified facility if one is within 20 miles

2016

- Leaf, yard, and clean wood debris were banned from landfills.
- Food scrap generators of ½ ton/week must divert to a certified facility if within 20 miles.

2017

- Transfer stations and bag-drop haulers were to accept food scraps.
- Food scrap generators of 1/3 ton/week must divert to a certified facility if within 20 miles

2020

- Food scraps are banned from landfills.
- Haulers must offer food scraps collection to nonresidential customers and apartment buildings with four or more units.

In addition, transfer stations must accept clean wood for recycling. By July 1, 2021, solid waste management entities must offer collection of asphalt shingles for recycling.

Vermont is also a leader in product stewardship or extended producer responsibility (EPR) legislation that requires manufacturers of certain materials to pay for disposal costs. These programs include:

- Battery recycling for single-use and rechargeable batteries and cell phones. These are collected at the Bennington, Northshire, Sunderland and Pownal Transfer Stations and at many retail locations.
- Mercury containing materials, particularly fluorescent bulbs, and mercury thermostats. These are collected at many retail locations.
- The costs of recycling electronics including computers, monitors, televisions, printers, and computer peripherals are covered by manufacturers. Other electronic devices are banned from landfills. Electronics are collected at the Bennington, Northshire, Sunderland and Pownal Transfer Stations and several retail locations
- Architectural latex and oil- based paint as well as other types of coatings can be recycled. Paint is collected at several retail locations.
- Pharmaceuticals are accepted at the Bennington and Manchester Police Stations and the Bennington County Sheriff office as well as Southwestern Vermont Medical Center, CVS, and the Pharmacy (Manchester and Bennington). This is a program sponsored by the Vermont Department of Health.

Other materials, banned from landfills, require other management options:

- Hazardous wastes are regulated and banned from landfills. Solid waste districts, Alliances, groups, and independent towns must offer collection options for residents and businesses for these kinds of materials.
- Where possible, construction and demolition debris, such as clean wood and asphalt shingles should be recycled.
- Single use plastic will be banned as of July 1, 2020.

B. Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance

The towns of Arlington, Bennington, Dorset, Glastenbury, Manchester, Pownal, Rupert, Sandgate, Searsburg, Shaftsbury, Stamford, Sunderland, and Woodford have worked together to develop this plan (Map 1). As part of the planning process, the towns formed the Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance (BCSWA) in 2015 through an interlocal contract, pursuant to 24 V.S.A. Chapter 24, to implement the plan (Appendix I).

C. Mission and Goals

The mission of the Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance is to reduce the amount of waste disposed in landfills, by incineration or similar means by reducing the amount of waste generated, conserving resources, and promoting recycling and reuse. Following the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources Materials Management Plan (2019), the Alliance adopted the following goals:



1. Reduce the generation of all solid waste, both disposed and diverted, by 10% between 2020 and 2025
2. Decrease the amount of material disposed by 25% by 2025 from 2020 levels.
3. Achieve a diversion rate of 50% by 2025.
4. Increase food diverted to food rescue organizations by 10% by 2025

D. Planning Process

In June of 2014, the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources adopted a Materials Management Plan (MMP), as required under the Universal Recycling Law (Vermont Agency of Natural Resources 2014). As described above, the Towns of Arlington, Bennington, Dorset, Glastenbury, Manchester, Pownal, Rupert, Sandgate, Searsburg, Shaftsbury, Stamford, Sunderland, and Woodford are responsible for implementing state materials management policies and the requirements of the Universal Recycling Law. These towns cooperated to develop this Solid Waste Implementation Plan (SWIP) in conformance with the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources Materials Management Plan. That plan was adopted by the Alliance and approved by VT ANR in 2015. The actions in Section III follow the format of the template created by the Agency of Natural Resources. In 2019, ANR revised and updated their MMP (Vermont Agency of Natural Resources 2019), and that is reflected in this plan.

1. Solid Waste Implementation Plan Team

The Alliance board consists of representatives of each town, listed in Table 1 below.

Table 1. Members of the Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance board		
Town	Representative	Position
Arlington	Cynthia Browning ¹	Select Board
Bennington	Stu Hurd	Town Manager
Dorset	Rob Gaiotti	Town Manager
Glastenbury	Ricky Harrington	Town Supervisor
Manchester	John O'Keefe	Town Manager
Pownal	Tom Shuey	Transfer Station Operator
Rupert	Mark Lourie	Delinquent Tax Collector
Sandgate	Suzie dePeyster	Select Board Chair
Searsburg	Chris Reynolds	Select Board
Shaftsbury	Dave Kiernan	Town Administrator
Stamford	Nancy Bushika	Select Board
Sunderland	Dixie Zens	Select Board
Woodford	Vacant	Vacant

The planning team was assisted by Michael Batcher of the Bennington County Regional Commission and Paula Kamperman, Outreach Program Manager for the Alliance.

2. Public Involvement Process

The planning team met on the dates shown in Table 2 below. All meetings were warned and open to the public. The plan was posted on the BCSWA website and announced in the Bennington Banner, Manchester Journal, Berkshire Eagle, Deerfield Press, the News Guide and on Front Porch Forum. Minutes were posted on the BCSWA website.

Table 2. Planning team meetings	
Meeting Date	Location
April 8, 2020	Via conference call (Zoom)
June 3, 2020	Via conference call (Zoom)
October 21, 2020	Via conference call (Zoom)
November 12, 2020	Via conference call (Zoom)

BCSWA board members periodically reported to their respective Select Boards on the planning process.

¹ Matthew Bukowski, also on the Arlington Select Board, is an alternate representative. Keith Squires represented Arlington from 2015 to early 2020.

3. Conformance with the Regional Plan

The Bennington County Regional Commission has completed work on an update to the regional plan and adopted the new plan on March 19, 2015 in the spring of 2015. That plan supports efficient and coordinated management of solid waste to protect the environment and reduce disposal costs. Information on the Universal Recycling Law was incorporated into the new regional plan. BCRC assisted in the development of this 2020 SWIP. In the regional plan, new solid waste facilities are considered projects that could have a substantial regional impact and would be reviewed by BCRC as part of any Act 250 review. In summary, this plan conforms to the newly adopted regional plan.

4. Vermont Agency of Natural Resources Review and Plan Adoption

Drafts of the SWIP were submitted to the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, which provided responses in letters dated July 27, 2020 and September 15, 2020. The plan was amended to address those comments, and the Agency granted pre-approval on September 20, 2020. The Alliance adopted the pre-approved SWIP on November 12, 2020 following public meetings on October 21, 2020 and November 12, 2020.

II. Area Description

A. Demographic and Economic Setting

1. Population and Housing

According to the 2010 U.S. Census, the total population of the 13 towns was just over 35,000, with 14,552 households. Table 3 below shows the changes since 2010 based on 2017 population estimates.

Table 3. Population of member towns from the 2010 census and 2017 estimates.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017; Bennington County Regional Plan 2015

Town	2010 Population	Share	2017 Estimated Population	Share	2010-2017 Change	2010-2017 % Change
Arlington	2,317	6.61%	2,543	7.41%	226	9.75%
Bennington	15,764	44.96%	15,239	44.43%	(525)	-3.33%
Dorset	2,031	5.79%	2,079	6.06%	48	2.36%
Glastenbury	8	0.02%	7	0.02%	(1)	-12.50%
Manchester	4,391	12.52%	4,285	12.49%	(106)	-2.41%
Pownal	3,527	10.06%	3,452	10.06%	(75)	-2.13%
Rupert	714	2.04%	646	1.88%	(68)	-9.52%
Sandgate	405	1.16%	374	1.09%	(31)	-7.65%
Searsburg	109	0.31%	106	0.31%	(3)	-2.75%
Shaftsbury	3,590	10.24%	3,487	10.17%	(103)	-2.87%

Table 3. Population of member towns from the 2010 census and 2017 estimates.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017; Bennington County Regional Plan 2015

Town	2010 Population	Share	2017 Estimated Population	Share	2010-2017 Change	2010-2017 % Change
Stamford	824	2.35%	866	2.52%	42	5.10%
Sunderland	956	2.73%	898	2.62%	(58)	-6.07%
Woodford	424	1.21%	318	0.93%	(106)	-25.00%
Total	35,060	100.00%	34,300	100.00%	(760)	-2.17%

2. Businesses and Institutions

The Bennington County Regional Commission periodically obtains data on businesses in Bennington County from Infogroup, which supplies data to the Vermont Department of Labor. The number of businesses fluctuates over time, and with the COVID-19 pandemic, there have likely been a loss of businesses in the county. The Infogroup data contains 2,237 entries, of which 2,122 are businesses with the rest schools and local, state, and federal government offices. There are at least 221 duplicate entries, leaving 1,912 business entries. Table 4 shows the number of employers by size range. Note that 82 employers were not classified by size range.

Table 4. Number of employers by range of employee numbers in Bennington County:
Source: Infogroup 2020.

Number of Employees	Number of Employers	Examples
>1,000	1	SW VT Medical Center
500-999	0	
250-499	4	Equinox Resort, NSK
100-249	16	Hannaford, Bennington College
50-99	23	Dailey Precast
20-49	149	Suburban Propane, Price Chopper
10-19	170	Petco, Walgreens
5-9	392	Several convenience stores
1-4	1,106	Building contractors, accountants, law offices, small retail, sole proprietors
Total	1,912	

Table 5. Number of businesses by categories generating food, nonfood or both.

Type	Number
Food Oriented (e.g., restaurants)	138
Non-food (e.g., offices, auto repair, retail sales)	1,576
Both (e.g., groceries, convenience shops)	220

Table 5. Number of businesses by categories generating food, nonfood or both.	
Type	Number
Total	1,934

Included in these figures are unclassified businesses which can include ATMs. Wading through all of this was very time consuming, Tables 4 and 5 provide a good overview of the numbers and types of businesses in the BCSWA service area. A large proportion of businesses, including food scrap generators, are located within the towns of Bennington and Manchester.

The Alliance has provided outreach to businesses by providing on-site technical assistance and information via email, the Alliance web page, forums, and other means. From 2016 through 2019, 214 businesses were visited to 1) assess their current state of recycling, food scrap diversion, and methods of addressing hazardous materials, 2) to offer technical assistance in those areas and 3) to inform them of the statutory requirements and time frame for compliance with applicable Vermont solid waste statutes. These businesses were categorized as 56 food-oriented, 97 non-food oriented and 61 both food and non-food. In general, most businesses were recycling and diverting food scraps or preparing to do so.

3. Schools

Tables 6 and 7 list schools in the BCSWA area that have and will be targeted for outreach efforts. In addition, there are other educational centers not listed as public or private schools which we hope to address separately.

Table 6. Bennington County public schools and recent enrollment.						
Public Schools	Town	Supervisory Union/School District	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2018-19
Fisher Elementary (Arlington, K-5)	Arlington	Battenkill Valley SU/Arlington School District	154	144	163	219
Arlington Memorial High School (6-12)	Arlington	Battenkill Valley SU/Arlington School District	172	177	200	203
Dorset School (K-8)	Dorset	Bennington Rutland SU/Taconic and Green School District	162	163	173	185
Manchester Elementary / Middle School (K-8)	Manchester	Bennington Rutland SU/Taconic and Green School District	399	414	393	413
Sunderland Elementary	Sunderland	Bennington Rutland SU/Taconic and Green School District	62	64	62	92

Table 6. Bennington County public schools and recent enrollment.						
Sources: Bennington County Regional Plan 2015; Vermont Education Dashboard 2020.						
Bennington Elementary	Bennington	Southwest Vermont SU/Bennington Incorporated School District	293	268	256	342
Molly Stark Elementary (Bennington)	Bennington	Southwest Vermont SU/Bennington Incorporated School District	382	381	387	484
Monument Elementary (Bennington)	Bennington	Southwest Vermont SU/Bennington Incorporated School District	136	145	143	156
Pownal Elementary	Pownal	Southwest Vermont SU/Pownal School District	263	264	265	260
Shaftsbury Elementary	Shaftsbury	Southwest Vermont SU/Shaftsbury School District	195	214	235	252
Woodford Hollow Elementary	Woodford	Southwest Vermont SU/Woodford School District	28	27	26	24
Mount Anthony Union Middle School	Bennington	Southwest Vermont SU/Mt Anthony UHSD #14	619	604	572	574
Mount Anthony Union High School	Bennington	Southwest Vermont/Mt Anthony UHSD #14	1039	992	1002	864
Stamford (K-8)	Stamford	Windham Southwest SU/Stamford School District	77	72	62	75
Total Public Schools			3981	3929	3939	4143

Table 7. Bennington private schools and recent enrollment.					
Sources: Draft Bennington County Regional Plan 2015; Vermont Agency of Education 2019.					
Private Schools	Town	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2019
Burr and Burton Academy (Manchester, 9-12)	Manchester	636	662	668	743
Forest Ward Memorial School (K-8)	Bennington	3	6	6	4
Grace Christian School (PK-12)	Bennington	159	162	173	109

Table 7. Bennington private schools and recent enrollment.

Sources: Draft Bennington County Regional Plan 2015; Vermont Agency of Education 2019.

Private Schools	Town	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2019
Green Mountain Mennonite School (Bennington, 1-9)	Bennington	0	0	13	35
Hiland Hall School (Bennington, K-8)	Bennington	31	33	36	34
Long Trail School (Dorset, 6-12)	Dorset	175	180	160	187
Manchester Village School	Manchester				18
Maple Street School (Manchester, K-8)	Manchester	94	98	96	107
Red Fox Community School	Dorset				19
Sacred Heart/St. Francis de Sales (Bennington, K-9)	Bennington	150	146	150	159
Southshire Community School (N. Bennington, K-8)	Bennington	40	40	40	25-35
Village School of North Bennington (K-6)	North Bennington	130	121	119	116
Total Private Schools		1418	1448	1461	1556-1566

Table 8 summarizes school outreach during the period of the 2015 to 2019 SWIP.

Table 8. School outreach summary from 2014 to 2019

School	Year of Outreach	Type of Outreach	Follow-up
Arlington Memorial High School	2014 and 2015	Assisted in starting on-site composting.	On-site composting was not successful, and school turned to hauler for food scrap disposal
	2019	Provided information on proper disposal of landfill-banned materials and on conducting food waste audits	
Dorset School	2018	Discussed management of batteries, bulbs and paint with principal and custodian	
Fisher Elementary	2014 and 2015	Completed on-site waste assessment to help improve recycling and food scrap diversion	
Hiland Hall School	2019	Presented a trash on the lawn day with students and staff to sort materials and identify recyclables	
Monument Elementary	2014, 2015 and 2016	Completed on-site waste assessment to help improve recycling and food scrap diversion	

Table 8. School outreach summary from 2014 to 2019			
School	Year of Outreach	Type of Outreach	Follow-up
Mount Anthony Union Middle School	2019	Provided basic information to Paul Dansereau	
Mount Anthony Union High School	2018	Assistance provided to environmental studies class working on increasing recycling	
Pownal Elementary	2016	Meeting with principal and custodial staff to discuss methods of waste reduction	We continue to work with Pownal Elementary On-site composting failed as a bear destroyed the compost bins. School turned to hauler for food scrap collection
	2017	Set up onsite composting	
Stamford Elementary	2017 and 2018	Assistance provided on food scrap composting and recycling. Trash on the lawn conducted with students to identify ways to increase recycling.	
Sunderland Elementary	2019	Met with principal and custodial staff to help develop waste reduction and recycling	
Village School of North Bennington	2016	Workshop and assessment of recycling efforts completed	

4. Residents

In 2016 and 2019, VT ANR required districts, alliances, and other solid waste management entities to survey residents on their solid waste practices. In 2019, the University of Vermont undertook a similar survey statewide. The results are shown in Table 9 below. A large majority of residents report that they are managing materials appropriately, though a large proportion still put food scraps in the trash.

Table 9. Summary of 2016, 2019 and UVM VT ANR surveys. Source: surveys completed in 2016 and 2019; University of Vermont 2019

Recyclables	2016	2019	UVM
Take to a drop-off	64.3	51.3	51.6
Curbside recycling	31.6	41.6	43.0
Put in trash	3.8	6.5	4.0
Other	5.0	5.8	1.4
Leaf and yard debris	2016	2019	UVM
Leave on ground	61.8	62.5	45.9
Compost	51.2	48.2	32.8

Table 9. Summary of 2016, 2019 and UVM VT ANR surveys. Source: surveys completed in 2016 and 2019; University of Vermont 2019			
Take to drop-off	4.4	3.6	11.2
Put in trash	2.0	0.7	0.8
Other	6.8	10.8	3.6
Food Scraps			
Put down garbage disposal	7.9	4.8	10.5
Compost	60.8	59.7	37.5
Take to drop off	0.3	6.1	11.1
Curbside collection			2.2
Put in trash	39.8	37.1	27.4
Other	11.2	0.7	11.9
Household Hazardous Waste			
Take to event	75.5	69.5	49.2
Take to drop-off	35.1	35.7	42.0
Put in trash	3.8	3.6	4.6
Other	10.3	11.2	4.1
Electronic Waste			
Take to event	45.0	35.7	34.1
Take to drop-off	57.9	60.7	58.0
Put in trash	2.1	2.9	3.4
Other	10.3	15.6	4.4

A waste composition study commissioned by VT ANR (DSM Environmental Services et al. 2018) determined that Vermont had a recovery rate of recyclables of 73% and that the amounts of hazardous materials and electronics in municipal solid waste was minimal. Th diversion of food scraps was estimated at approximately 40%, most through backyard composting.

B. Existing Facilities and Services

1. Solid Waste Facilities

Appendix II lists facilities in the BCSWA area (Map 2). Appendix II.A. lists transfer stations and Appendix II.B. lists closed landfills that will require recertification by the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources every five years. The Pownal, Rupert, Searsburg, Shaftsbury and Stamford stations are operated by those towns, and each station serves the residents of the respective towns. The Northshire (Dorset, VT) and Sunderland stations are operated by Casella and may be used by residents of Arlington, Dorset, Manchester, Sandgate, and Sunderland through the Integrated Solid Waste Applications Program (ISWAP). The Bennington Transfer Station, also operated by Casella, is used by residents of Bennington and Woodford. The Town of Rupert does not have a transfer station.

There are currently four wastewater treatment facilities located in Arlington, Bennington, Manchester and Pownal (see Appendix II C.)

2. Other Alliance Programs

The Alliance holds two household hazardous waste events per year, one in the northern part of the county and one in the south. Table 14 shows the number of participants from 2016 to 2018. Starting in 2021, the Alliance will hold three events to serve residents and businesses of Stamford and Searsburg which are beyond 20 miles from event locations.

The Alliance annually sells compost bins to encourage home composting and sold nearly 400 during the 2015 SWIP. In addition, the Alliance provides information to businesses, schools, institutions and the public through the Alliance web page, Facebook page, Front Porch Forum, a newsletter and other media on recycling, food scrap diversion, disposal of materials such as electronic waste, pharmaceuticals and other materials and other information for members of the public.

3. Other Programs and Services

As discussed in I.A. above there are numerous programs for managing solid waste. In addition to those described above, other programs and services include textile recycling by One World Center and Goodwill, sites taking E-waste and fluorescent bulbs, battery recycling, the paint program of PaintCare and the many food pantries in the county that accept food donations and distribute food to those in need. Some of these are located at transfer stations and others in private institutions and businesses. Table 8 shows current sites offering textile recycling services.

Table 10. Textile collection sites		
Name	Services Offered	Locations
One World Center	Clothing and textiles	Bennington, Northshire and Sunderland transfer stations, and other locations elsewhere in the county
Goodwill	Clothing and textiles; furniture	Bennington, VT North Adams, MA Williamstown, MA
Manchester Health Services	Clothing and small household items	Manchester, VT

While household hazardous waste is collected at events, materials such as fluorescent bulbs, computers, televisions, paint, and batteries can be collected at a variety of locations in Bennington County on a regular basis.

Table 10. Household hazardous waste, paint, battery, and pharmaceutical collection sites		
E-Waste	Electronic waste through the state program	Bennington, Pownal, Northshire, Sunderland transfer stations; Staples, Goodwill and Browns Computers in Bennington; Dorset School events; Stamford Fire Department annual collection event
Mercury Program	CFL and fluorescent tubes	Bennington, Northshire, Sunderland transfer stations; Miles True Value, Arlington; RK Miles, Shaw's and Aubuchon in Manchester; the Lighting Place in Manchester; Other mercury items at HHW events and mercury thermostats at several locations
Paint	Paint through the PaintCare program	HHW events; Miles True Value, Arlington; Sherwin Williams in Bennington and Manchester; Aubuchon Hardware and RK Miles in Manchester; W.W. Building Supply, Wilmington
Batteries	Rechargeable batteries	Home Depot, Brown Computer and Staples in Bennington; Manchester Town Hall and RK Miles in Manchester; Bennington, Sunderland, and Dorset Transfer Stations HHW events Several automobile parts dealers take lead acid batteries
HHW/CEG Collections	Two collection events per year for household hazardous waste and conditionally exempt generator waste	In 2020, two events, one in Dorset and one in Manchester. From 2021 on, there will be a third event serving Stamford and Searsburg.
Pharmaceuticals	Collection boxes and annual pickups when funding is available	The Pharmacy in both Manchester and Bennington, the Bennington and Manchester Police Departments, Bennington County Sheriff Office, Southwestern Vermont Medical Center, CVS, annual DEA pickup days

Table 12 lists food pantries in Bennington County. These organizations accept donations of food and distribute that food to those in need. This not only provides for those in need but reduces food that might otherwise be wasted and need to be disposed.

Table 11. Food pantries in Bennington County.				
Source: FoodPantry.org undated. Those marked with an * are listed on Vermont Food Bank (www.vtfoodbank.org)				
Name	Address	Town	Zip	Phone
Arlington Food Shelf*	165 Old Mill Rd.	Arlington	05250	802-375-6328
Bible Baptist Food Basket*	1425 Harwood Hill Rd.	Bennington	05201	802-447-3618
BROC-Community Action in Southwestern Vermont*	332 Orchard St.	Bennington	05201	802-447-7515
Greater Bennington Interfaith Services-the Kitchen Cupboard	121 Depot St.	Bennington	05201	802-447-3700
Green Mountain Christian Center*	440 Main St.	Bennington	05201	802-447-7224
His Pantry*	238 West Main St.	Bennington	05250	802-442-1720
Manchester Community Food Cupboard*	Manchester Town Hall Route 7	Manchester	05255	802-362-0057
North Bennington Baptist Church	15 Church St.	North Bennington	05257	802-442-2711
Pownal Food Pantry	Pownal United Methodist Church Church St.	Pownal	05261	
Rupert Food Pantry – United Church of Christ	Rupert Town Garage	Rupert	05768	802-394-7782
Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales Food Shelf, HIS Pantry*	238 Main St.	Bennington	05201	802-442-1720
Saint John the Baptist*	3 Houghton St.	North Bennington	05257	802-447-7504
Shaftsbury United Methodist Church – Carpenter Shelf*	127 Church St.	Shaftsbury	05262	802-681-7194

4. Haulers

Table 12 lists the haulers serving the 13 towns as of February of 2020.

Table 12. Haulers serving member towns Source: Hauler registrations and web sites.		
Name and Contact Information	Services Offered	Towns Served
Ace (County Waste) 1927 Route 9 PO Box 431 Clifton Park, NY 12065	Curbside pickup	Rupert
All American Waste LLC 714 Gage St. Bennington, VT 05201 John Babson, Jr.	Curbside pickup Dumpsters Roll-off service Food scrap collection Scrap metal ²	Bennington
Casella Waste Management 442 Clarendon Ave., West Rutland, VT 05777 Contact: Randy Dapron 802-772-6980 Randall.Dapron@casella.com http://www.casella.com/	Manage Bennington, Northshire and Sunderland Transfer Stations Clean wood accepted at the transfer stations Organics composting at the Bennington Transfer Station Curbside pickup Dumpsters Roll-off service	Arlington, Bennington, Dorset, Manchester, Pownal, Rupert, Sandgate, Searsburg, Shaftsbury, Glastenbury, Sunderland, Woodford
City Compost www.citycompost.com 978-378-3048	Food scrap collection	BCSWA service area
Delmolino and Sons 275 North St. Cheshire, MA 01225 413-743-5397 Contact: Kyle Delmolino	Residential dumpster Roll-off service	Stamford, Pownal
George Apkin and Sons, Inc. 17 Depot St. Adams, MA 01220 413-664-4936	Scrap metal Roll-offs	Bennington, Stamford, Woodford, other towns if requested
Git-R-Gone Rubbish	Curbside services Food scrap collection	Bennington, Shaftsbury
Leonard Keys 5158 NYS Route 22 Salem, NY 12865	Curbside pickup	Rupert
Republic Services, 485 South State St., Cheshire, MA 01225 413-347-6051	Curbside pickup Transfer station pickup Dumpsters	Bennington, Pownal, Shaftsbury, Stamford

² This is a relatively new company and services may change.

Table 12. Haulers serving member towns

Source: Hauler registrations and web sites.

Name and Contact Information	Services Offered	Towns Served
James Reisinger-Kindle ireisinger-kindle@republicservices.com http://www.republicservices.com/	Roll-off service	
R.L. Waste 223 Protection Ave. North Adams, MA 01247 Robert Lefebvre 413-652-2960	Curbside pickup	Stamford
Scott Smith Trucking 901 Simonds Rd. (PO Box 616) Williamstown, MA 01267 413-458-4453	Curbside pickup	Stamford
Scott Wood Trucking PO Box 984 North Adams, MA 01247 413-652-7054	Roll-offs Construction debris	Pownal, Stamford
Tom Sweet 106 Nelson Rd. Bennington, VT 05201-2805 802-442-5536	Not available	Bennington, Woodford
Triple T 437 Vernon Rd. Brattleboro VT 05301 802-254-5388 Contact: Peter Gaskill	Curbside pickup	Searsburg, Stamford
Willy's Rubbish Removal 1212 Chunks Brook Rd. Arlington, VT 05250 802-375-1207 Contact: Willy Mattison	Curbside pickup	Arlington, Sandgate, Sunderland

5. Trends in the Disposal Rate

We will use ReTRAC, reporting from area haulers, surveys of organizations such as One World Center and other sources of information to develop and analyze data on MSW, recyclables and other materials disposed and recycled to arrive at estimated disposal and diversion rates.

The table below summarizes the materials collected from 2016 through 2018. Municipal solid waste (trash) has increased, thereby increasing per capita generation. However, recyclables and organics have increased as well, so the BCSWA diversion rate or the proportion of materials diverted from landfills rose dramatically.

Table 13. Comparison of selected materials generated from 2016 through 2019
Source: VT ANR ReTRAC data.

Material	Tons from BCSWA Area			
	2016	2017	2018	2019
Municipal Solid Waste	54,789.2	57,112.4	60,182.0	42,040.7
Recyclables	7,756.5	10,078.3	12,636.5	10,604.3
Organics	42.9	326.7	5,117.4	1,622.32
Disposal Rate (lbs./person/day)	5.6	6.1	8.9	6.6
The 2015 SWIP goal was to reduce the disposal rate by 25% by 2020 or to 2.7 lbs./person/day				
Estimated backyard composting ³			1,446.6 ⁴	
Household Hazardous Waste	15.2	12.8	20.1	29.54
HHW Participants	398	410	484	446
Diversion Rate	17%		30%	
The 2015 SWIP goal was a diversion rate of 50%				

III. Implementation Plan

A. Performance Standards and Actions

This SWIP addresses the requirements of the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources Materials Management Plan that became effective June 18, 2014. The tables below describe actions to meet the performance standards in that plan.

To be successful, it will be critical for the Alliance to form partnerships with businesses, schools, institutions, and other groups working to reduce, reuse and recycle solid waste. TAM has an active program in several Bennington schools to promote composting, and both TAM and Casella provide advice and assistance on recycling options. Many businesses already actively recycle and could provide models for others to emulate. Similarly, several schools compost onsite or work with local farmers for composting and could serve as sources of technical expertise.

General Information

Name of SWME	Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance
Year Chartered (if applicable)	No charter, Alliance formed in 2015 through an intermunicipal contract.
Mission for Sustainable	The mission of the Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance is to reduce the amount of waste disposed in landfills, by incineration or similar means, by reducing the

³ Based on DSM Environmental, MSW Consultants and Castleton Polling Institute 2018. 2018 Vermont waste characterization, prepared for the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, Montpelier, VT. Available via: <https://dec.vermont.gov/waste-management/solid/publications-and-reports>

⁴ Calculated based on total per capita tons of composting for Vermont proportioned to BCSWA population.

Materials Management	amount of waste generated, conserving resources, and promoting recycling and reuse. Following the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources Materials Management Plan (2019), the Alliance, the Alliance has adopted the following goals: 1. Reduce the generation of all solid waste, both disposed and diverted, by 10% between 2020 and 2025; 2) Decrease the amount of material disposed by 25% by 2025 from 2020 levels. 3. Achieve a diversion rate of 50% by 2025. Increase food diverted to food rescue organizations by 10% by 2025
Names of Member Town(s)	Arlington, Bennington, Dorset, Glastenbury, Manchester, Pownal, Rupert, Sandgate, Searsburg, Shaftsbury, Stamford, Sunderland, Woodford
<input type="checkbox"/>	Attach cover page once SWIP has been pre-approved with title and date adopted by SWME.

Program Administration

A1	Program administration and management
Description of program:	<p>A1a. The Alliance will provide overall program management.</p> <p>A1b. The Alliance will respond to information requests, provide liaison with VT ANR and other solid waste management entities, communicate with towns and haulers on URL requirements and other general responsibilities.</p> <p>A1c. The Alliance will hold board meetings at least three times per year to develop programs and budgeting.</p> <p>A1d. The Alliance will maintain Alliance records, pay invoices and report on programs and funding.</p> <p>A1e. The Alliance will prepare, issue and review RFPs and RFQs.</p> <p>A1f. The Alliance will oversee Alliance contracts and develop procurement standards.</p> <p>A1g. The Alliance will prepare necessary materials for audits.</p> <p>A1h. The Alliance will maintain necessary insurance.</p> <p>A1i. The Alliance will apply for and manage SWIP and other grants.</p>
Expected Timeframe:	Ongoing

A2	Sharing Services
Description of program:	<p>A2a. The Alliance will assist towns in sharing services including HHW/CEG events, E-Waste and PaintCare events, compost bin sales and sharing use of transfer stations across town boundaries.</p> <p>A2b. The Alliance will investigate forming a solid waste district to provide enhanced capabilities to manage solid waste.</p>
Expected Timeframe:	Alliance members have ongoing discussions on coordination and sharing of services.

A3	Training and qualifications
Description of program:	A3. The Alliance will maintain training and qualifications as well as professional memberships. This will include participation in conferences, webinars, and other opportunities to stay current with methods to improve recovery and diversion and overall waste and reduction.
Expected Timeframe:	Ongoing

A4	Communication and collaboration with other Vermont solid waste organizations
Description of program:	A4. The Alliance will participate in meetings of solid waste organizations and VT ANR throughout the year.
Expected Timeframe:	Ongoing

A5	Other Activities
Description of program:	A5. The Alliance will support efforts to reduce the amount of food scraps sent to landfills, and support efforts to appropriately dispose of landfill banned items.
Expected Timeframe:	<p>A5.a. The Alliance will periodically purchase and sell compost bins and food scrap collection containers for residents and small institutions.</p> <p>A5b. The Alliance will support collections of electronics, paint, mercury devices and other banned items.</p> <p>A5c. The Alliance will post opportunities for recycling of materials as new programs are developed on the Alliance web page and Facebook page as well as periodic announcements in the newsletter and on Front Porch Forum.</p> <p>A5d. The Alliance will offer information to the public through the web site, Facebook page, Front Porch Forum, local access TV and public forums on recycling, food scrap reduction, pharmaceutical disposal, sharps disposal, and other aspects of appropriate materials management.</p>

A6	SWIP Update
Description of program:	A5. The Alliance will prepare a new SWIP to be completed in Year 5.
Expected Timeframe:	VT ANR will likely develop guidance in Year 4 and work will be initiated and completed in Year 5.

General

G1	<p>Disposal and Diversion Reporting.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> DISPOSAL RATE: To track progress with state waste reduction goals, SWMEs must report their disposal rate in SWIP years one and five. SWMEs may use the method in the <i>ANR Data Guidance</i> to calculate their disposal rate or another method approved by ANR. Disposal rate reports must be based on calendar year data and be submitted to ANR via ReTRAC by July 1st. <p>DOCUMENTATION (only required in annual SWIP reports):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> First (1st) Year SWIP Report: report year 1 annual per person per year disposal rate. Fifth (5th) Year SWIP Report: report year 5 annual per person per year disposal rate. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> DIVERSION RATE: SWMEs are not required to report diversion rates to ANR; however, it is strongly recommended that SWMEs track their diversion efforts to determine the success of their programs and services.
Plan to submit data:	G1. The Alliance will collect data via ReTRAC as well as from PaintCare, VT ANR on mercury products, textile data from Good Will and the One World Center and other sources and report on disposal rates. We will attempt to assess diversion rates as well. Table 13 on page 19 shows the trend in disposal rates for the BCSWA service area from 2016 to 2019. The Alliance will report the disposal rates in Years 1 and 5 as required.
G2	<p>SWIP Posting & Publicity. To ensure community members are aware of and can access the SWIP, each SWME must—within one month of their SWIP approval—post their approved SWIP on their website and submit one press release about their SWIP to local newspapers within two months of SWIP approval.</p> <p>DOCUMENTATION (only required in annual SWIP reports):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> First (1st) Year SWIP Report: supply website link of SWIP and attach press release along with date released and list of newspapers where it was sent.
Plan for Posting and Press Release:	G2. The Alliance will post the SWIP on the Alliance website within one month of approval of the SWIP by VT ANR. The Alliance will also submit a press release following adoption to local papers serving the Alliance area within two months of approval.

G3	<p>A-Z Waste & Recycling Guide. To ensure community members have access to local information on state disposal bans and how to reuse, recycle, donate, compost, and safely dispose of their unwanted materials, each SWME will develop and maintain an A-Z guide on their website that lists regional management options for various materials. This guide must be updated on the SWMEs website within the first SWIP year and remain accurate throughout the SWIP term. The list must contain, at minimum, information on how to manage, recycle, or divert all <u>state disposal</u> banned items in addition to information on where to recycle/reuse the following materials: clothing/textiles, asphalt shingles and drywall, sharps, pharmaceuticals, and food for donation.</p> <p>DOCUMENTATION (only required in annual SWIP reports):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide A-Z website link in annual SWIP report. 2. A-Z website link must be easily found from the district, alliance, or town's website within 2 clicks or fewer from the homepage. 3. Publicize the A-Z Waste & Recycling Guide with at least two forms of outreach annually throughout the SWIP term.
Plan for Updating Webpage:	G3. The Alliance website currently has an A to Z guide which we update regularly. In 2020 and 2021 we will update our website to include a revised A to Z list with the items specified by VT ANR.
Plan for Publicity:	G3. We will publicize the A to Z guide through newspaper advertisements, Facebook and Front Porch Forum and update the guide at least annually.

G4	<p>Variable Rate Pricing. SWMEs must implement a variable rate pricing system that charges for the collection of municipal solid waste from a residential customer for disposal based on the volume or weight of the waste collected.</p> <p>DOCUMENTATION (only required in annual SWIP reports):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In annual SWIP report, explain the method used to ensure haulers and facilities are charging residents for trash based on volume or weight.
Description of System:	G4. The 13 towns have all adopted a pay as you throw ordinance. See G5 below. The individual towns verify this by contacting haulers annually, and transfer stations within the BCSWA service area charge based on pay-as-you-throw pricing.

G5	<p>Solid Waste Hauling Services. To ensure community members have access to information on solid waste hauling services in their region or town, SWMEs must annually update the contact information and trash, recycling, and food scrap pickup services offered by all commercial solid waste haulers operating within their region on the SWME website. SWMEs may elect to establish licensing or registration programs to accomplish this requirement.</p> <p>DOCUMENTATION (only required in annual SWIP reports):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. In annual SWIP report, provide website link to hauler contact list and services haulers provide.
Description of Updating Process:	G5. The pay as you throw ordinances adopted by the towns require haulers to register. We use that information as well as other sources to update hauler information posted on our website at least annually. Each town annually contacts haulers requesting that they register and provide information on their services and their continuing agreement to use a pay-as-you-throw pricing system.

Outreach – Recycling, Organics, HHW/CEG, EPR Programs

O1	<p>School Outreach. To ensure all K-12 public and private school children, faculty and staff understand state disposal bans and how to reduce waste, reuse, recycle, compost, donate, and safely manage materials responsibly, SWMEs must annually visit and work with K-12 public and private schools to implement school-wide waste reduction programs — covering, at minimum, disposal ban information, how to recycle correctly, how to separate food scraps for composting, how to reduce wasted food and donate what is appropriate, how to safely manage hazardous waste, and collection options available from Vermont's Extended Producer Responsibility Programs for electronics, paint, batteries, mercury-containing bulbs and thermostats. SWMEs must assist schools on a continual basis to ensure the effectiveness of waste reduction programs.</p> <p>SWMEs must conduct in-person outreach and education assistance to at least 10% or 2 schools (whichever is greater) within their jurisdiction each year, ensuring that at least 50% of the schools are reached by the end of the SWIP term. SWMEs should prioritize outreach to schools that have not yet been visited. For SWMEs with fewer than 10 schools, assistance should be offered on an annual basis to at least 2 schools per year, with re-visits to schools if all schools in the jurisdiction are reached early in the SWIP term.</p> <p>SWMEs may work with ANR's Environmental Assistance Office to obtain information and technical assistance on HHW/CEG handling, disposal, waste reduction, recycling, and finding cost effective disposal options.</p> <p>DOCUMENTATION (only required in annual SWIP reports):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide a list of schools contacted, dates visited, informational materials provided (such as VT Waste Not Guide), technical assistance or outreach offered, and status of recycling and food scrap diversion programs in annual SWIP report.
Description of Outreach Plan:	<p>O1. The Alliance school outreach program is designed to provide outreach to three of our 26 schools⁵ annually so as to visit at least 13 or 50% of our schools by the end of this plan. Outreach addresses recycling of all mandated recyclables listed as banned from landfill, management of organics, and management of hazardous materials and those covered by Vermont Extended Producer Responsibility legislation. The Alliance will review data collected from previous visits and prioritize schools based on 1) whether or not they have been visited previously and 2) needs as well as interest in materials management programs. The Alliance Outreach Program Manager will visit at least three schools annually to meet with staff and teachers and provide programs for students where requested, covering recyclables, organics. Hazardous materials, electronics, paint, batteries and mercury-containing bulbs and thermostats. The Alliance will report on these activities in annual SWIP reports.</p> <p>We track outreach via surveys and a spreadsheet to collect information on collection methods and areas where further improvement is needed. For the latter, we provide follow-up assistance.</p>

⁵ See Tables 6 and 7 on pages 10 and 11.

O2	<p>Direct Business Outreach. To ensure businesses and institutions (hospitals, nursing homes, colleges, correctional facilities, and other large waste generators) understand how to meet State requirements and reduce waste, recycle, compost, donate food/goods, and safely manage materials responsibly, SWMEs must annually conduct business outreach and education either in person or via phone — covering, at minimum, disposal ban information, how to recycle correctly, how to separate food scraps for composting, how to reduce wasted food, how to safely manage hazardous waste, and collection options available from Vermont's Extended Producer Responsibility Programs for electronics, paint, batteries, mercury containing bulbs and thermostats. SWMEs must provide business outreach and education on a continual basis to ensure the effectiveness of waste reduction programs.</p> <p>SWMEs must conduct business outreach and education to at least 2% or 20 businesses/institutions (whichever is greater) within their jurisdiction each year and reach at least 10% of the businesses and institutions within their region by the end of the SWIP term. For SWMEs with fewer than 20 businesses, all businesses must receive outreach at least twice during the SWIP term.</p> <p>SWMEs should prioritize outreach to businesses that have not yet been contacted or visited or those whose status is not yet known.</p> <p>DOCUMENTATION (only required in annual SWIP reports):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. In annual SWIP report, provide list of businesses/institutions contacted, date contacted, outreach materials provided (such as the VT Waste Not Guide), and the status of recycling and food scrap diversion programs and whether follow up is needed.
Description of Outreach Plan:	O2. The Alliance business outreach program is designed to provide assistance to 40 or 2% of the approximately 2,000 businesses in the BCSWA service area., with the goal of reaching 10% or 200 by the end of the term of this plan. will gather existing information and contact businesses and institutions to identify key contacts and to categorize businesses and institutions by the types (food vs. non-food) and size (# employees). This information will be updated as needed. A summary of the number and types of businesses in the Alliance service area can be found in II.A. 2 on pages 9 and 10. The Alliance will use the above to prioritize both food and non-food-based businesses and institutions within the Alliance area for outreach. The Alliance will annually contact the top 100 priority businesses and institutions to 1) describe the mission, goals, and resources of the Alliance; and 2) interview them about their current source reduction, recycling, composting, public space recycling programs and volume of material generated. Based on the results of that effort, the Alliance will provide technical assistance and support in person, via email, via phone, or via means such as webinars, workshops and social media about source reduction, recycling, organics, managing hazardous materials, electronics, paint, batteries and mercury containing lamps and thermostats to 40 businesses. The Alliance will report on these activities in the annual SWIP report. We survey businesses on their current materials management and identify areas where they need improvement. The results are kept in a spreadsheet which is then used to provide follow-up where necessary.

03	<p>Waste Reduction at Events. To ensure community members have resources to reduce waste, recycle, and divert food scraps from the trash at events, SWMEs must, <u>at minimum</u>, offer technical assistance which could include signage and coordination with local haulers and facilities accepting food scraps. Though not required, SWMEs are encouraged to host waste-sorting stations at events with SWME staff or volunteers or to loan community members basic supplies such as signage and collection bins.</p> <p>DOCUMENTATION (only required in annual SWIP reports):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Provide information on SWME or town website of event waste reduction and diversion resources and services and provide link in annual SWIP report.2. In annual SWIP report, list events that have received assistance each year.
Description of Assistance:	The Alliance will annually identify major events scheduled for each SWIP year and provide materials on the Alliance web page for use by those that organize those events. The Outreach Program Manager will provide on-site, phone, email, webinar or similar assistance to organizers of ten (10) priority events annually, with priority depending on the size of the events. These activities will be reported in the annual SWIP report. Outreach information and materials along with contact information will be kept on the BCSWA website starting in 2020 or 2021.

HHW & CEG Hazardous Waste

H1	<p>HHW Collection Events and Facilities. To ensure community members have convenient access to safely dispose of Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) and Conditionally Exempt Generator Hazardous Waste (CEG), SWMEs must provide a minimum of two (2) HHW/CEG hazardous waste collection events per year or access to a permanent HHW collection facility defined within this MMP as a facility that is open at least one day per week and open at minimum from May through October (ANR may consider approving requests for alternative operating days and seasonal openings and closures of permanent facilities when necessary). SWMEs that provide access to a permanent HHW collection facility in their region, are exempt from the requirement to offer all towns at least one annual collection event within 20 road-miles.</p> <p>Minimum Requirements for SWMEs utilizing Collection Events: SWMEs must offer at least one event scheduled in the spring and one in the fall and events must operate for a minimum of 4 hours. SWMEs who only offer collection events or operate HHW facilities with operating hours similar to collection events must <u>annually</u> provide each of its towns with access to at least one collection event (or to a facility) within 20 road-miles; meaning a maximum distance of 20 road-miles from any point in the town. If a SWME provides additional events above the minimum requirement, waivers to the minimum duration for each event may be considered by ANR. To meet this 20 road-mile convenience requirement, certain regions may need to add collection events.</p> <p>SWMEs may share access to events and facilities provided a signed agreement confirming access by the SWME's community members is obtained; and provided that an event or facility is within 20 road-miles from any point in a town that would be using that event or facility.</p> <p>In the event an EPR Program is established for certain HHW materials, SWMEs would be required to ensure that collection exists for all <u>other HHW materials not covered</u> by the HHW EPR Program and to meet and maintain the above HHW collection and convenience standards.</p> <p>DOCUMENTATION (only required in annual SWIP reports):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In annual SWIP report, provide dates of events or link to facility hours on SWME website, number of participants and the amount of HHW/CEG hazardous waste collected.
Description of Collection Plan:	<p>The Alliance will hire a qualified HHW disposal company and hold three four-hour events within the Alliance area. This will include outreach and advertising. One event will serve the southern portion of the area, and a second the northern portion with one in the spring and one in the fall. We will hold a third event specifically for the towns of Searsburg and Stamford which are both more than 20 miles from either those event sites. These activities will be reported in ReTRAC and the annual SWIP reports.</p> <p>The Alliance will work to develop a permanent facility for residents, businesses, and institutions. If and when that becomes operational, events will cease to occur.</p>

H2	<p>Collection of Landfill-Banned and Dangerous Materials. Each SWME shall demonstrate that year-round collection options exist in their region for the following materials: batteries, mercury containing lamps, mercury thermostats, 1- and 20-pound propane tanks, electronics, paint, tires, used oil, and white goods (including discarded refrigerators, washing machines, clothes dryers, ranges, water heaters, dishwasher, freezers). Collection locations can be privately or publicly owned, such as auto parts stores collecting used oil, or hardware stores collecting paint and fluorescent lamps. However, if the only collection location for a required material closes during the SWIP term, then the SWME must provide a collection option for its residents. All collection locations must be open at least one weekday and one weekend day per week. In addition, all outreach promoting the collection of these materials must make clear that the collection of these materials is separate from curbside, or blue-bin, recycling.</p> <p>DOCUMENTATION (only required in annual SWIP reports):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In annual SWIP report, provide link to SWME's A-Z Guide's listings with name, location, phone number, and website (if available) of the locations, by material type.
Plan for Updating Collection Locations:	<p>The Alliance will report, in the annual SWIP report, the name, address, phone number and other relevant information on locations, including transfer stations, accepting batteries, mercury containing lamps and thermostats, 1- and 20-pound propane tanks, E-waste, paint, tires, used oil, and appliances. The Alliance will also provide for appropriate outreach material on the website, Facebook page and periodic publications in local newspapers. In our outreach, we will make clear that these materials are not to be included with blue-bin or other recyclables. A list of current locations can be found in Table 10 on pages 15 and 16.</p>

Food Donation

F1	<p>Food Rescue. To ensure community awareness of food donation centers, SWMEs must, at minimum, list food donation groups on their website (this can be part of the A-Z Guide). SWMEs should contact and collaborate with local food redistribution groups to conduct outreach and education to food businesses and institutions about opportunities to donate quality food within the region to feed people. Related groups include Vermont Foodbank, hunger councils, food shelves, churches, schools, and other nonprofit and community organizations that accept and distribute donated food items.</p> <p>DOCUMENTATION (only required in annual SWIP reports):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In annual SWIP report, provide link to SWME's A-Z Guide's food donation listing, with name, location, phone number, and website (if available) of the food donation centers.
Plan for Updating Website:	<p>The Alliance will develop materials to encourage food donations as part of management of organics and distribute those during visits to businesses, institutions, and schools as well as for the public. These materials will be developed following consultation with local food distribution organizations in the Alliance service area. We currently have a link identifying food rescue organizations and will update that at least annually. These are also listed in Table 11 on pages 16 and 16.</p>

F1	<p>Food Rescue. To ensure community awareness of food donation centers, SWMEs must, at minimum, list food donation groups on their website (this can be part of the A-Z Guide). SWMEs should contact and collaborate with local food redistribution groups to conduct outreach and education to food businesses and institutions about opportunities to donate quality food within the region to feed people. Related groups include Vermont Foodbank, hunger councils, food shelves, churches, schools, and other nonprofit and community organizations that accept and distribute donated food items.</p> <p>DOCUMENTATION (only required in annual SWIP reports):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In annual SWIP report, provide link to SWME's A-Z Guide's food donation listing, with name, location, phone number, and website (if available) of the food donation centers.

Textiles

T1	<p>Textile Reuse and Recycling. To ensure community members have access to textile reuse and recycling centers where used clothing can be donated, SWMEs must annually ensure that at least one collection location exists within their region. Textile reuse/recycling locations can be either privately or publicly owned. However, if the only collection location closes or ceases collection during the SWIP term, then the SWME is responsible for providing a collection option for its residents or partnering with another group that may coordinate an annual drop and swap event. Collection locations can also be shared amongst SWMEs so long as the facility is within the same county or SWME region. SWMEs must list where to donate and reuse/recycle "clothing/textiles" in their A-Z Guides.</p> <p>DOCUMENTATION (only required in annual SWIP reports):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In annual SWIP report, provide link to SWME's A-Z Guide's textiles reuse and recycling listing with name, location, phone number, and website (if available) of the textile reuse and recycling center.
Plan for Ensuring Collection Exists:	<p>The Alliance will post the locations of textile collection points on the Alliance web site and provide those in the annual SWIP report. We will update the locations on our website at least annually. Current locations are summarized in Table 10 on pages 14 and 15.</p>

Construction & Demolition (C&D)

C1	<p>Leaf, Yard, and Clean Wood Debris Recycling. To ensure community members have options to recycle leaf, yard, and clean wood debris that are banned from landfill disposal, SWMEs must annually ensure that at least one leaf, yard, and clean wood recycling collection location exists within their jurisdiction. This location can be either privately or publicly owned; however, if the only collection location closes or ceases collection during the SWIP term, then the SWME must provide a collection option for its community members. SWMEs must list where to drop off clean wood in their A-Z Guides.</p>
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	<p>Recycling options can include dimensional lumber that is reused, clean wood that is burned to produce heat and/or power for buildings (including wood stoves), clean wood that is chipped to create mulch or compost feedstocks, and other options listed in the state's Leaf, Yard, and Clean Wood Debris Guide. Collection locations should be co-located with solid waste facilities that collect C&D and trash to make clean wood recycling convenient.</p> <p>DOCUMENTATION (only required in annual SWIP reports):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In annual SWIP report, provide link to SWME's A-Z Guide's clean wood recycling listing with name, location, phone number, and website (if available) of the collection location.
Plan for Ensuring Collection Exists:	<p>Transfer stations (see Appendix II A on page 48) serving the Alliance towns accept leaf, yard, and clean wood debris. These sites will be listed on the Alliance web page, in the A to Z guide and will be provided in the annual SWIP report.</p>
C2	<p>Asphalt Shingles and Drywall Recycling.</p> <p>Asphalt Shingles Recycling: To ensure community members have options to recycle asphalt shingles, SWMEs must ensure that at least one recycling collection location exists within their region. Collection locations can be privately or publicly owned. However, if the only recycling collection location closes during the SWIP term, then the SWME must provide a collection option. Collection locations may be shared amongst SWMEs. ANR may suspend this requirement upon finding that insufficient markets exist for these materials.</p> <p>Clean Drywall Recycling: To promote the recycling of clean drywall, SWMEs must list where to drop off clean drywall for recycling in their A-Z Guides (even if drywall recycling collection locations are outside of the SWME region). To encourage development of options for drywall recycling collection, SWMEs must contact drywall recycling collectors once during the SWIP term to determine costs for obtaining drywall recycling collection services in their region.</p> <p>DOCUMENTATION (only required in annual SWIP reports):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In annual SWIP report, provide link to SWME's A-Z Guide's asphalt shingles and drywall recycling listing with name, location, phone number, and website (if available) of these recycling collection locations. 2. Fifth (5th) Year SWIP Report: describe contact made to drywall recyclers for costs for recycling option.
Plan for Ensuring Collection Exists:	<p>The Alliance will assure that a collection point for asphalt shingles is available within the Alliance service area by July 1, 2022 and provide information on the Alliance web site, Facebook page, periodic newspaper advertisements as well as in the annual SWIP report. The Alliance will also identify areas where clean drywall can be disposed for recycling, and locations will be listed during the SWIP term.</p>

Residuals – Biosolids, Wood Ash, Short Paper Fiber

R1	<p>Residuals Recycling Meetings. To promote the recycling of residual materials, each SWME must attend and help ANR Residuals Program staff host and coordinate at least one regional public meeting on residuals recycling during the SWIP term. ANR Residuals Program staff will help SWMEs organize the meetings, give a presentation, and identify speakers and invitees. SWMEs must reserve a space to hold the meetings and send invitations to water/wastewater and public works employees, town managers, select board members, septic and biosolids service providers, citizens, industrial waste generators, and others as appropriate. ANR Residuals Program staff will collaborate with SWMEs to develop a meeting agenda that best suits the needs or issues of the region and its towns. Meeting agendas could cover the benefits and challenges of recycling biosolids and other residual materials, like stabilized septage, wood ash, and short paper fibers, as well as education campaigns for the public on residual materials and keeping non-flushables and toxics out of the wastewater stream and septic systems.</p> <p>DOCUMENTATION (only required in annual SWIP reports):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Collaborate with Residuals staff to host/coordinate regional public meeting on residuals recycling. 2. Report date of meeting and list of attendees in 5th year SWIP report.
Plan for Assisting with Meeting Coordination:	The Alliance will work with ANR Residuals staff to host at least one workshop on managing biosolids, septage, wood ash and paper fibers. The Alliance will reserve space, invite attendees, and help to develop an agenda and report on results in the Year 5 SWIP report. The Alliance has developed and will continue to make available information for the public on managing biosolids.

Additional SWIP Requirements Outlined in Overview

Solid Waste Facility Siting Criteria	Describe siting criteria that will apply to solid waste facilities which may be proposed by any public or private entity in the SWME region. As required by 10 V.S.A. §6605(c), siting criteria shall not be less stringent than the criteria in Vermont Solid Waste Management Rules.
Description:	See Section III. D.

Specify Facilities Included in SWIP & How Proposed Facilities Will Be Reviewed	Explain the process and standards to be used to determine if newly proposed solid waste facilities would be included in the SWIP. The process may reference siting criteria and existing zoning ordinances, may require a host town agreement, or may defer to requirements in the Vermont Solid Waste Management Rules for some or all types of solid waste facilities. The standard(s) for being included in the SWIP should be clear.
Facilities and Process:	See Section III. D. and Appendix II.

Public Participation in the SWIP Approval Process	Describe the process to be used to ensure public participation in the development and implementation of the SWIP. The local community should be notified of opportunities to participate in the SWIP development and implementation. In accordance with state statute, SWMEs must hold at least two public meetings on the draft SWIP.
Description of Process:	All meetings of the Alliance are open to the public, and the Alliance maintains a web site and Facebook page and provides information via the press, front porch forum and other means. See I.D. for a description of the planning process.

Ordinances	Include copies of any solid waste related ordinances with the SWIP.
Copies of Ordinances:	Copies can be found in Appendix III.

Conformance with Other Plans	Demonstrate that the SWIP is in conformance with any regional plan adopted in accordance with 24 V.S.A Chapter 117. Demonstration may be in the form of a letter from the applicable regional planning commission regarding conformance of the solid waste implementation plan with the regional plan(s), copies of pertinent sections of the regional plan(s), or other documentation that proves conformance.
Letter or other Documentation:	See Section I.D.

B. Resource Needs

The Alliance develops an annual budget and workplan to accomplish the tasks in the program areas described above. The Alliance does not intend to hire staff, but to contract with a variety of vendors to provide program administration, education and outreach, web design and maintenance, HHW collections and other parts of the overall program.

Table 14 shows expenditures, income, and budgeted amounts from fiscal year 2015 through 2018. The Alliance has expended \$496,961.91 and received income from grants and compost bin sales of \$128,939.78. The Alliance has also been substantially under budget each year.

Table 14. BCSWA expenditures from fiscal year 2015-2016 to 2018-2019 Source: BCSWA adopted budgets					
Expenses	FY 2015-2016	FY 2016-2017	FY 2017-2018	FY 2018-2019	Totals
Salaries and Benefits	\$ 27,379.28	\$ 33,873.07	\$35,194.25	\$ 35,487.23	\$ 131,933.83
Direct Costs	\$ 4,034.79	\$ 6,918.04	\$8,481.49	\$ 8,848.07	\$ 28,282.39
Compost bins	\$ 4,180.33	\$ 4,303.10	\$4,184.80	\$ 2,948.88	\$ 15,617.11
Advertising	\$ 1,972.80	\$ 4,203.73	\$4,650.75	\$ 7,105.34	\$ 17,932.62
Equipment	\$ 2,618.52	\$ 178.90			\$ 2,797.42
Indirect Costs	\$ 18,639.81	\$ 22,637.40	\$22,422.25	\$ 11,441.08	\$ 75,140.54
Total BCRC	\$ 58,825.53	\$ 72,114.24	\$74,933.54	\$ 65,830.60	\$ 271,703.91
Outreach, Web and Other Contractors	\$ 13,425.00	\$ 23,943.43	\$31,014.34	\$ 30,460.73	\$ 98,843.50
HHW Contractors	\$ 21,299.11	\$ 24,505.81	\$31,713.46	\$ 48,896.12	\$ 126,414.50
Total Contractors	\$ 34,724.11	\$ 48,449.24	\$62,727.80	\$ 79,356.85	\$ 225,258.00
Total Expenses	\$ 93,549.64	\$ 120,563.48	\$137,661.34	\$ 145,187.45	\$ 496,961.91
Income					
ANR Grant, Ag and Markets, Donations	\$ 12,238.55	\$ 27,060.38	\$15,979.96	\$ 56,769.35	\$ 112,048.24
Compost bin sales	\$ 4,235.00	\$ 5,947.71	\$3,710.03	\$ 2,998.80	\$ 16,891.54
Total Income	\$ 16,473.55	\$ 33,008.09	\$19,689.99	\$ 59,768.15	\$ 128,939.78
Expenses minus income	\$ 77,076.09	\$ 87,555.39	\$117,971.35	\$ 85,419.30	\$ 368,022.13
Budgeted Amounts	\$186,655.00	\$177,455.00	\$159,655.00	\$169,180.00	\$692,945.00

The budget for 2019 to 2020 totaled \$173,980.00 and for 2020-2021, \$208,225.00. These increased costs reflect increases in staff costs and in disposal of household hazardous waste, which will require three events in 2021. The Alliance towns also face the problem of rising costs for municipal solid waste disposal, recycling, and food scrap diversion. The value of many materials is significantly lower than just a few years ago and finding markets for recyclables and compost is difficult.

Table 16 below provides a partial list of potential partners with whom the Alliance will work to implement this plan, in addition to the transfer stations (Appendix II. A.), textile collection sites (Table 9), HHW and E-Waste sites (Table 8) food pantries (Table 120) and haulers (Table 12).

Table 15. Potential contractors and partners	
Organization	Potential Activities
Paula Kamperman	Outreach Program Manager for the Alliance from December 2018 to the present
Northeast Recycling Council (NERC)	Outreach to schools and businesses; multimedia program development; web site design

Table 15. Potential contractors and partners	
Organization	Potential Activities
Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRA)	Outreach to schools and businesses; multimedia program development; web site design
Vermont Green Business Program	Potential partner that aids businesses with energy efficiency and recycling
Vermont Farm to School Network	Potential partner that provides advice to schools on connecting to local area farms
Vermont Agency of Agriculture and Markets	Supports school organics programs and pesticide collection
Composting Association of Vermont	Organization supporting composting
Vermont Master Composter and Master Gardener programs	University of Vermont program to train people in composting
Bennington County Regional Commission	Actions under General (G1-8); program administration; facility siting review; plan updates; actions for sludge and C & D management; managing contracts; etc.
US Ecology, Clean Harbors Environmental Services, Heritage, Tradebe and others	Household hazardous waste disposal

The Alliance will need to work with other contractors for development of the web site and multi-media programs. In Year 5, the SWIP would be entering the final year, so a new SWIP would need to be developed.

C. Organizational Structure and Governance

The Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance is organized through an Interlocal agreement in accordance with 24 V.S.A. Chapter 24 and includes the towns of Arlington, Bennington, Dorset, Glastenbury, Manchester, Pownal, Rupert, Sandgate, Searsburg, Shaftsbury, Stamford, Sunderland, and Woodford. Representatives are appointed for one- year terms by the Select Boards of the respective towns. The Alliance holds at least two meetings per year, including an annual meeting. Annual objectives and a workplan are based on the adopted SWIP, and funding is apportioned based on population as shown in Appendix I. That will be revised when the 2020 census data is available.

Each town gets at least one vote. Towns with a population greater than 2,000 get a vote for each 2,000 residents rounded up as shown in Appendix I. For a meeting to be held, business transacted, and votes taken, a majority of member towns must be represented. A majority vote shall be defined as requiring both 1) a majority of the Town Representatives and 2) more than 50% of the total votes of the Towns. A two-thirds vote shall be defined as requiring 1) both two-thirds of the Town Representatives and 2) two-thirds of the total votes of the Towns (Appendix I). The Alliance elects a Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer and submits a budget to the 13 Select Boards for approval.

D. Facility Siting Criteria

New facilities, which are those not listed in Appendix II of this SWIP, would be required to be added to the SWIP via a plan amendment. That process would need to be completed before a facility can be certified by the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources. Application for certification and for inclusion in this plan may be done concurrently. For facilities seeking categorical certification, the Alliance finds that the proposed facility is acceptable under this plan.

A public or private entity desiring to operate a solid waste facility in the BCSWA area shall submit a letter to the Alliance requesting that its facility be included in this Solid Waste Implementation Plan. For categorical certifications, the public or private entity shall submit a letter requesting a determination of whether the proposed facility is acceptable under this plan. Along with that letter, the applicant shall submit a copy of the entity's completed application for a Vermont Solid Waste Management Facility Certification or Categorical Certification that the applicant is submitting to the State, along with copies of local, state or federal approval applications and any additional information required to sufficiently document satisfaction of the siting criteria specified below. Applicants are advised to begin consultations with the Alliance early in the process.

Solid Waste facilities, such as transfer stations, shall be located to:

1. Conform to all local, regional, state, or federal rules, regulations and permitting requirements.
2. Comply with the siting requirements of the Vermont Solid Waste Management Rules.
3. Are prohibited within:
 - a. Class I and Class II Groundwater Areas;
 - b. Class I and Class II wetlands and their associated buffer zones, as defined in the Vermont Wetlands Rules, unless allowed by a Wetlands Permit or Conditional Use Determination that has been issued by the Agency;
 - c. Class III wetlands and their associated buffer zones, as defined in the Vermont Wetlands Rules, unless allowed by a Wetlands Permit or Conditional Use Determination that has been issued by the Agency;
 - d. Class III wetlands, as defined by the Vermont Wetlands Rules, unless allowed by a Water Quality Certification that has been issued pursuant to 40 CFR Part 401, or has been waived by the Agency;
 - e. A National Wildlife Refuge as designated by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service;
 - f. A wildlife management area as designated by the Agency
 - g. A threatened or endangered species habitat area as designated by the Agency, except for diffuse disposal facilities
 - h. Floodways, Special Flood Hazard Areas; This criterion does not apply to storage, transfer or recycling facilities, certified prior to the date of either this plan or the Vermont Solid Waste Rules where there is no expansion of the facility beyond the previously certified waste management boundary;

- i. River corridors, except for land application sites as provided in §6-1305; This criterion does not apply to previously certified storage, transfer, or recycling facilities where there is no expansion of the facility beyond the previously certified waste management boundary;
- j. A watershed for a Class A Waters, as designated by the Agency;
- k. Within 500-feet of an Outstanding Resource Water; This criterion does not apply to previously certified Subchapter 12 storage, transfer, or recycling facilities where there is no expansion of the facility beyond the previously certified waste management boundary;
- l. Within Surface Water Protection Areas;
- m. On slopes greater than 15% grade

4. Have direct access to a state or town road with weight limits sufficient for vehicular traffic that will serve the facility.
5. Receive support from and/or incorporate any changes recommended by the Bennington County Regional Commission during review for potential substantial regional impact or through Act 250 review.

Wastewater treatment facilities shall be located so as to meet the requirements of the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources. Any such facilities required to have a solid waste certification or a sludge management plan shall be deemed to be included if and when that plan is approved by the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources.

To be included in this plan or to receive a letter of acceptability for categorical certifications, the facility would need to be approved by resolution of a 2/3 majority of the Alliance Board members at a duly warned meeting of the Alliance as specified in the interlocal agreement creating the Alliance. The Alliance Board may hold one or more public hearings on the proposed facility. The Alliance Board will approve, conditionally approve or deny the request for inclusion or for acceptability in the Plan by resolution within sixty (60) days of an application deemed as complete by the Alliance Board Executive Committee at a special or regularly scheduled Board meeting. The applicant may make a presentation or be available to answer questions.

If a town joins BCSWA after adoption of this SWIP, the solid waste facilities of that town are not automatically included in this SWIP but will be approved on a case-by-case basis by the Alliance Board. The Alliance will notify the State in writing, in the manner prescribed by the State, of any facility or type of facility that is included in the Plan after completion of the process described in this section. A list of facilities included in the Plan will be maintained by the Alliance and is considered part of this Plan. A facility continues to be included in the Plan if it remains in compliance with all local, state, and federal laws, rules, regulations, and ordinances. If an amendment or renewal of the Vermont Solid Waste Management Facility Certification for a facility included in this Plan includes significant changes in the materials accepted, the process used to manage the materials or the annual tonnages allowed to be managed by the facility, the owners/operators of the facility shall follow the procedures specified in this section to be included in this plan.

The Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance will communicate these requirements with town planning commissions and development review boards so that review can be coordinated, as necessary.

E. Ordinances

Each of the thirteen towns has adopted a pay as you throw ordinance modeled from the VT ANR guidance. Copies of these can be found in Appendix III. Several of the towns have solid waste ordinances addressing other issues. Copies of these can be found in Appendix IV.

IV. References

A. Literature and Reports

Bennington County Regional Plan 2015. (adopted March 19, 2015) Bennington County Regional Commission, 111 South St., Suite 203, Bennington, VT.

DSM Environmental Services, MSW Consultants, Castleton Polling Institute 2018. Vermont Waste Characterization Final Report. Prepared for the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, Solid Waste Program.

Infogroup 2020. Data for Bennington County, VT. Infogroup 1020 East 1st St., Papillion, NE

University of Vermont 2019. 2019 Vermont Solid Waste Districts, Alliances, Groups, and Independent Towns Study. Produced by the Center for Rural Studies at the University of Vermont.

U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates. Available via: https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS_17_5YR_S0101&prodType=table. Accessed March 17, 2020.

Vermont Agency of Education 2019. Directory of approved and recognized independent schools, approved tutorials, and distance learning schools, other educational programs, and state-operated facilities. Vermont Agency of Education. Available via; <https://education.vermont.gov/sites/aoe/files/documents/edu-directory-independent-schools-112119.pdf>. Accessed March 19, 2020.

Vermont Education Dashboard 2020. Vermont Agency of Education. Available via: <https://education.vermont.gov/data-and-reporting/vermont-education-dashboard>. Accessed March 19, 2020.

Vermont Agency of Natural Resources 2019. Materials Management Plan.

Vermont Agency of Natural Resources 2014. Materials Management Plan.

B. Personal Communication Sources

See Table 12 for a list of waste management contacts (haulers) that provided information.

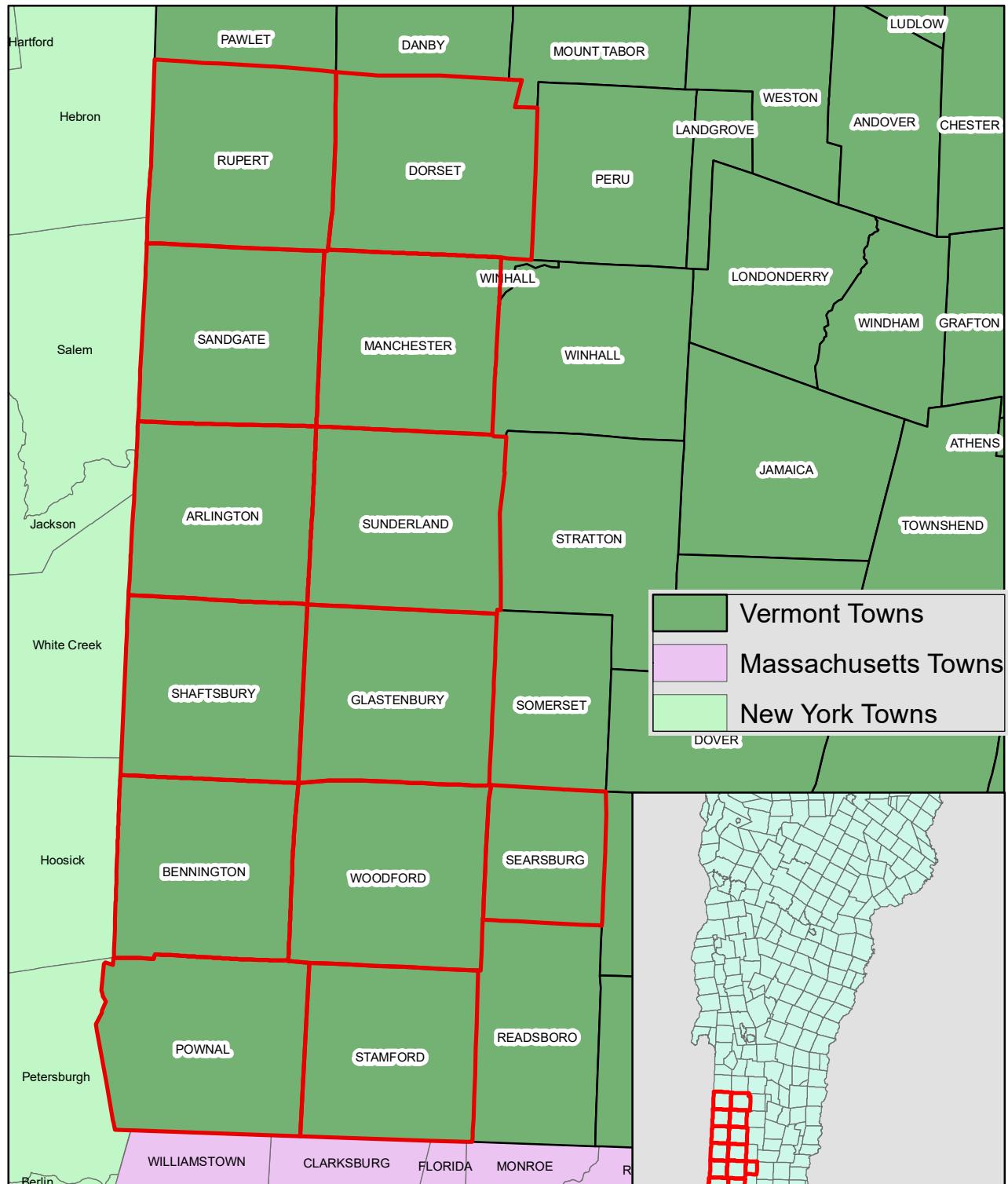
C. Sources of Information for Maps

Map 1: Vermont Open Geoportal. Available via: <https://geodata.vermont.gov>

Map 2: Vermont Open Geoportal. Available via: <https://geodata.vermont.gov>

Buzz Surwillo, VT ANR Solid Waste Management, Montpelier, VT; BCRC field visits in 2020.

Map 1. Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance Towns

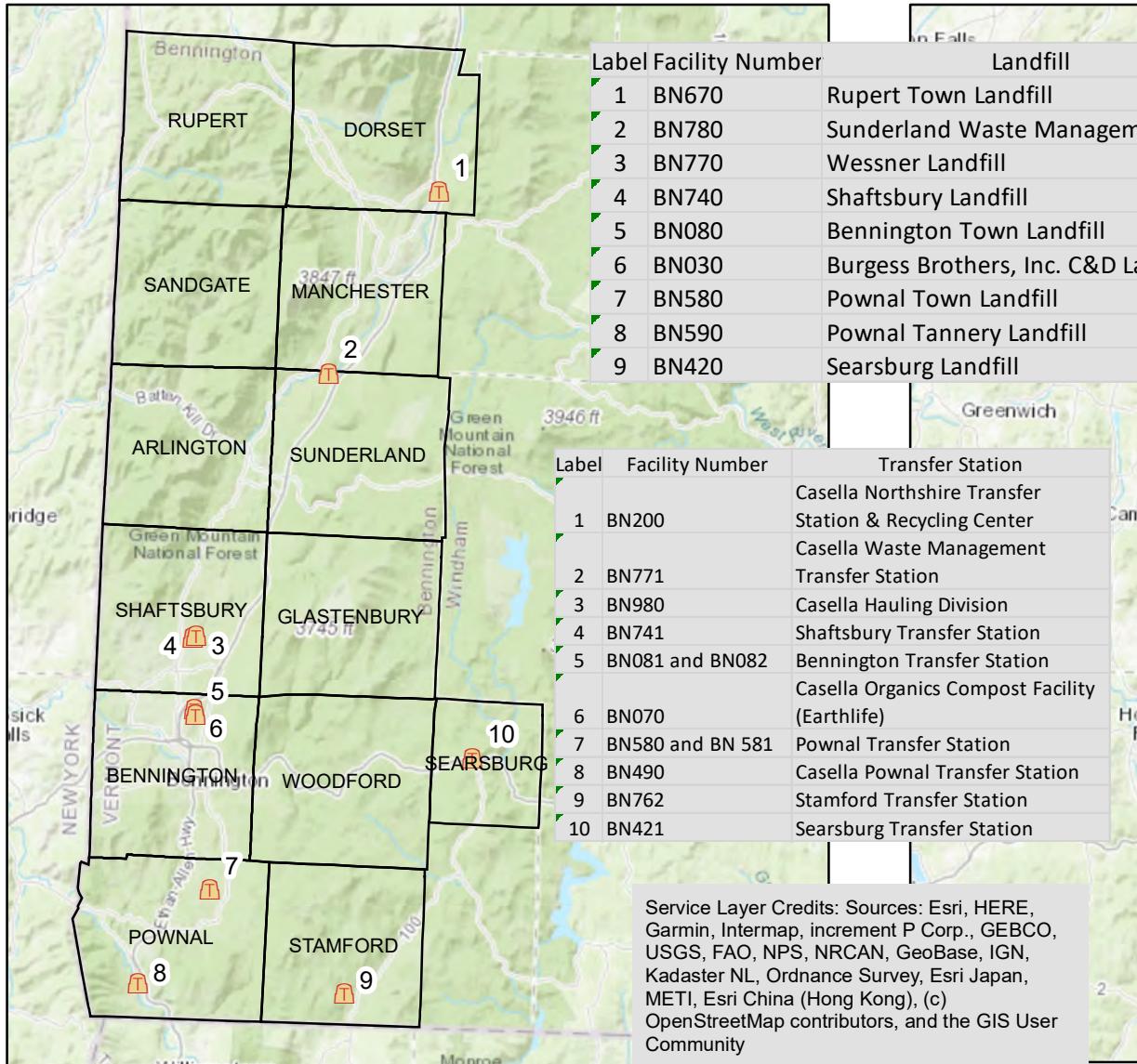


0 2.5 5 10 15 Miles

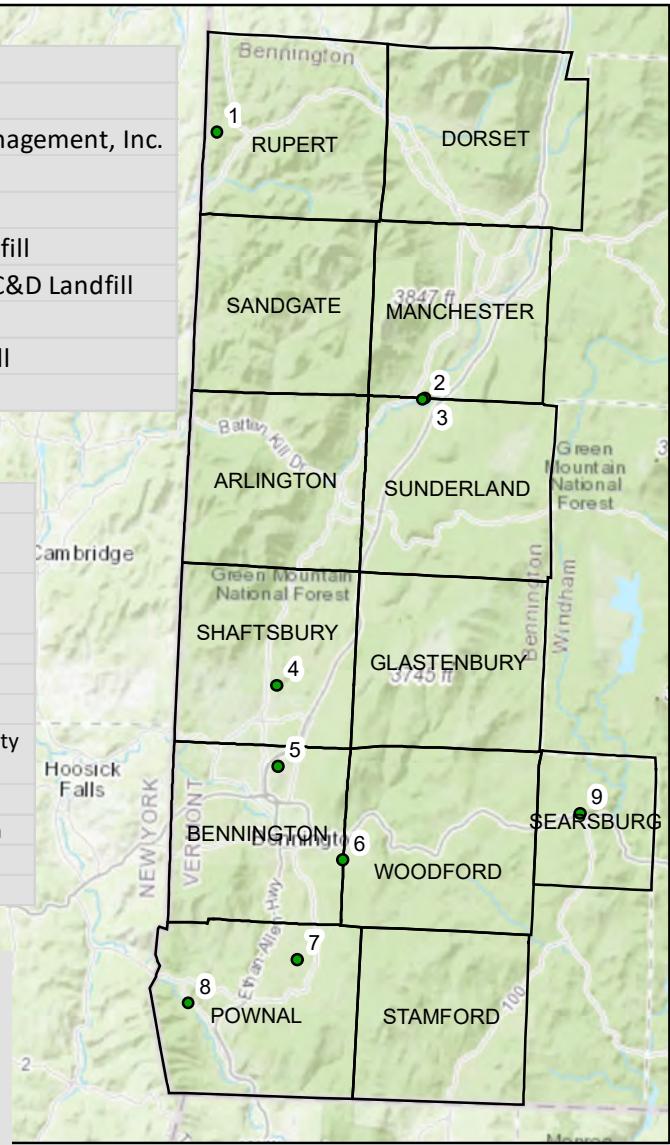
This map was prepared by the Bennington County Regional Commission in May of 2020. This map is for planning purposes only. See Section IV. C. for data sources.

Map 2. Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance Facilities

Transfer Stations



Landfills



This map was prepared by the Bennington County Regional Commission in March of 2020. This map is for planning purposes only. See Section IV. C. for data sources.



0 2.5 5 10 15 20 Miles

Appendix I. Interlocal contract establishing the Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance

Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance Interlocal Contract

This represents an interlocal contract for the management of solid waste for the Towns of Arlington, Bennington, Dorset, Glastenbury, Manchester, Pownal, Rupert, Sandgate, Searsburg, Shaftsbury, Stamford, Sunderland and Woodford, Vermont.

This contract is entered into between the Towns of Arlington, Bennington, Dorset, Glastenbury, Manchester, Pownal, Rupert, Sandgate, Searsburg, Shaftsbury, Stamford, Sunderland, and Woodford, in Bennington County, Vermont, acting by and through their respective Select Boards.

Whereas, under the 24 V.S.A. § 2202a the Towns of Arlington, Bennington, Dorset, Glastenbury, Manchester, Pownal, Rupert, Sandgate, Searsburg, Shaftsbury, Stamford, Sunderland and Woodford (hereinafter "Towns") "...are responsible for the management and regulation of the storage, collection, processing, and disposal of solid wastes within their jurisdiction in conformance with the State Solid Waste Management Plan authorized under 10 V.S.A. chapter 159," and

Whereas, the Vermont Legislature adopted Act 148, known as the Universal Recycling Law in 2012, and

Whereas, pursuant to the Universal Recycling Law, the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources developed a Materials Management Plan that became effective on November 19, 2019, and

Whereas, the Universal Recycling Law requires that solid waste management entities, which include solid waste districts, alliances (including the Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance), groups or municipalities, charged with managing solid waste must develop a Solid Waste Implementation Plan (hereinafter SWIP), consistent with the Materials Management Plan, and

Whereas, that plan must be submitted for review by the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources by July 1, 2020, and adopted by the Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance after revisions to address VT ANR comments and following two public hearings, and

Whereas, the Towns formed a Joint Municipal Survey Committee (hereinafter the "Committee") pursuant to 24 V.S.A. Chapter 121, and

Whereas, the Committee drafted this Interlocal contract to provide for the performance of services for the management and regulation of solid waste pursuant to Title 10 Chapters 159, 164, 164A, 166, 168 and 201 and Title 24 Chapter 61, and

Whereas, the Select Board of the Town of _____ has reviewed the draft Interlocal contract and agreed to enter into the contract following discussion at a warned public meeting,

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that the Town of _____ agrees to adopt the following Interlocal Contract:

Article I. Purpose

The purpose of this Interlocal Contract is to provide for the efficient implementation of the Solid Waste Implementation Plan adopted by the Towns in accordance Vermont Statutes and the Vermont Materials Management Plan prepared by the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources and effective November 19, 2019. The Towns which are parties to this contract shall be known as the Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance (BCSWA).

Article II. Duration

This Contract shall be in effect following approval of the Select Boards of the member towns. A town may withdraw from this Contract by vote of its Select Board. The withdrawal of one or more Towns shall not dissolve this Contract between the remaining Towns. If two-thirds of the representatives from each participating TOWN determine that it is in the best interest of the member Towns that BCSWA be dissolved, and BCSWA has no outstanding debt or obligations under long-term contracts, or will have no such debt or obligation upon completion of the Plan of Dissolution, BCSWA shall submit a Plan of Dissolution to the Select Boards of the member Towns. An affirmative vote of each of the remaining BCSWA Towns shall dissolve BCSWA according to the Plan of Dissolution.

The Plan of Dissolution shall:

1. Identify and assign a value to all BCSWA assets;
2. Identify all BCSWA creditors, liabilities, and obligations;
3. Specify the means by which BCSWA's assets will be liquidated and obligations discharged;
4. Specify the amount of money due from each member Town, if necessary, to discharge the obligations;
5. Specify the nature and amount of any liabilities or obligations to be assumed and paid by the member Towns;
6. Specify the means by which any assets remaining after discharge of all liabilities shall be liquidated, if necessary;
7. Specify that any assets remaining after payment of all liabilities shall be apportioned and distributed among the member Towns according to the same formula used in apportioning annual assessments.

Article III. Membership

Municipalities wishing to join BCSWA after adoption of this contract may be considered by submitting a request to the Chair of BCSWA at least 60 days in advance of a regularly scheduled meeting. The Chair shall add the request to the next meeting agenda. Such municipalities' admission shall be subject to a two-thirds majority vote as specified in Article IV. Requesting municipalities shall be obligated to pay

the current year's dues and any other fees determined by the membership. Withdrawal by any member municipality shall take effect at the end of the fiscal year in which it decides to withdraw. All dues must be paid to the end of the fiscal year. No refunds shall be issued for the fiscal year in which the withdrawal takes place or for shares of capital investments or grants received by BCSWA.

Article IV. Administration

The Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance shall be administered by a Board consisting of one representative from each Town. Each Town gets at least one vote. Towns with a population greater than 2,000 get a vote for each 2,000 residents rounded up as shown in the table below. This allocation will be updated once the 2020 census data is made available. For a meeting to be held, business transacted, and votes taken, a majority of member Towns must be represented. A majority vote shall be defined as requiring both 1) a majority of the Town Representatives and 2) more than 50% of the total votes of the Towns. A two-thirds vote shall be defined as requiring 1) both two-thirds of the Town Representatives and 2) two-thirds of the total votes of the Towns.

Table 1. Example of number of votes for each town based on the 2010 population			
Town	Number of Votes	2010 Population	Proportion
Arlington	2	2,317	6.61
Bennington	8	15,764	44.96
Dorset	2	2,031	5.79
Glastenbury	1	8	0.02
Manchester	3	4,391	12.52
Pownal	2	3,527	10.06
Rupert	1	714	2.04
Sandgate	1	405	1.16
Searsburg	1	109	0.31
Shaftsbury	2	3,590	10.24
Stamford	1	824	2.35
Sunderland	1	956	2.73
Woodford	1	424	1.21
Total	26	35,060	100.00

Table 2. Number of votes required for a majority and a two-thirds majority		
Voting	Majority Vote	Two-thirds Majority Vote
Number of Towns Required	7	9
Number of Votes Required	14	18

The proportion and number of votes will be updated based on the most recent census data from the U.S. Census and any changes in membership of the Alliance.

The Select Boards of each Town shall appoint a representative to serve one year beginning on April 15th of each year, and representatives shall serve at the pleasure of the respective Town Select Board. Towns may also appoint alternate representatives. BCSWA will annually elect a Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and others, as necessary. The positions of Secretary and Treasurer may be held by the same individual.

1. Chair: The Chair shall preside at all meetings of the BCSWA, shall sign and make all contracts and agreements in the name of the Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance, shall enforce this contract and perform all the duties incident to the position and office and which are required by law. The Chair shall have authority to sign checks when the Treasurer is not available or is precluded from issuing checks as described below.
2. Vice-chair: During the absence or inability of the Chair to render or perform his/her duties or exercise his/her powers the same shall be performed and exercised by the Vice-Chair who, when so acting, shall have all the powers and be subject to all the responsibilities hereby given to or imposed upon such Chair.
3. Secretary: The secretary shall record all votes and proceedings of BCSWA.
4. Treasurer: The treasurer shall have the care and custody of the funds and securities of BCSWA, may sign, make or endorse with the consent of and in the name BCSWA all checks and orders for the payment of money and pay out and dispose of the same and receipt therefore, shall keep correct books for account of all its business and transactions and such other books of account as BCSWA may require, and shall do and perform all duties pertaining to the office of treasurer. The treasurer shall not issue checks to his/herself or to the Town he/she represents. Such checks shall be signed by the Chair. The treasurer will be responsible for sending semi-annual bills based on per capita assessments to the individual municipalities.

Election: All officers of BCSWA shall be elected annually by a majority of the Town representatives present as specified in Article IV above at its annual meeting.

Removal from Office: An officer may be removed by two thirds vote as specified in Article IV above, whenever, in their judgment, the best interests of the organization will be served thereby.

Vacancies: If a representative resigns or can no longer serve, the Select Board of the Town which was represented shall designate a successor within 60 days.

Term: The term of office of the officers shall be for one year and until their successors are elected and qualified. Consecutive terms are permissible.

Executive Committee: An Executive Committee shall be formed consisting of the duly elected officers (Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer). The Executive Committee shall have responsibility and authority for making necessary decisions between the regular meetings of the representatives.

Advisory Committee(s): The Alliance Board may request advice from advisory committees consisting of representatives from businesses, schools and institutions on program development and implementation.

Meetings: Meetings of BCSWA shall meet at least three times per year at a time and place which shall best serve the convenience of the greatest number of representatives.

Notice and Agenda: All notices and agendas of BCSWA meetings announced in accordance with the Open Meetings Law (1 V.S.A. §§ 310-314) and sent to the Town Clerks of the member Towns for posting in town halls and on town websites at least one week in advance of regular meetings and 24 hours in advance of Special or Emergency Meetings. Meetings will also be noticed in Front Porch Forum, the News Guide, the Bennington Banner, and the Manchester Journal.

Annual Meetings: Annual meetings shall be held during April or May following the appointment or reappointment of representatives and alternates.

Special Meetings: Special Meetings of the members may be called at any time by the Chair and shall be called by the Chair or Vice-Chair, at the request of a majority of the representatives.

Emergency meetings may be called with 24 hours' notice. Notice must comply with the Open Meetings Law (1 V.S.A. §§ 310-314)

Article V. Powers and Duties

In order to accomplish the Purposes of this Interlocal contract as set forth in Article I, the powers, and duties of BCSWA shall include the following:

1. To manage the business and affairs incident to carrying out the purposes of this contract, including the authority to adopt and amend a Solid Waste Implementation Plan (SWIP), including the addition of new solid waste management facilities, by affirmative vote of a two-thirds vote as specified in Article IV.
2. To establish new programs and facilities for the management of solid waste.
3. To implement actions listed in the SWIP.
4. To enter into contracts to implement the actions in the SWIP and for the provision of solid waste management programs and services.
5. To provide solid waste management information to member municipalities, schools, businesses, institutions, property owners and residents.
6. To assist the Towns in matters concerning solid waste including, but not limited to, assistance with grant applications and administration and the procurement and management of capital equipment.
7. To promote cooperative arrangements and coordinated action among its participating municipalities.
8. To enter into contracts and agreements with partner organizations.

9. To maintain accounts and receive and disperse funds to fulfill this contract and implement the SWIP.
10. To apply for and manage grants from federal and state agencies and nonprofit organizations.
11. To hire and fix compensation of staff or contractors.
12. To carry sufficient insurance to implement the programs of the SWIP.
13. Such other powers and duties that may be granted by the Select Boards of the member Towns to manage solid waste and implement the SWIP.

Article VI. Responsibilities of Member Towns

It shall be the responsibility of the government of each municipality participating in BCSWA to do the following:

1. Appropriate sufficient funds to implement the actions specified in the SWIP.
2. Annually appoint a representative (and alternates, if desired) to BCSWA.
3. Participate in Alliance programs to educate and inform residents, schools, businesses, institutions and solid waste haulers about recycling, reuse, organics management, household hazardous waste reduction and alternatives, and environmentally acceptable waste disposal options.
4. Provide information on Alliance programs, meetings and events in town halls, web sites and social media.
5. Adopt necessary ordinances for the management of solid waste including unit-based pricing and hauler registration, and to implement those ordinances.
6. Work to provide greater shared services between the member Towns.
7. Continue to provide facilities for recycling of banned materials along with organics, textiles, batteries, and other materials for greater convenience of residents.

Article VII. Budget

The budget year of this contract shall be July 1 to June 30th. Per capita assessments shall be billed semi-annually and due upon receipt based on assessments approved by the BCSWA. Per capita assessments will be determined by November 30 for the following year. Assessments shall be proportional based on the population from the most recent census data from the U.S. Census.

Article VIII. Limitations of Authority

The Towns that are party to this contract do not relinquish their individual control over the following areas of municipal responsibility and BCSWA is expressly forbidden to exercise the following powers:

1. The authority to tax;
2. The authority to adopt ordinances;
3. The authority to borrow money;
4. The power of eminent domain;

Article IX. Amendments

This Contract may be amended, in whole or in part, in the following manner:

1. Approval of proposed amendments shall require the affirmative vote of two thirds of the appointed representatives as described in Article IV.
2. Following that vote, any proposed amendment to this contract shall be mailed to each select board through its chair and Town Clerk, the Town Representative to BCSWA, and the alternate, at least 21 days prior to the meeting at which such amendment is to be acted upon. Notice shall include the specific language of the proposed amendment.
3. The amendment will become effective following approval of the Select Boards of all of the member Towns.

Article X. Severability

This contract and its various parts, sentences, sections, and clauses are hereby declared to be severable. If any part, sentence, section, or clause is adjudged invalid, it is hereby provided that the remainder of this contract shall not be affected.

Adopted this ____ day of _____, 20____.

Select Board Chair

Select Board

Select Board

Select Board

Select Board

Attest, Town of _____ Town Clerk

Appendix II. Facilities within BCSWA Towns

Appendix II.A.. Transfer stations (see Map 2).		
Facility	Hours	Services Offered
Bennington Town Recycling Area (BN082)	Hours not specified	Asphalt, brick, and concrete recycling
Casella Waste Management Transfer Station (BN081)	M, W, F 8 A to 3P T, TH 8A to 3P	MSW, recyclables, E-Waste, mercury containing bulbs, appliances, clean wood, scrap metal, furniture and bulky waste, C&D, tires, lead-acid batteries, and yard waste
Casella (formerly TAM) Organics Compost Facility (Earthlife) (BN070)	Not open to public	Organics facility for collection of food scraps and composting
Casella Northshire Transfer Station and Recycling Center (BN200)	M-F 8A to 2P; S 8A to 12 P	MSW, recyclables, E-Waste, mercury containing bulbs, appliances, clean wood, scrap metal, furniture and bulky waste, C&D, tires, lead-acid batteries, and yard waste
Pownal Transfer Station (BN581)	W, F, S 8A to 4P	MSW, furniture and bulky waste, scrap metal, E-Waste
Casella (formerly TAM) Pownal Transfer Station (BN490)	Under development – to open in spring of 2015	Recycling and construction and demolition debris
Searsburg (Town) Transfer Station	Open to residents who have paid fee through combination to lock	MSW, recyclables; two “dump days” for household/construction debris, metal, wood, E-Waste, appliances
Casella (formerly TAM) Shaftsbury Handling Facility (BN980)	Commercial facility	MSW, recyclables, leaf and yard waste, construction and demolition debris commercial transfer station that will also accept large loads from residential customers
Shaftsbury Transfer Station (BN741)	M 7A to 12 P; TH 11 A to 4P; S 7A to 4P	MSW, recyclables, furniture and bulky waste, C&D, appliances, scrap metal, tires
Stamford Transfer Station (BN771)	S 8A to 12P; W 3P to 6 P in Summer	MSW, recyclables, C & D, appliances, scrap metal, primary batteries, propane tanks
Casella Waste Management Transfer Station (BN771)	M, T, TH, F 7:30A to 2P; S 7:30A to 11:30 P	MSW, recyclables, E-Waste, mercury containing bulbs, appliances, clean wood, scrap metal, furniture and bulky waste, C&D, tires, lead-acid batteries, and yard waste

Appendix II.B.. Closed landfills requiring certification every five years (see Map 2).		
Facility	Location	Ownership
Bennington Landfill (BN080)	Bennington	Town of Bennington
Burgess Brothers Construction and Demolition Debris Landfill (BN030)	Woodford	Clyde G. Burgess, Jr.

Appendix II.B.. Closed landfills requiring certification every five years (see Map 2).		
Facility	Location	Ownership
Pownal Landfill (BN580) ⁶	Pownal	Town of Pownal
Pownal Tannery Landfill (BN590)	Pownal	Town of Pownal
Rupert Town Landfill (BN670)	Rupert	Town of Rupert
Searsburg Landfill (BN420)	Searsburg	Town of Searsburg
Shaftsbury Landfill (BN740)	Shaftsbury	Town of Shaftsbury
Sunderland Landfill (BN780)	Sunderland	Casella, Inc.
Wessner Landfill (BN 770)	Sunderland	Casella, Inc.

Appendix II. C. Wastewater Treatment Facilities		
Arlington School (VT0022934)	Arlington	Arlington School District
Bennington (VT0100021)	Bennington	Town of Bennington
Manchester (VT0100170)	Manchester	Town of Manchester
Pownal (VT0101281)	Pownal	Town of Pownal

Appendix III. Pay-As-You-Throw Ordinances Adopted by Alliance Towns

⁶ There is also a landfill that was not officially closed next to the Pownal Transfer Station.