

Waste Material Management

A guide to reducing, reusing and recycling for schools.

Hazardous Waste

Hazardous waste is any unwanted leftover substance that is toxic, ignitable, reactive and/or corrosive, or is listed as hazardous in the Vermont Hazardous Waste management Regulations. (<http://dec.vermont.gov/waste-management/hazardous/regulations>)

Hazardous materials must be disposed of through well managed channels with highly trained personnel who understand the various classifications of hazardous materials.

Call RSCWD at (802) 775-7209 for more information regarding proper disposal of your materials.

Mandatory Recycling in VT?

The following items must be recycled in Vermont.

- **Metal:** aluminum and steel cans, aluminum foil and pie plates
- **Glass:** bottles and jars from foods and beverages
- **Plastics:** #1 & #2 (PET and HDPE resin types) containers
- **Paper:** corrugated cardboard, white and colored paper, newspaper, magazines, paper mail and envelopes, boxboard and paper bags.

8 Steps to Manage Food Scraps

1. Identify all areas of your facility or business where food scraps are produced.
2. Track what food is wasted.
3. Identify ways to reduce food waste that your facility produces.
4. Donate unsold food or close-dated/soon-to-expire food to local food shelf or food bank.
5. Separate what cannot be donated.
6. Train Staff
7. Schedule recurring training
8. Request assistance from your local Solid Waste Management Entity or town. (Rutland County Solid Waste District www.rcswd.com and Solid Waste Alliance Communities www.rutlandcountyswac.org)

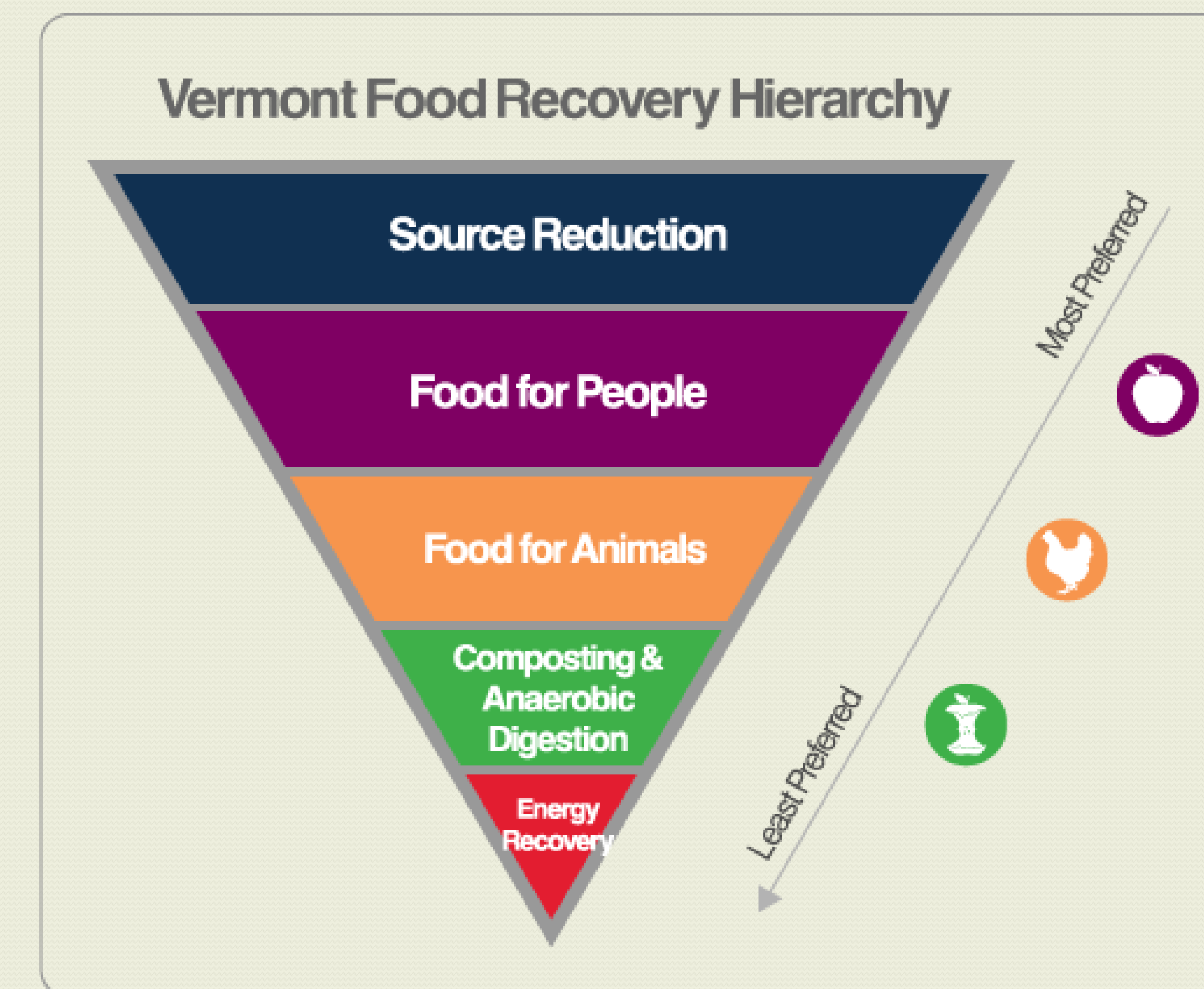
Reduce Waste

- Scale down experiments/projects
- Reuse and recycle products when able
- Use non-toxic or less-toxic cleaning products. (<http://rutlandcountyswac.org/green-living/less-toxic-alternatives/>)
- Take inventory before placing orders
- Schedule time and frequency of cleaning to limit exposure.
- Properly manage and dispose of outdated, unknown and unneeded chemicals
- Educate Students & Staff
- Order only what will be used within a school year
- Using powders to mix your own solutions can be cost effective and last longer

Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRA)

Through the Solid Waste Alliance Communities, schools have a FREE membership and newsletter for all K-12 schools in the SWAC municipalities. Receive discounts on School Club programs, assistance with workshops and technical assistance.

NRRA offers information on recycling, composting, lesson plans and activities and assist with fundraising efforts for schools. More information available at www.schoolrecycling.net.



Examples of Hazardous Materials

Science Labs	Flammable liquids, bleach, corrosive materials, sodium metal, toxic chemicals, mercury thermometers
Maintenance & Custodial	Ammonia, bleach, tile cleaners, strippers, varnish, petroleum based finishers, glue, paint, stains, fluorescent light bulbs, fertilizers, herbicides, insecticides.
Art & Woodworking	Photographic chemicals, acrylic paints, paint thinners, stains, glue, spray fixatives, oil-based paints, petroleum based inks.
General	Batteries, thermometers, electronics

Resources:

Rutland County Solid Waste District: deanew@rcswd.com - (802) 775-7209 - www.rcswd.com

Solid Waste Alliance Communities: info@rutlandcountyswac.org - www.rutlandcountyswac.org/schools-outreach

Act 148 Requirements

- As of July 1, 2015, all mandatory recyclable items must be diverted from the trash.
- As of 2020, all Vermont businesses and residents are required to divert food waste from the trash.
- By July 1, 2015, recycling bins must be provided in any location with a trash receptacle in schools, except in restrooms.
- By July 1, 2017, all Transfer Stations, Drop-off Facilities, Haulers must offer food waste collection.

Vermont Department of Environmental Assistance Office

The EAO offers free assistance with required Hazardous Communication Plan development, chemical inventory, storage and disposal and lab safety. (800) 974-9559

www.dec.vermont.gov/environmental-assistance

See Reverse

Waste Material Management



Universal Recycling TIMELINE

**JULY 1
2014**

- Transfer stations/Drop-off Facilities must accept residential recyclables at no extra charge
- Food scrap generators of 104 tons/year (2 tons/week) must divert material to any certified facility within 20 miles

**JULY 1
2015**

- Statewide unit based pricing takes effect, requiring residential trash charges be based on volume or weight
- Recyclables are banned from the landfill
- Transfer stations/Drop-off Facilities must accept leaf and yard debris
- Haulers must offer residential recycling collection at no extra charge
- Public buildings must provide recycling containers alongside all trash containers in public spaces (exception for restrooms)
- Food scrap generators of 52 tons/year (1 ton/week) must divert material to any certified facility within 20 miles

**JULY 1
2016**

- Leaf, yard, and clean wood debris are banned from the landfill
- Haulers must offer leaf and yard debris collection
- Food scrap generators of 26 tons/year (1/2 ton/week) must divert material to any certified facility within 20 miles

**JULY 1
2017**

- Transfer stations/Drop-off Facilities must accept food scraps
- Haulers must offer food scrap collection
- Food scrap generators of 18 tons/year (1/3 ton/week) must divert material to any certified facility within 20 miles

**JULY 1
2020**

- Food scraps are banned from the landfill

**VERMONT STATE LAW
DISPOSAL BANS**

 Paints & Stains, Varnish, Thinner	 Tires	 Waste Oil & Filters	 Recyclables <small>Effective July 1, 2015</small>
		 Organics (Compostable Material) <small>Effective July 1, 2016</small>	 <small>Effective July 1, 2020</small>
			 Keep these items out of the trash! <small>Ask attendant for details on recycling and alternative disposal options.</small>
			<small>Waste Management & Prevention Division (802) 828-1138 www.recycle.vermont.gov</small>

2015 Edition. VERMONT

Storing Hazardous Materials

1. Store hazardous products in a protected and locked location with a warning label on door.
2. Label all containers, shelves and cabinets
3. Restrict access to storage space; do NOT use storage area as prep area or allow students entry.
4. Do not store chemicals on the floor, under the sink or above eye level.
5. Ventilate areas adequately.
6. Ensure appropriate fire extinguishers are immediately accessible.
7. Secure gas tanks vertically with a chain.

Additional Resources

Facilities & Maintenance Directors Association: A services and supplies buying group for school facilities. Marty Spalding - (802) 864-8453

Vermont Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Program: Directs buying choices towards products that are less harmful to the environment and safer human health - www.bgs.vermont.gov/purchasing/epp

"Less is Better" A guide tot minimizing waste in laboratories": American Chemical Society. - www.acs.org/content/dam/acsorg/about/governance/committees/chemicalsafety/publications/less-is-better.pdf

Thank you to CSWD for providing information for this publication