Changing our view from “waste” to...
Materials Management
Conditions that led to Change

- Stagnant recycling rate for nearly 10 years
- Inconsistent level of services in VT, managed by Solid Waste Districts, Alliances and Independent Towns
- Support from legislature
Universal Recycling Law (Act 148)

- **GOAL:** To decrease the amount of waste disposed

- **STRATEGY:** To provide more consistent services statewide by increasing convenience, choices, and incentives for alternative disposal options

- **Highlights:**
  - Focuses on recyclables and organics
  - Phased-in approach to allow development of infrastructure
  - Bans disposal of recyclables, L&Y, clean wood and food residuals
  - Mandates parallel collection and unit-based pricing
Universal Recycling Law (Act 148)

- **Bans** disposal of
  - mandated recyclables by 2015,
  - leaf & yard residuals and clean wood by 2016,
  - food residuals by 2020

- **Mandates parallel collection** by facilities/haulers that collect MSW
  - mandated recyclables by 2014/2015
    (at no additional charge for residential recyclables),
  - leaf & yard residuals by 2015/2016, and
  - food residuals by 2017
Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act (1996) – helps protect food donors from liability associated with donated food.
Universal Recycling (cont.) Phased-In Approach

- Phased-in mandates for larger generators to divert food residuals, if there is a facility within 20 miles

- 2014 for generators > 104 tons/yr = 2 tons per wk.
- 2015 for generators > 52 tons/yr = 1 ton per wk.
- 2016 for generators > 26 tons/yr = 1/2 ton per wk.
- 2017 for generators > 18 tons/yr = 1/3 ton per wk.

- All generators must divert by 2020
Variable Rate Pricing (aka PAYT)

- All municipalities must implement by July 1, 2015
- Provides incentives for reducing waste, recycling, and diverting organics
What Has ANR been doing?

- Updating Rules & Legislation
- Collecting Good Data
  - Waste Composition and Systems Analysis Studies
- Setting New Goals
  - Adopted new Materials Management Plan
What has ANR been doing?

- Creating Branding & Messaging
  - Vermont Universal Recycling Symbols

- Proposing Funding Options
  - Report to legislature / S.208
  - Will work with Advisory Committee

- Providing Outreach Materials & Training
  - Updated website
  - Info to Haulers, Facility Owners, & Food Scrap Generators
  - Many, many meetings
ANR is providing support.

Current:
- Master Composter Course
- VT Organics Summit
- Training for facility operators
- Technical assistance grant
- Bioassays for composters

In Progress…
- Food mapping tool
- School Grants
- Grant to UVM for compost P research
- Food redistribution network info
- Food waste reduction work

+ more
Partnerships

- Districts/alliances/municipalities
- VT Organics Partnership
- Composters Association of Vermont
- VT Farm to Plate (Food Cycle Coalition)
- Act 148 Working Group
- State Agencies (ACCD; Agriculture; Health; Corrections; VTrans; BGS; Education; Forest, Parks & Rec; Fish & Wildlife)
- U.S. EPA Region 1
- Vermont Campus Sustainability Network
- ...and more!
No changes to Bottle Bill
No funding for Universal Recycling
No changes to local governance

Removes exemption for small haulers
- will provide more consistent services

Allows potential exemption for haulers not to provide curbside pickup of recyclables

Creates Solid Waste Infrastructure Advisory

Includes C&D recycling of certain materials from larger projects located 20 miles from facilities
What’s Next?

Stay Tuned!

Did you know we have a Twitter feed?
Web Page:

Search web for “Universal Recycling VT”, or go to

www.recycle.vt.gov

E-Mail:

Cathy Jamieson, Program Manager

cathy.jamieson@state.vt.us  802.522.5938