Chittenden Solid Waste District

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
19 Gregory Drive, Suite 200
South Burlington, VT 05403

EMAIL info@cswd.net
TEL (802) 872-8100

www.cswd.net

TO: CSWD Member Towns and Cities

FROM: Sarah Reeves, Executive Director, CSWD

DATE: April 24, 2025

RE: CSWD FY2026 Budget Approval Request

Governance

The Chittenden Solid Waste District is a municipality created (at the request of the towns and cities in Chittenden County) by the Vermont Legislature in 1987 to implement solid waste management mandates legislated by the State of Vermont. The District is governed by a volunteer Board of Commissioners representing each community in Chittenden County, whose Commissioners are appointed by their Town Selectboard or City Council. As members of the District, the legislative bodies of the member municipalities have a specific responsibility described in the charter, pursuant to CSWD's annual budget adoption. The Chittenden Solid Waste District Charter, *Article IV ANNUAL BUSINESS AND ASSESSMENTS, Section 4. ADOPTION*, reads in part:

(a) Following the public hearing provided for in the preceding section, the Board of Commissioners shall review the proposed budget in light of comments received at the hearing, and shall thereupon approve the budget for adoption pursuant to subsection (b), with or without changes.

(b) Within 45 days of the approval of the budget by the Board of Commissioners, the legislative body of each member municipality shall act to approve or disapprove the budget. The budget shall be approved if approved by the legislative bodies of a majority of the member municipalities. (For such purposes, each municipality shall be entitled to one vote.) A legislative body that disapproves the budget must file with the Board of Commissioners a written statement of objections to the budget identifying those specific items to be changed, and failure to file such statement of objections within the forty-five (45) day period shall constitute approval by such municipality. A legislative body that fails to act to approve or disapprove the budget within the forty-five (45) day period shall likewise be deemed to have approved the budget.

FY2026 Budget

The FY2026 draft budget was presented to the CSWD Board on November 26, 2025, and a public hearing was held on January 22, 2025, in accordance with charter requirements. The CSWD Finance Committee reviewed the draft budget on February 19 and April 8, 2025, and the draft budget was received by the Board on April 16, 2025, and approved for transmittal to the District's member municipalities.

The budget anticipates revenue in the amount of $17,528,150, of which $16,249,150 will be directed to operational and administrative functions and $1,279,000 directed to the Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) Capital Project reserve fund. The budget anticipates expenses in the amount of $15,964,814. Revenue in excess of expenses will also be directed to the MRF project fund. A detailed description of budget activities is attached for review. **There are no special assessments, no per capita fees, and no local taxes requested in this budget.**

Requested Motion for Consideration

MOTION to approve the Chittenden Solid Waste District's FY2026 budget as presented by District staff.

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April 24, 2025

FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET

Dear Citizens of Chittenden County,

I present to you Chittenden Solid Waste District's Fiscal Year 2026 Budget proposal. It provides necessary funding for facilities, operations, public programs, and capital programs to meet the Board of Commissioners' strategic goals over the coming year. It also lays the foundation to continue to advance those goals into the future. The FY2026 daily operations budget is level-funded compared to FY2025. **This budget does not propose municipal assessments or per capita fees**, but it does propose a significant shift in how CSWD funds its capital reserves.

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT FEE:

This is the fee CSWD charges licensed haulers for each ton of Chittenden County trash they collect destined for landfill disposal. On April 16, 2025, the CSWD Board approved changes to the District's local ordinance that increased the fee by $10 per ton, **setting the Solid Waste Management Fee at $40 per ton of trash disposed for Fiscal Year 2026, and implemented a process to adjust the fee on a regular schedule via small adjustments**. This is not a new fee. A solid waste management fee was implemented in 1993 to help fund the District's mandated activities and supplement funding for solid waste infrastructure projects, and has only been adjusted three times in 32 years (FY2026 will be the fourth adjustment). The fee was last increased in FY2025 after a gap of over twelve years and has sharply lagged the cost of doing business in the solid waste industry, as indicated in the Garbage and Trash Consumer Price Index determined by the U.S. Department of Labor Statistics. Simply put, the fee has not kept pace with inflation, and in order to adequately fund the District's capital infrastructure needs beyond the new Materials Recycling Facility project we must implement a regular, reliable mechanism to ensure the reserve is adequate to the needs, instead of using infrequent large jumps as has been the practice. The fee is a fair way to spread the burden of helping to pay for necessary infrastructure as it's paid by all generators of trash in Chittenden County according to the amount of trash they produce. The less waste we produce that needs disposal, the less exposure we'll have to the fee.

FACILITIES AND OPERATIONS:

Materials Recycling Facility:

Current MRF processing costs are $74.10/ton per the operating contract with the MRF operator, Casella Waste Systems and will increase by at least 3% on January 1, 2026. CSWD pays Casella a per-ton fee to operate the MRF and to market the sorted materials. **The MRF tip fee is budgeted to remain at $90/ton, however market conditions may dictate an increase mid-year**.

Average commodity pricing has been strong in FY 2025; however the current global economic instability makes it difficult to confidently forecast much beyond one month at a time. This budget proposes a conservative commodity revenue estimate of $97/ton.

New MRF Project

In November 2022 Chittenden County voters voiced overwhelming support for the construction of a new Materials Recovery Facility on Redmond Road in Williston. Of the 33,000 votes cast on the bond request, 83% were votes in favor. The project was slated to break ground in June 2024; however we were unable to proceed with a wetlands permit after the site was determined to be in the process of becoming a mosaic wetland. CSWD immediately pivoted and began the search for a new site. On March 31, 2025, we purchased a new site on Redmond Road and are preparing for the permitting process. The plan is to break ground in September 2025. The delay in breaking ground has led to significant cost escalation and is the main driver for bringing the Solid Waste Management Fee up to current solid waste industry cost per ton standards. When this facility is commissioned, it will have capacity to manage 1.5 times the current volume processed at the existing facility, providing significant flexibility for the future and ensuring that Chittenden County's needs for local recycling processing are met for the next 25 years.

<u>Organics Recycling Facility</u>:

Organics Recycling Facility tip fees are remaining at $70/ton. We've increased our pricing for our wholesale material to meet cost increases, including those related to tariffs. To take advantage of excess yard waste material, we are exploring a yard waste-only compost product as a new offering.

<u>Drop Off Centers</u>:

Most prices at the Drop Off Centers will not increase, with the exception of **one bag size in FY26, the small bag, and mattresses.** A small bag will be priced at $4.00, up one dollar from FY25. We will also be increasing the amount of trash allowed as a small bag, up to 18 gallons from 13 gallons. Mattress prices are increasing due to a new contract with our recycler.

Even though the DOCs are District facilities, they are very much viewed as "local". Our six DOCs serve 28% of Chittenden County as a primary source of waste disposal, recycling, and management of special materials not accepted elsewhere. More than 75% of Chittenden County residents use the DOCs each year, such as for electronics recycling, bulky waste disposal, or leaf and yard waste drop off. We recognize that we perform a vital function in the community, and our mission is to do so safely, efficiently, economically, and in an environmentally responsible manner.

<u>Environmental Depot:</u>

There are **no increases to the fees** charged to commercial generators of household hazardous waste, and HHW disposal will continue to be available to households at no charge. The Depot is open year-round, Tuesday – Saturday, with same-day appointments available.

EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION:

This budget proposes a 3.06% COLA for July 1, based on the US Bureau of Labor Statistics' consumer price index for the Northeast (Urban B/C class). The overall increase to employee Total Compensation was 3.2% over FY25. Our budgeted staffing level is just over 56 full-time equivalent employees.

CAPITAL INVESTMENT:

The near-sole focus for FY2026 and FY2027 will be the new Materials Recycling Facility. Long-awaited improvements to the DOC in Milton have been postponed so that we can direct all capital funds to the new MRF project. The capital reserve will need time to replenish, and when they do the DOC in Milton will take top priority.

OUR COMMITMENT:

As the economy becomes increasingly volatile, waste reduction education will be even more important to help Chittenden County citizens manage their costs related to solid waste. Our team of solid waste professionals is dedicated to ensuring our members' solid waste is managed in an environmentally sound, efficient, effective and economical manner. I continue to work with our team and Board of Commissioners to make sure CSWD remains a stable and predictable service provider to the citizens of Chittenden County.

Sincerely,

Sarah Reeves

Sarah Reeves, Executive Director

FY 2026 BUDGET PROPOSAL

TO VIEW BUDGET DETAIL GO TO

Financial Information - CSWD

Chittenden Solid Waste District

19 GREGORY DRIVE, SUITE 204
SOUTH BURLINGTON, VT 05403
802-872-8100

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To: CSWD Member Towns and Cities
From: Sarah Reeves, Executive Director
John Balparda, Director of Finance
Date: April 24, 2025
RE: Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Proposal

Fiscal Year 2026 brings many important changes to the future of CSWD. We will finally be breaking ground on the new Materials Recycling Facility in Williston – the largest and most complex infrastructure project CSWD has undertaken in our 38-year history. It is also the most expensive project by far, and CSWD needs to adjust how we fund our capital projects reserve fund now and for the future.

The proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2026 remains fiscally conservative, is level-funded compared to FY2025, acknowledges the increases we've experienced and those we anticipate. CSWD closely scrutinizes discretionary spending and keeps a tight hold on expenses, and given the current instability of the global economy, this approach is more warranted than ever.

CSWD SOURCES OF REVENUE

CSWD's revenue has three main components: Solid Waste Management Fees (SWMF), Tipping Fees (user fees), and Material Sales. The remaining revenue comes from grants, license fees, transportation charges, and Extended Producer Responsibility program reimbursements. **CSWD receives no municipal payments (assessments, per capita fees, tax payments, etc.) from our member communities**.

- Solid Waste Management Fees: Fees charged on each ton destined for disposal and which originated in Chittenden County. Four material types make up the tons subject to the SWMF- municipal solid waste, construction & demolition debris (C&D), construction & demolition debris fines, and material eligible to be used as alternate daily landfill cover (ADC). C&D fines and ADC are charged 25% of the SWMF. **In FY26, SWMF are 23.7% of the revenue budget**.

- Tipping/User Fees: Fees charged for material disposal at Drop-Off Centers (DOCs), the Materials Recycling Facility (MRF), the Organics Recycling Facility (ORF), and the Environmental Depot. **In FY26, Tip/User Fees are 41.5% of the revenue budget**.

- Material Sales: Revenue generated from the sale of products we make—compost products, Local Color paint, baled recyclables—or products we purchase on behalf of the public and then resell, like compost bins. **In FY26, Materials Sales are 18.3% of the revenue budget**.

Solid Waste Management Fee:

Solid Waste Management Fees are charged to haulers when they dispose Chittenden County trash destined for the landfill in Coventry. This revenue is projected to be 1.8% higher than FY25 budget at the $30/ton rate. The SWMF supports several departments in CSWD – Administration, Finance, Outreach & Communication, Compliance, Household Hazardous Waste, and Maintenance & Roll-Off, and funds the Community Clean Up Fund. In FY25, we increased the fee for the first time in twelve years to bolster the Closed Landfill reserve, as the fund was at risk of running low on funds needed to perform the final work necessary to move the closed landfill to its final phase, Custodial Care.

This year we have budgeted an increase to support the construction of the new Materials Recycling Facility. The budgeted **increase to the solid waste management fee is $10/ton, bringing the new fee to $40/ton, effective July 1**. A standalone MRF Project Capital Fund has been created as part of the reserves, and excess Solid Waste Management Fee revenue that is not assigned to support budgeted department expenses will be directed to the MRF Project fund. The amount projected to be generated from the increase is $1.3M, which when combined with unused or unassigned fee revenue at the end of the year will create a balance of $1.8M in the project fund by the close of FY26.

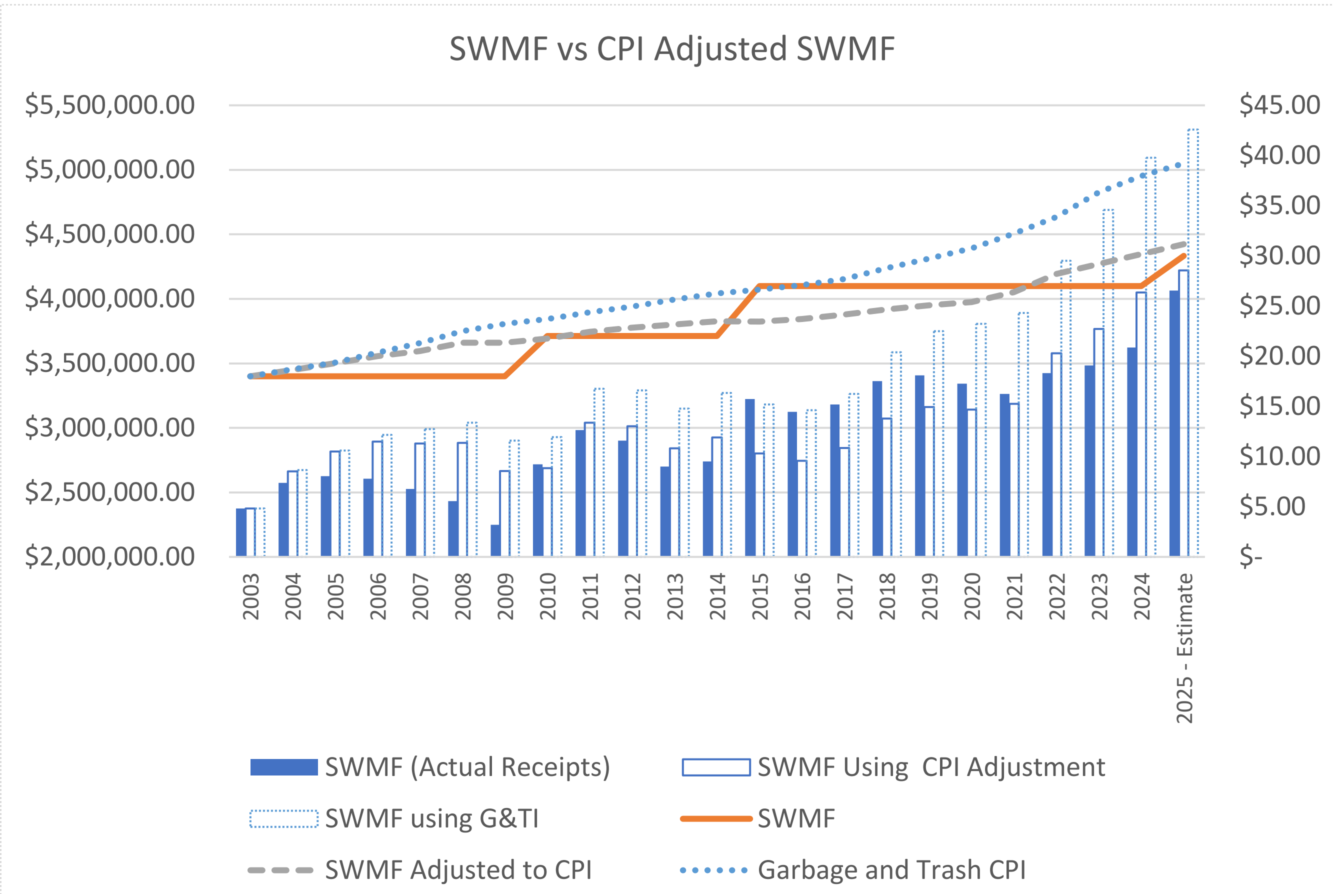
Ordinance Changes:

Also being introduced in FY26, through an amendment to the District's local ordinance, is a mechanism by which CSWD can adjust the Solid Waste Management Fee on an annual basis if needed. The ordinance change describes amending the fee through the District's annual budget process and using a Consumer Price Index as the percentage change to the new baseline amount of $40/ton. The ordinance references two indices produced by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Northeast Urban Class B/C Index, and the Garbage and Trash Index, as the reference points that the Board shall utilize when considering whether an adjustment to the fee is warranted. The Board, through the annual budget process, is also required to consider the purpose and uses of the fee which will also be specified in the ordinance. This new process will provide the public with multiple opportunities for comment and input, as the draft fiscal year budget must be proposed to the Board not later than November 30 of the year prior to the next fiscal year. This date is critical to our member towns and cities so that CSWD can provide adequate notice of any per capita fee or municipal assessment ahead of Town Meeting Day.

Under the new process, the public has the opportunity to comment on changes to the Solid Waste Management Fee at the November Board meeting, to participate in a public hearing each January on the District's proposed budget, may attend the Finance Committee budget review, and may attend the Board of Commissioners meeting where the budget is accepted prior to transmittal to the District's member towns and cities.

This process will replace the infrequent large jumps in the Solid Waste Management Fee, and replace it with small, index-related adjustments per the District's needs for the following fiscal year. Because the adjustments to the fees will be smaller and more gradual and will be known a minimum of four months in advance of the effective date, haulers will have time to make any adjustments they need to make to their cost structures to provide ample notice to any affects the changes may have to their billing.

Simply put, this fee has not kept pace with inflation over the last 22 years, and in order to adequately fund the District's capital infrastructure needs beyond the new Materials Recycling Facility project we must implement a regular, reliable mechanism by which to ensure the reserve is adequate to the needs. **Had CSWD utilized this method of slow, steady adjustments over the years, the Solid Waste Management Fee today would be $39.21/ton**, using the Garbage and Trash Index (GTI). The chart below shows how CSWD has occasionally met the CPI/GTI, but often over the past 32 years, we've lagged. The increase to $40/ton brings the District up to date with current costs in the industry. In the chart below, the orange line labeled SWMF shows the actual price per ton, and the corresponding large occasional jumps in the fee. The dashed gray line shows what the fee would have been had it been adjusted by the Northeast CPI, and the dotted blue line shows what the fee would have been had it been adjusted by the Garbage and Trash Index.



The increase is needed now to fill a funding gap for the new Materials Recycling Facility project and to ensure adequate infrastructure funding going forward.

Costs have risen sharply since the project bond was approved overwhelmingly by Chittenden County voters in 2022. In addition to inflation-related increases, CSWD was forced to seek a new location to build the MRF when the original site was deemed by ANR to be a rapidly emerging wetland. This resulted in purchasing new property at an unanticipated cost of $3,000,000. To maintain the current level of project indebtedness and not ask the voters to approve more long-term debt, the best path forward is to raise the fee charged on all trash disposed. The Solid Waste Management Fee is spread across all trash generators in Chittenden County according to the tons disposed; Those who generate more trash, pay more and pay more of the associated fee. No one sector will bear the full brunt, rather all trash generators bear the responsibility equally. Haulers will be charged the fee at the point of disposal and may elect to pass the increase on to customers. Each hauler will decide the best way to address the increase. CSWD pays this fee as part of our hauling contract with Casella when our Drop Off Center trash is delivered to their Transfer Station. We pass along increases in our trash hauling bill through our per-bag charge at the DOCs.

BUDGET DETAILS

REVENUE SNAPSHOT

Revenue (in thousands)	FY24 Actual	FY25 Budget	FY26 Proposed Budget	Change from FY25BUD	Change from FY24ACT	% Revenue
Tip Fees	6,572	7,000	6,739	-3.7%	2.5%	41.5%
Material Sales	2,920	2,612	2,969	13.6%	1.7%	18.3%
SWMF	3,632	3,781	3,850	1.8%	6.0%	23.7%
All Other	2,329	2,570	2,692	4.7%	15.6%	16.6%
Total	**15,453**	**15,963**	**16,249**	**1.8%**	**5.2%**	100.0%
Cost of Goods Sold	101	162	214	31.7%	111.9%	
Gross Profit	**15,352**	**15,800**	**16,035**	**1.5%**	**4.5%**	

Tip Fees, User Fees, and Material Sales Assumptions:

- Materials Recycling Facility (current facility) processing costs are increasing in FY 2026 per the operating contract with MRF operator, Casella Waste Systems. CSWD pays Casella a per-ton fee to operate the MRF and to market the sorted materials. Per the contract, the operating fee increased on January 1, 2025 to $74.10/ton and will increase again on January 1, 2026, using the Northeast Urban B/C class CPI. **The MRF tip fee is budgeted to remain at $90/ton, however market conditions may dictate an increase mid-year**. The budgeted tip fee remains close to the regional market rate, as fees in the region range between $90-$110/ton as of the date of this memo. The budget assumes 44,060 tons of inbound recycling, and marketing 35,248 of those tons.

- Average MRF commodity revenue through Q3 of FY25 was strong hovering around $125/ton. The forecast for the remainder of FY25 and for Q1 FY26 is in flux, as global trade is currently in turmoil. The demand remains suppressed for plastics heading into FY 2026, however demand is beginning to stabilize for fiber products. This budget assumes a conservative average commodity revenue of $97/ton.
- Consumer demand for goods will, as it always does, dictate the price of recycled content supplied to manufacturers. Much of what is processed by the MRF can be considered "household staples", meaning the containers, boxes, and cardboard are all part of everyday living and regular weekly household spending, as opposed to discretionary spending on things like furniture, electronics, or appliances. MRF tons are fairly inelastic through recessions, however a Depression would likely cause constriction in this area, affecting both inbound and outbound revenue.

- <u>Organics Recycling Facility</u> will continue to focus on identifying sources of contamination in inbound food scraps and have implemented a Contamination Policy to facilitate greater quality control, reduced materials management costs, and improved customer education opportunities. CSWD has invested in equipment and people to manage the contaminants once onsite, but the goal is to incentivize cleaner inbound streams of material. The ORF Team has been working with haulers and the CSWD Outreach Team to inform and educate food scrap generators of the effects of contamination on the process and to alert them to the policy.

    - Staff are mindful of the Board's desire that the ORF be self-supporting and are also mindful that food scrap collection is an additional burden of cost to generators. In this budget, we are striving to balance these two factors and proposing **Organics Recycling Facility tip fees remain at $70/ton for FY 2026.** ORF staff are actively seeking additional high-quality tons to help improve **tip fee revenue, projected to be down 2.6%** from the FY 2025 budget. This budget shows a decrease in budgeted inbound food scraps to 4,407 tons. **Budgeted sales revenue is up 13.9%** due to increasing wholesale pricing, but this will not be enough to avoid needing to draw $138,933 from the Operating Reserve. We are exploring a new yard waste-only based compost product to augment sales.

- <u>Drop Off Centers:</u> **We are raising the price of one bag size in FY26, the small bag.** A small bag will be priced at $4.00, up one dollar from FY25. We will also be increasing the amount of trash allowed as a small bag, up to 18 gallons from 13 gallons. A medium bag is $8.00 (18-35 gallons), a large bag is $11.00 (36-45 gallons), and an extra-large bag (holding 46-65 gallons) is priced at $15.00. Mattress prices will also increase, due to increased costs associated with a new contract with our mattress recycler.

EXPENSES SNAPSHOT

(in thousands)	FY24 Actual	FY25 Budget	FY26 Proposed Budget	$ Change from FY25BUD	% Change from FY25BUD
Salaries & Wages	3,584	4,201	4,334	133	3.2%
Benefits	1,537	1,898	1,961	63	3.3%
Payroll Expenses	5,121	6,099	6,294	196	3.2%
Travel & Training	67	127	130	3	2.3%
Administrative Costs	91	153	166	13	8.7%
Professional Fees	101	346	345	(1)	-0.2%
Equipment & Fleet	869	1,285	1,321	36	2.8%
Supplies	88	132	138	6	4.4%
Materials Management	6,525	6,999	6,687	(312)	-4.5%
Property Management	642	687	651	(35)	-5.2%
Promotion & Education	57	150	129	(21)	-13.9%
Maintenance Distribution	565	-	-	-	N/A
Community Support	35	106	103	(3)	-3.0%
Total Expense	**14,161**	**16,083**	**15,965**	**(118)**	**-0.7%**

Key Points:

- This budget proposes a 3.06% COLA for July 1, based on the 2024 twelve-month average Consumer Price Index of the Northeast Urban Class B/C. In FY26 we are anticipating using slightly fewer full-time hours, bringing our staffing down to 56.23 Full Time Equivalents. Increased costs for healthcare benefits and annual merit increases results in a Wages and Benefits increase of 3.2%; Total Compensation expense per Full-Time Equivalent change over FY25 is +4.2%.

	FY25 BUD	FY26 BUD	% Change
Payroll Expense	6,098,650	6,294,309	3.2%
Full Time Equivalents	56.8	56.2	0.01%
Expense per FTE	107,371	111,998	4.2%

- Historically, the Maintenance & Roll-off program has not been a revenue-generating program but in FY25 we began a pilot program hauling source-separated organics from select generators to secure much-needed clean food scraps for the Organics Recycling Facility. Under this year-long pilot program, the ORF receives the material tip fee and the Roll-off program receives a hauling fee. The successful growth of this pilot will help inform whether there is a possibility of a new revenue stream through very small-scale hauling operations.

- Promotion and Education program expenses are down (-13.9%) due to postponing a large project (a waste sort and composition analysis).

- Materials Management is down slightly (-4.5%) for the first time in several years, reflecting a modicum of pricing stabilization across key inputs. Materials Management is how we refer to hauling services we use to move materials we produce (compost, recyclables) to market, and move materials we collect (MSW from Drop-Off Centers, trash we generate, etc.) to disposal.

BOTTOM LINE

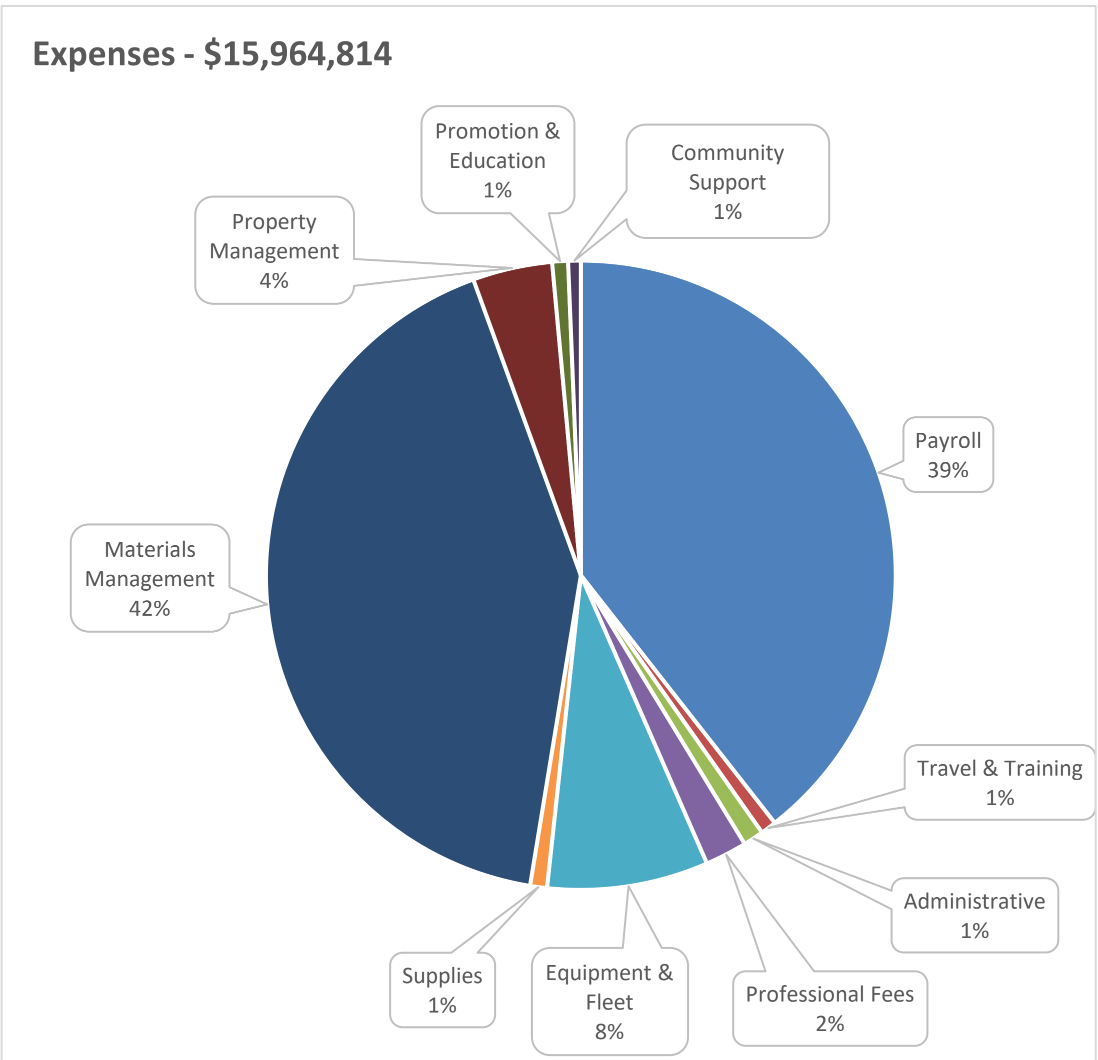
Each year we need to "get to zero." In FY26, we are projecting a surplus of $70,389. We are budgeting conservatively in several areas, such as Sale of Materials, healthcare utilization, and tipping fee revenue from the DOCs and ORF, in part due to general economic uncertainty related to global politics.

The chart below represents the budget for the daily operational needs of the District. The additional $10/ton of Solid Waste Management Fee will be specifically directed to the MRF Capital Project Fund and will not be used to pay for day-to-day operations or administrative needs.

Revenue	**16,249,150**	
Cost of Goods Sold	213,947	
Gross Profit		**16,035,203**
Expenses		**15,964,814**
Income from Operations		70,389
Transfer from (to) Capital Reserve		(20,000)
Transfer from (to) Solid Waste Management Reserve		(499,999)
Transfer from (to) Biosolids Reserve		(3,600)
Transfer from (to) Operating Reserve		375,056
Transfer from (to) Community Clean Up Reserve		95,000
Transfer from (to) Facility Closure Reserve		(50,000)
Transfer from (to) Landfill Post Closure Reserve		33,154
Total Transfers		(70,389)
Net		-

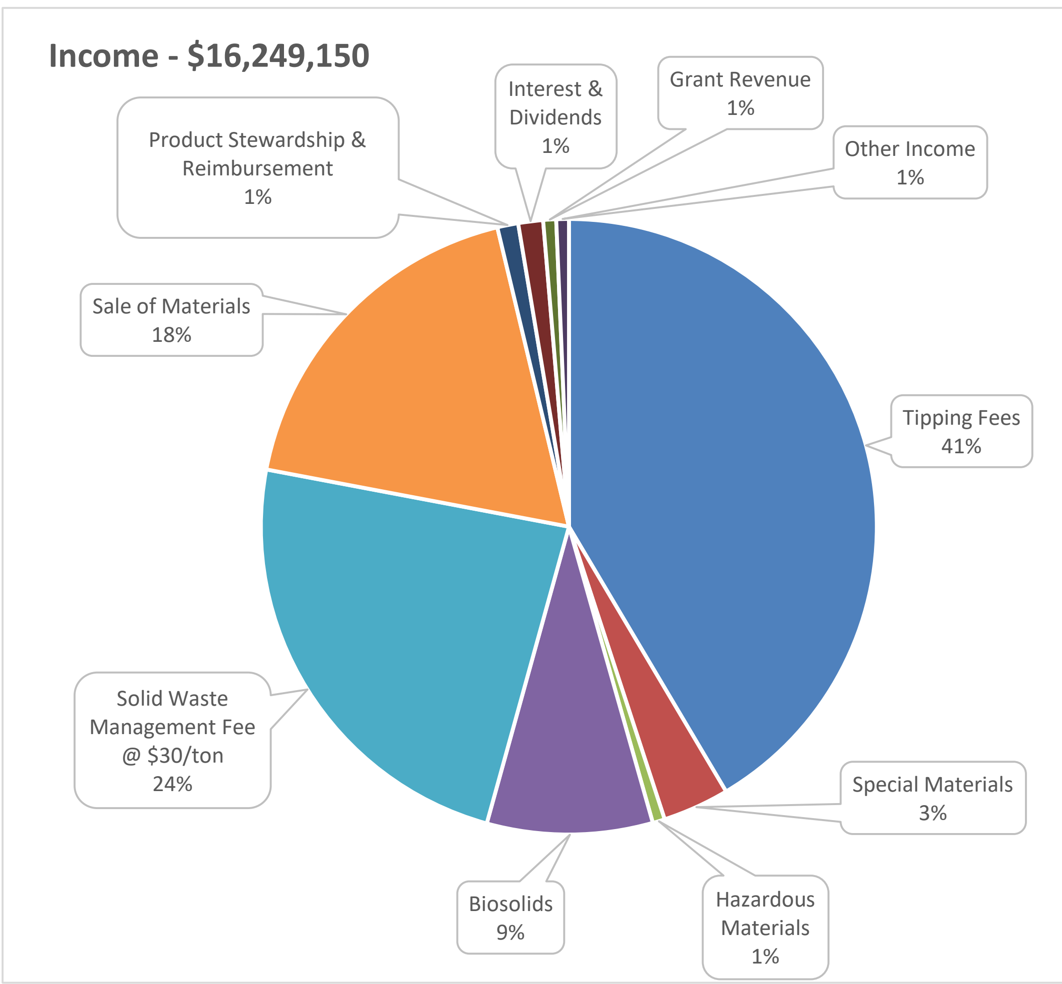
FY 2026 Operational Expenses Separate from Capital Projects

Expenses		
Payroll	$ 6,294,309	39.4%
Travel & Training	$ 130,350	0.8%
Administrative	$ 166,097	1.0%
Professional Fees	$ 345,007	2.2%
Equipment & Fleet	$ 1,320,761	8.3%
Supplies	$ 137,617	0.9%
Materials Management	$ 6,686,752	41.9%
Property Management	$ 651,271	4.1%
Promotion & Education	$ 129,450	0.8%
Community Support	$ 103,200	0.6%
Total Expense	$ 15,964,814	100.0%



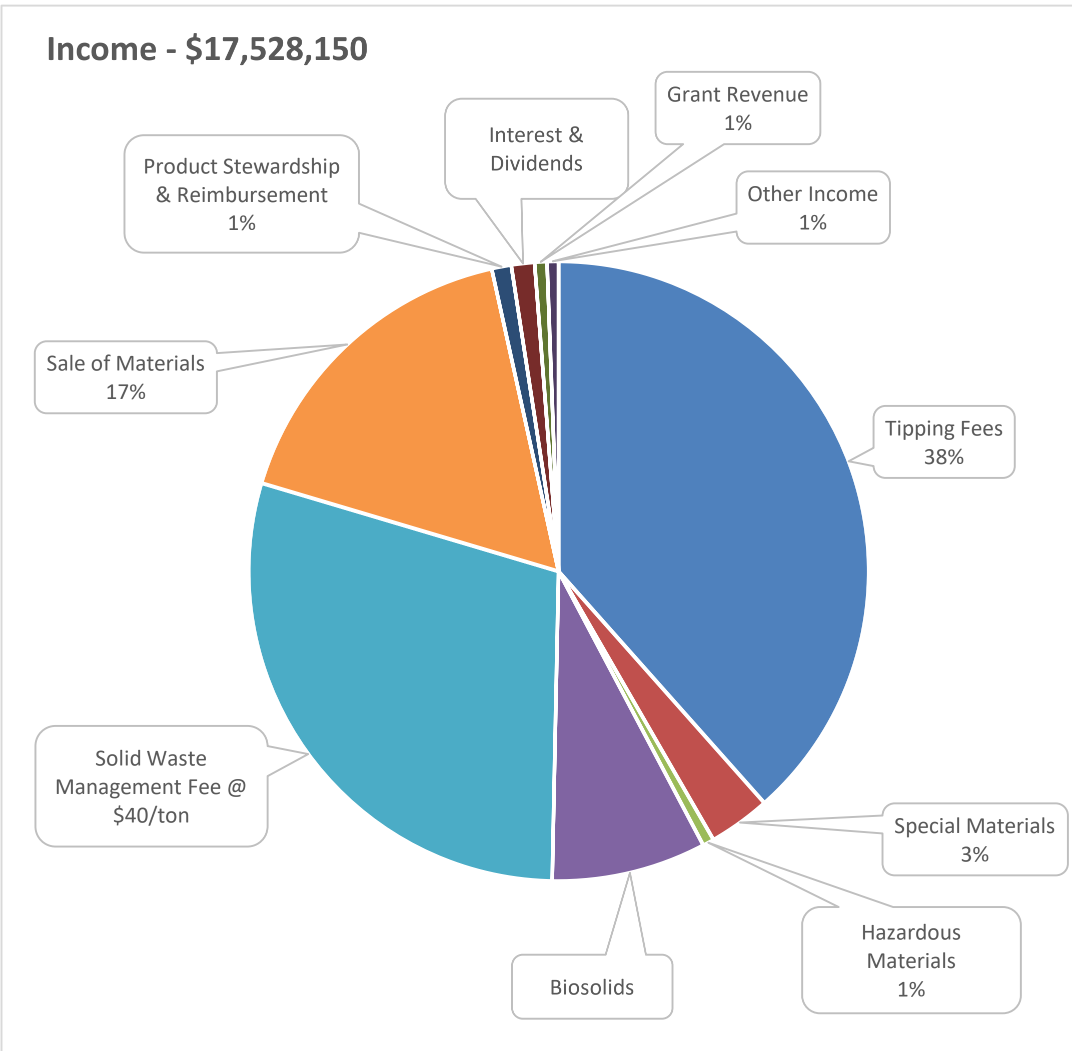
FY 2026 Income Showing SWMF at $30/ton Before Transfers to Reserves

Income		
Tipping Fees	$ 6,738,910	41.47%
Special Materials	$ 567,000	3.49%
Hazardous Materials	$ 104,000	0.64%
Biosolids	$ 1,413,000	8.70%
Solid Waste Management Fee @ $30/ton	$ 3,850,000	23.69%
Sale of Materials	$ 2,968,667	18.27%
Product Stewardship & Reimbursement	$ 179,250	1.10%
Interest & Dividends	$ 211,000	1.30%
Grant Revenue	$ 111,323	0.69%
Other Income	$ 106,000	0.65%
Total Income	$ 16,249,150	100.00%



FY 2026 Income Showing SWMF at $40/ton Before Transfers to Reserves

Income		
Tipping Fees	$ 6,738,910	38.45%
Special Materials	$ 567,000	3.23%
Hazardous Materials	$ 104,000	0.59%
Biosolids	$ 1,413,000	8.06%
Solid Waste Management Fee @ $40/ton	$ 5,129,000	29.26%
Sale of Materials	$ 2,968,667	16.94%
Product Stewardship & Reimbursement	$ 179,250	1.02%
Interest & Dividends	$ 211,000	1.20%
Grant Revenue	$ 111,323	0.64%
Other Income	$ 106,000	0.60%
Total Income	$ 17,528,150	100.00%



who we are

We are a municipal district created in 1987 to oversee and manage solid waste in Chittenden County.

CSWD serves about a quarter of the population of Vermont (169,481 residents and 8,939 businesses)* with facilities, programs, and expertise developed over our 35-year history.

**2023 data. Sources: U.S. Census and VT Dept. Of Labor*

OUR MISSION

The Chittenden Solid Waste District's mission is to reduce and manage the solid waste generated within Chittenden County in an environmentally sound, efficient, effective and economical manner.

OUR VISION

Products are designed to be reused or recycled and our community fully participates in minimizing disposal and maximizing reuse and recycling.

HOW WE'RE FUNDED

Our revenue comes from three primary sources:

- **User fees** on incoming material at our facilities;
- **The Solid Waste Management Fee** (SWMF), a per-ton fee on material sent to the landfill;
- **Material and product sales** from material we collect and process at our facilities and sell;
- A small, variable percentage of our funding comes from **State grants for hazardous waste and other materials management.**

We are not funded by Income, Sales, or Property tax dollars.

CHITTENDEN COUNTY, VT

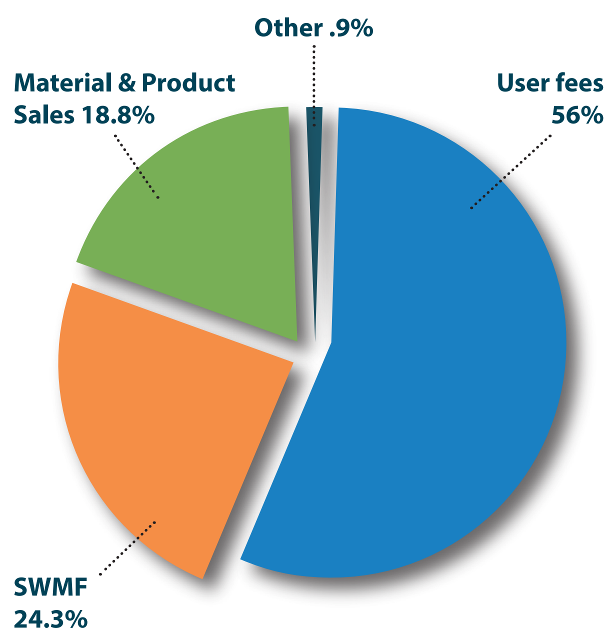
169,481
residents

8,939
businesses

2023 data. Sources: U.S. Census and VT Dept. of Labor

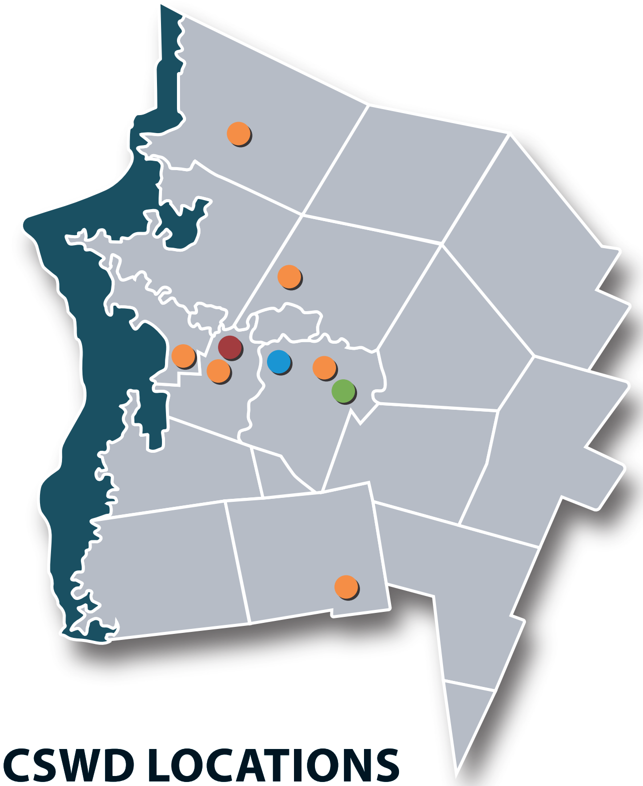
FY24 REVENUE $14.9M

(unaudited)



Income, Sales, or Property Taxes 0%

what we do



CSWD LOCATIONS

- Drop-Off Centers
- Environmental Depot
- Materials Recycling Facility
- Organics Recycling Facility (Green Mountain Compost)

REDUCE WASTE

- **Educate residents, businesses, schools, and event leaders** on waste prevention and diversion
- **Promote community reuse options**
- **Process leftover paint** from residents and businesses into Local Color Paint
- **Maintain and enforce our Ordinance**, which includes waste prevention and diversion requirements
- **Help our members** comply with federal and state solid waste laws
- **Provide facilities and tools** to help members prevent waste and maximize diversion from the landfill to recycling, composting, and other resource recovery
- **Advocate for state-wide policies** that will reduce waste

MANAGE MATERIALS

Our facilities:

- **The only municipally owned Materials Recycling Facility** (blue-bin recyclables sorting center) in Vermont
- **Six regional Drop-Off Centers** for household trash, recycling, organics, and special materials
- **A comprehensive hazardous waste program for households and small businesses** that includes a permanent year-round collection facility *and* a seasonal mobile collection unit
- **The state's largest Organics Diversion Facility** (home of Green Mountain Compost) turning food scraps and yard trimmings into compost and soil blends supporting local soils

SUPPORT OUR MEMBERS

- **Technical expertise and support** for waste-related RFPs and studies
- **Grant funding**
  - Community Cleanup Fund for all member towns
  - Waste Reduction Container and Project Grants
- **Brokering and investigation** of beneficial use options for biosolids
- **Green Up Vermont donation** on behalf of all member towns;
- **Outreach and education**

how we're doing

This graphic shows three key measurements of all the materials that individuals and businesses in Chittenden County, VT generated in Calendar Year 2023:

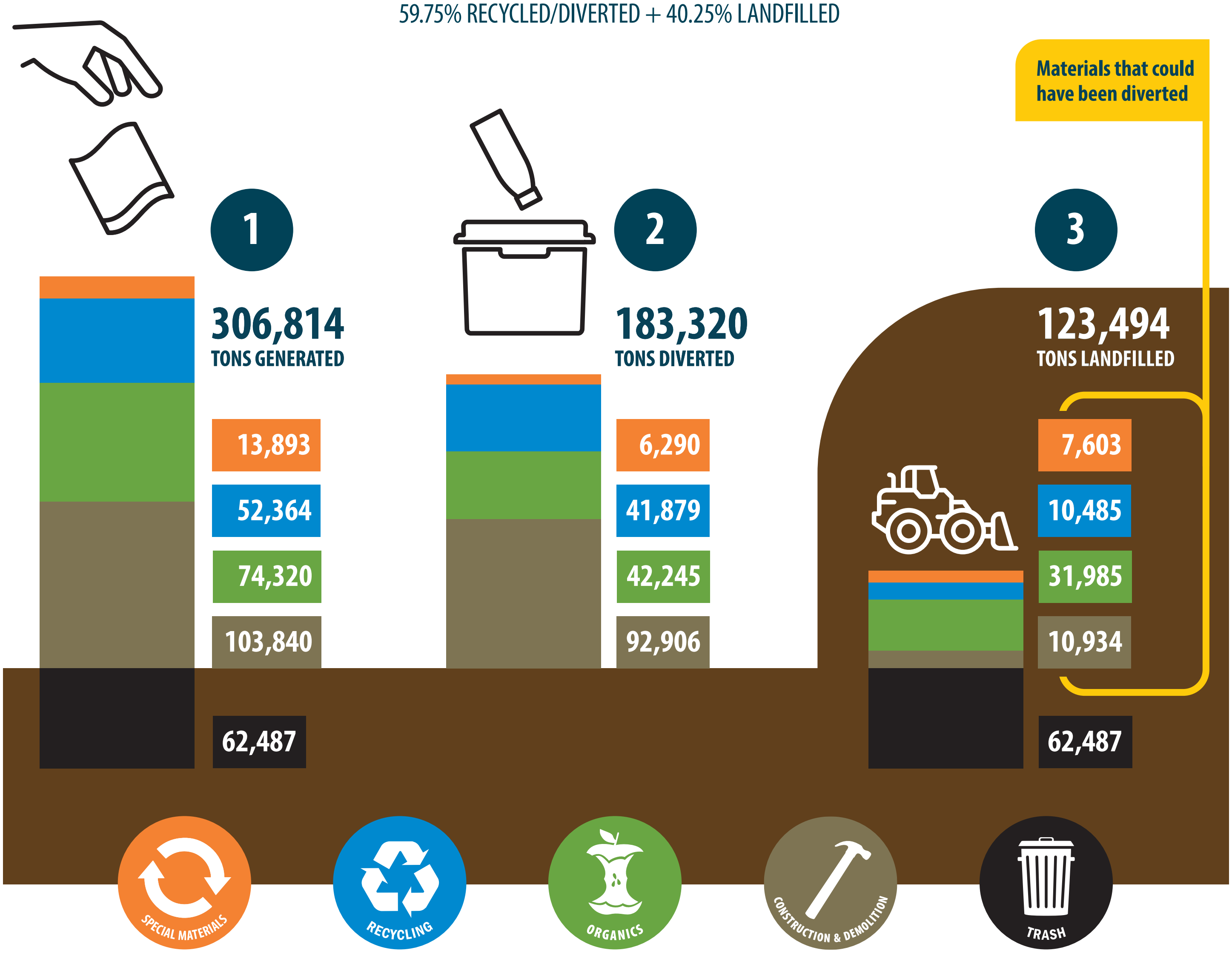
1. Total waste and recyclable/compostable materials generated in Chittenden County in 2023.
2. Total materials kept out of the landfill and recycled or composted in 2023.
3. Total materials (including recyclables and compostable materials) landfilled in 2023.

   Note: "Trash" is made up of materials that can't be recycled or composted.

Full details are available in the 2023 CSWD Diversion Report.

100% MATERIALS GENERATED (306,814 tons)

59.75% RECYCLED/DIVERTED + 40.25% LANDFILLED



CSWD Chittenden Solid Waste District

Chittenden Solid Waste District

FY26 Proposed Budget Summary SWMF @ $40 / ton

All Departments

		Actual FY24	Budget FY25	Proposed Budget FY26	Change from FY25 to FY26 $	%
1	Income					
2	Tipping Fees	$ 6,571,627	$ 6,999,853	$ 6,738,910	260,943	3.7%
3	Special Materials	105,862	575,000	567,000	8,000	1.4%
4	Hazardous Materials	104,808	92,500	104,000	(11,500)	-12.4%
5	Biosolids	1,514,357	1,405,000	1,413,000	(8,000)	-0.6%
6	Solid Maste Management Fee	3,632,243	3,780,540	5,129,000	(1,348,460)	-35.7%
7	Sale of Materials	2,919,611	2,612,482	2,968,667	(356,185)	-13.6%
8	License Fees & Penalties	15,544	14,000	19,000	(5,000)	-35.7%
9	Rental Income	26,450	12,000	-	12,000	100.0%
10	Produce Stewardship & Reimbursement	194,458	167,500	179,250	(11,750)	-7.0%
11	Interest & Dividends	305,616	182,000	211,000	(29,000)	-15.9%
12	Other Income	11,306	10,524	23,000	(12,476)	-118.5%
13	Grant Revenue	194,350	111,323	111,323	-	0.0%
14	Equipment Disposal Gain (Loss)	(143,637)	-	-	-	N/A
15	Hauling	-	-	64,000	(64,000)	N/A
16	Total Income	$ 15,452,595	$ 15,962,722	$ 17,528,150	(1,565,428)	-9.8%
17						
18	Cost of Goods Sold					
19	Bins & Containers	$ 3,938	$ -	$ -	-	N/A
20	Paint	19,645	19,000	15,000	4,000	21.1%
21	Compost	(12,656)	40,103	54,687	(14,584)	-36.4%
22	Topsoil	30,757	44,662	48,272	(3,610)	-8.1%
23	Garden Mix	59,293	58,646	95,988	(37,342)	-63.7%
24	Cost of Sales	$ 100,977	$ 162,411	$ 213,947	(51,536)	-31.7%
25	Gross Profit	$ 15,351,618	$ 15,800,311	$ 17,314,203	(1,513,892)	-9.6%
26						
27	Expenses					
28	Salaries & Wages	$ 3,583,880	$ 4,200,899	$ 4,333,755	(132,856)	-3.2%
29	Benefits	1,537,432	1,897,751	1,960,554	(62,803)	-3.3%
30	Payroll Expenses	5,121,312	6,098,650	6,294,309	(195,659)	-3.2%
31	Travel & Training	66,618	127,432	130,350	(2,918)	-2.3%
32	Administrative Costs	90,625	152,753	166,097	(13,344)	-8.7%
33	Professional Fees	101,440	345,691	345,007	684	0.2%
34	Equipment & Fleet	868,520	1,284,628	1,320,761	(36,133)	-2.8%
35	Supplies	88,178	131,813	137,617	(5,804)	-4.4%
36	Materials Management	6,524,751	6,998,897	6,686,752	312,145	4.5%
37	Property Management	642,431	686,715	651,271	35,444	5.2%
38	Promotion & Education	57,455	150,317	129,450	20,867	13.9%
39	Maintenance Distribution	565,078	-	-	-	N/A
40	Community Support	34,505	106,400	103,200	3,200	3.0%
41	Total Expense	$ 14,160,913	$ 16,083,296	$ 15,964,814	118,482	0.7%
42	Net Ordinary Income	$ 1,190,705	$ (282,985)	$ 1,349,389	(1,632,374)	576.8%
43						

Chittenden Solid Waste District
FY26 Proposed Budget Summary SWMF @ $40 / ton
All Departments

		Actual FY24	Budget FY25	Proposed Budget FY26	Change from FY25 to FY26 $	%
44	Other Income - Subsidies & Transfers					
45	Solid Waste Management Fee Subsidy	$ 2,727,113	$ 3,398,839	$ 3,350,001	48,838	1.4%
46	Landfill Post Closure Transfer	76,913	159,125	134,154	24,971	15.7%
47	CCUF Transfer	31,834	-	-	-	N/A
48	Operating Reserve Subsidy	1,025,260	2,619,394	2,429,487	189,907	7.3%
49	Depreciation	-	-	-	-	N/A
50	Maintenance Allocation	565,078	-	-	-	N/A
51	Total Other Income	$ 4,426,198	$ 6,177,358	$ 5,913,642	263,716	4.3%
52						
53	Other Expense - Reserve Transfers					
54	Transfer to Capital Reserve	$ (96,714)	$ -	$ 20,000	(20,000)	N/A
55	Transfer Solid Waste Management Reserve	3,640,469	3,780,540	5,129,000	(1,348,460)	-35.7%
56	Transfer Biosolids Reserve	45,500	47,000	3,600	43,400	92.3%
57	Transfer Operating Reserve	1,856,943	2,041,833	2,054,431	(12,598)	-0.6%
58	Transfer Community Clean Up Reserve	-	(95,000)	(95,000)	-	0.0%
59	Transfer Facility Closure Reserve	170,705	-	50,000	(50,000)	N/A
60	Transfer Landfill Post Closure Reserve	-	120,000	101,000	19,000	15.8%
61	Other Expense	$ 5,616,903	$ 5,894,373	$ 7,263,031	(1,368,658)	-23.2%
62						
63	Reserves (increased) decreased	$ (1,190,705)	$ 282,985	$ (1,349,389)	1,632,374	576.8%
64						
65	Net Income	$ -	$ -	$ -		

Administration Program

The Administrative program encompasses the expenses of human resources, the Executive Director, risk management, information and technology, infrastructure and general support services.

Compliance Program

The Compliance program oversees the Solid Waste Management Ordinance and ensures the regulated community maintains compliance. Additionally, the Compliance program oversees the District Safety program.

Finance Program

The Finance program provides management, oversight, and control of CSWD financial assets, as well as accurate and timely financial information to facilitate sound management decisions.

Outreach and Communications (O&C)

The Outreach and Communications program manages statutory mandates for raising awareness of CSWD services and educating residents, businesses, and institutions in reducing and properly managing the waste they generate.

Chittenden Solid Waste District

FY26 Proposed Budget Summary

Administrating Departments

		Administration	Compliance	Finance	Outreach & Communication	Solid Waste Management	Total
1	Income						
2	Tipping Fees	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	**$ -**
3	Special Materials	-	-	-	-	-	**-**
4	Hazardous Materials	-	-	-	-	-	**-**
5	Biosolids	-	-	-	-	-	**-**
6	Solid Maste Management Fee	-	-	-	-	5,129,000	**5,129,000**
7	Sale of Materials	-	-	-	-	-	**-**
8	License Fees & Penalties	-	19,000	-	-	-	**19,000**
9	Rental Income	-	-	-	-	-	**-**
10	Produce Stewardship & Reimbursement	-	-	-	-	-	**-**
11	Interest & Dividends	-	-	171,000	-	-	**171,000**
12	Other Income	-	-	-	-	-	**-**
13	Grant Revenue	-	-	-	-	-	**-**
14	Equipment Disposal Gain (Loss)	-	-	-	-	-	**-**
15	Hauling	-	-	-	-	-	**-**
16	Total Income	$ -	$ 19,000	$ 171,000	$ -	$ 5,129,000	**$ 5,319,000**
17	Cost of Sales	-	-	-	-	-	**-**
18	Gross Profit	$ -	$ 19,000	$ 171,000	$ -	$ 5,129,000	**$ 5,319,000**
19							
20	Expenses						
21	Salaries & Wages	$ 634,333	$ 161,416	$ 350,182	$ 580,374	$ -	**$ 1,726,305**
22	Benefits	229,815	77,655	141,823	224,998	-	**674,291**
23	Payroll Expenses	864,148	239,071	492,005	805,372	-	**2,400,596**
24	Travel & Training	59,450	10,000	1,450	24,912	-	**95,812**
25	Administrative Costs	35,200	9,900	2,400	33,072	-	**80,572**
26	Professional Fees	51,232	6,500	30,000	150,075	-	**237,807**
27	Equipment & Fleet	187,139	5,920	51,500	3,960	-	**248,519**
28	Supplies	5,442	2,100	3,900	23,600	-	**35,042**
29	Materials Management	2,000	-	-	-	-	**2,000**
30	Property Management	142,589	-	3,465	-	-	**146,054**
31	Promotion & Education	-	-	-	122,600	-	**122,600**
32	Maintenance Distribution	-	-	-	-	-	**-**
33	Community Support	-	-	95,000	-	-	**95,000**
34	Total Expense	$ 1,347,200	$ 273,491	$ 679,720	$ 1,163,591	$ -	**$ 3,464,002**
35	Net Ordinary Income	$ (1,347,200)	$ (254,491)	$ (508,720)	$ (1,163,591)	$ 5,129,000	**$ 1,854,998**
36							
37	Transfers From Operating Reserve	$ 1,347,200	$ 254,491	$ 584,720	$ 1,163,591	$ -	**$ 3,350,002**
38	Transfers To Operating Reserve	-	-	76,000	-	5,129,000	**5,205,000**
39	Reserves (increased) decreased	$ 1,347,200	$ 254,491	$ 508,720	$ 1,163,591	$ (5,129,000)	**$(1,854,998)**
40							
41	Net Income	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	**$ -**

Operating Administration

The Operating Administration program (formerly Engineering) provides resources for compliance, design, project management, and applicable permitting. Additionally, this program oversees capital projects through the lifecycle of feasibility, design, and construction management.

Drop Off Centers (DOCs)

CSWD Drop Off Centers provide residents and small businesses with economical options for the management of their trash, recycling, food scraps, compostable yard debris, and certain special recyclables.

Hazardous Waste

The Hazardous Waste program includes both the Environmental Depot and Paint Depot. The Environmental Depot manages the hazardous waste of the residents and small businesses of Chittenden County. The Paint Depot manages discarded paint and produces recycled paint for the CSWD Local Color Program.

Materials Recovery Facility (MRF)

The Materials Recovery Facility manages single stream recycling from Chittenden County and Northern Vermont through sorting and preparing recyclables for domestic commodity sales.

Organics Diversion Facility (ODF)

The Organics Diversion Facility manages the acceptance, processing, and transfer of organics for use in compost and anaerobic digestion.

Property Management

The Property Management department maintains and protects CSWD’s investment in residential and business tenant property.

Maintenance & Roll-off

The Maintenance department provides material hauling and supports facility operations through ongoing maintenance of CSWD assets.

Chittenden Solid Waste District
FY26 Proposed Budget Summary
Operating Departments

		Operating Administration	Materials Recovery Facility	Drop Off Centers	Hazardous Waste	Property Management	Organics Recycling Facility	Maintenance	Total
1	Income								
2	Tipping Fees	$ -	$ 3,965,400	$ 2,465,000	$ -	$ -	$ 308,510	$ -	**$ 6,738,910**
3	Special Materials	-	-	567,000	-	-	-	-	**567,000**
4	Hazardous Materials	-	-	16,000	88,000	-	-	-	**104,000**
5	Biosolids	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**-**
6	Solid Maste Management Fee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**-**
7	Sale of Materials	-	1,709,528	227,500	33,250	-	998,389	-	**2,968,667**
8	License Fees & Penalties	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**-**
9	Rental Income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**-**
10	Produce Stewardship & Reimbursement	-	-	25,000	154,250	-	-	-	**179,250**
11	Interest & Dividends	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**-**
12	Other Income	-	-	23,000	-	-	-	-	**23,000**
13	Grant Revenue	-	-	-	111,323	-	-	-	**111,323**
14	Equipment Disposal Gain (Loss)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**-**
15	Hauling	-	-	-	-	-	-	64,000	**64,000**
16	Total Income	$ -	$ 5,674,928	$ 3,323,500	$ 386,823	$ -	$ 1,306,899	$ 64,000	**$ 10,756,150**
17	Cost of Sales	-	-	-	15,000	-	198,947	-	**213,947**
18	Gross Profit	$ -	$ 5,674,928	$ 3,323,500	$ 371,823	$ -	$ 1,107,952	$ 64,000	**$ 10,542,203**
19									
20	Expenses								
21	Salaries & Wages	$ 367,476	$ -	$ 964,990	$ 357,562	$ -	$ 520,433	$ 357,863	**$ 2,568,324**
22	Benefits	117,599	-	549,885	194,312	-	250,285	171,103	**1,283,184**
23	Payroll Expenses	485,075	-	1,514,875	551,874	-	770,718	528,966	**3,851,508**
24	Travel & Training	2,100	6,265	3,750	6,350	-	11,223	2,850	**32,538**
25	Administrative Costs	2,500	3,000	63,550	4,250	-	8,475	2,550	**84,325**
26	Professional Fees	-	2,000	7,650	2,750	28,000	4,300	5,000	**49,700**
27	Equipment & Fleet	2,640	518,400	144,355	18,100	-	238,066	150,681	**1,072,242**
28	Supplies	3,000	1,150	28,050	23,650	-	23,475	22,750	**102,075**
29	Materials Management	-	3,484,506	1,281,000	359,200	-	86,116	25,250	**5,236,072**
30	Property Management	-	151,729	94,188	67,413	22,464	99,162	38,791	**473,747**
31	Promotion & Education	-	-	1,500	-	-	5,350	-	**6,850**
32	Maintenance Distribution	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**-**
33	Community Support	-	-	8,000	-	-	-	200	**8,200**
34	Total Expense	$ 495,315	$ 4,167,050	$ 3,146,918	$ 1,033,587	$ 50,464	$ 1,246,885	$ 777,038	**$ 10,917,257**
35	Net Ordinary Income	$ (495,315)	$ 1,507,878	$ 176,582	$ (661,764)	$ (50,464)	$ (138,933)	$ (713,038)	**$ (375,054)**
36									
37	Transfers From Operating Reserve	$ 495,315	$ -	$ -	$ 1,031,737	$ 50,464	$ 138,933	$ 713,038	**$ 2,429,487**
38	Transfers To Operating Reserve	-	1,507,878	176,582	369,973	-	-	-	**2,054,433**
39	Reserves (increased) decreased	$ 495,315	$ (1,507,878)	$ (176,582)	$ 661,764	$ 50,464	$ 138,933	$ 713,038	**$ 375,054**
40									
41	Net Income	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	**$ -**

Biosolids Program

The Biosolids program provides efficient and effective residuals management for participating community members. This program is developed to be self-funding.

Closed Landfill Program

The Closed Landfill program oversees the 30-year post closure period through responsible maintenance, reporting and monitoring according to the safety standards of applicable governing bodies. This program is funded through monies reserved at the launch of the closing project.

Chittenden Solid Waste District
FY26 Proposed Budget Summary

			Biosolids
1	Income		
2	Tipping Fees	$	-
3	Special Materials		-
4	Hazardous Materials		-
5	Biosolids		1,413,000
6	Solid Maste Management Fee		-
7	Sale of Materials		-
8	License Fees & Penalties		-
9	Rental Income		-
10	Produce Stewardship & Reimbursement		-
11	Interest & Dividends		3,600
12	Other Income		-
13	Grant Revenue		-
14	Equipment Disposal Gain (Loss)		-
15	Hauling		-
16	Total Income	$	1,416,600
17	Cost of Sales		-
18	Gross Profit	$	1,416,600
19			
20	Expenses		
21	Salaries & Wages	$	-
22	Benefits		-
23	Payroll Expenses		-
24	Travel & Training		2,000
25	Administrative Costs		1,000
26	Professional Fees		5,000
27	Equipment & Fleet		-
28	Supplies		-
29	Materials Management		1,405,000
30	Property Management		-
31	Promotion & Education		-
32	Maintenance Distribution		-
33	Community Support		-
34	Total Expense	$	1,413,000
35	Net Ordinary Income	$	3,600
36			
37	Transfers From Operating Reserve	$	-
38	Transfers To Operating Reserve		3,600
39	Reserves (increased) decreased	$	(3,600)
40			
41	Net Income	$	-

Chittenden Solid Waste District
FY26 Proposed Budget Summary

			Closed Landfill
1	Income		
2	Tipping Fees	$	-
3	Special Materials		-
4	Hazardous Materials		-
5	Biosolids		-
6	Solid Maste Management Fee		-
7	Sale of Materials		-
8	License Fees & Penalties		-
9	Rental Income		-
10	Produce Stewardship & Reimbursement		-
11	Interest & Dividends		36,400
12	Other Income		-
13	Grant Revenue		-
14	Equipment Disposal Gain (Loss)		-
15	Hauling		-
16	Total Income	$	36,400
17	Cost of Sales		-
18	Gross Profit	$	36,400
19			
20	Expenses		
21	Salaries & Wages	$	39,126
22	Benefits		3,079
23	Payroll Expenses		42,205
24	Travel & Training		-
25	Administrative Costs		200
26	Professional Fees		52,500
27	Equipment & Fleet		-
28	Supplies		500
29	Materials Management		43,680
30	Property Management		31,470
31	Promotion & Education		-
32	Maintenance Distribution		-
33	Community Support		-
34	Total Expense	$	170,555
35	Net Ordinary Income	$	(134,155)
36			
37	Transfers From Operating Reserve	$	134,155
38	Transfers To Operating Reserve		-
39	Reserves (increased) decreased	$	134,155
40			
41	Net Income	$	-

Chittenden Solid Waste District

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
19 Gregory Drive, Suite 204
South Burlington, VT 05403

EMAIL info@cswd.net
TEL (802) 872-8100

www.cswd.net

To: CSWD Board of Commissioners
From: Josh Estey, Director of Operations
Date: April 9, 2025
RE: Fiscal Year 2026 Capital Budget

Operating Capital

Presented in this enclosure is a capital budget and timeline for FY26, FY27, and FY28 as well as an overview of previously approved capital projects that are in progress and are yet to be completed. This memo highlights the projects and procurements planned for FY26.

This capital plan continues our recent trend of reducing anticipated capital costs in response to the increasing costs of the new Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) build. It is also reflective of the capital-intensive expenditures of the last 5-7 years most notable at the Organics Recycling Facility (ORF). Staff continues to work together to verify previously identified capital needs as listed in the works in progress column of the capital outlook and removing projects when applicable. When the need remains, staff have prioritized those projects in an effort to clean up and reduce the number of projects in this bucket of earmarked capital projects.

Highlights of the FY26 projected capital projects list include:

- ORF: concrete work needed at the ORF for the food waste receiving bay, a section of concrete that sees daily abuse not from just the physical scraping from our bucket loader but also from the chemical exposure to the leachate from food waste;
- ORF: The primary front-end loader at the ORF is overdue for replacement. ORF staff were able to push out this replacement by a full year but the time has come for replacement particularly due to the number of hours put on this specific machine on a weekly basis.
- Closed Landfill: Staff plans on proactively addressing minor surface water concerns on the east side of the landfill – note that these funds will be taken out of the closed landfill reserve and not the capital reserve.
- Environmental Depot: the Environmental Depot needs a replacement (likely used) forklift – repairs and maintenance are starting to stack up on the current unit that is used daily.

Please note that this is a description of intended projects and procurements and is inclusive of all potential capital expenses for FY26. Approval of the budget does not mean work will proceed without a proper bidding process and associated Board approvals according to CSWD financial policies. All capital projects greater than $50,000 will require approval from the Executive Board of Commissioners and all capital projects greater than $100,000 will require approval from the Board of Commissioners. In addition to Board notice of projects exceeding $100,000, Staff will regularly report updates of facility projects that are under the $100,000 threshold.

CHITTENDEN SOLID WASTE DISTRICT
CAPITAL PROJECTS 3 YEAR PLAN

	Previously Budgeted Works in Progress	FY26	FY27	FY28
MATERIALS RECYCLING FACILITY				
Building & Building Repair				
Building Roof	$ 150,000.00			
Sub Total	$ 150,000.00	$0	$0	$0
Capital Equipment				
Single Stream System				
Sub Total	$ -	$0	$0	$0
Rolling Stock				
Scissor Lift	$ 35,000.00			
Sub Total	$ 35,000.00	$0	$0	$0
New MRF Project				
Site and Design Plan & Attorney	$ 209,200.00			
Sub Total	$ 209,200.00	$0	$0	$0
Total MRF	**$ 394,200.00**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
ORGANICS RECYClING FACILITY				
Site Work				
Concrete Patching (water abatement) - FY2207 and FY 2303	$ 78,000.00			
ASP Water System - FY2404	$ 35,000.00			
Expansion Phase III Site Grading - FY2408	$ 150,000.00			
Sub Total	$ 263,000.00	$0	$0	$0
Building & Building Repair				
Concrete Pad Replacement (food receiving bay)		$120,000		
Sub Total	$ -	$120,000	$0	$0
Capital Equipment				
Eggersmann Air Separator V 60			$75,000	
Sub Total	$ -	$0	$75,000	$0
Rolling Stock				
644k Loader		$350,000		
Sub Total	$ -	$350,000	$0	$0
Hauling				
Second Hauling Truck (non-CDL)				
Hauling Infrastructure (Heated Garage, Wash Pad, etc.)				
Sub Total	$ -	$0	$0	$0
ORF New Projects				
Compost pad expansion - lagoon pad, bunker for YW/FW expansion				
1042 Redmond Redesign				$100,000
East-end redesign/repurposing (1042, greenhouse, bagging building, pole barn, fueling station, hill carve) - FY2504	$ 50,000.00			

Sub Total	$ 50,000.00	$0	$0	$100,000
Total ORF	**$ 313,000.00**	**$470,000**	**$75,000**	**$100,000**

CLOSED LANDFILL

Site Work

East side base remediation - FY2505	$ 15,000.00	$50,000		
Total Closed LF	**$ 15,000.00**	**$50,000**	**$0**	**$0**

Biosolids

Total Biosolids		**$0**	**$0**	**$0**

ROLL-OFF AND MAINTENANCE

Building & Building Repair

Building Maintenance (Roof, Systems,...)				
Lean-to and building renovation - FY2507	$ 115,000.00			
Sub Total	$ 115,000.00	$ -	$ -	$ -

Rolling Stock

2012 KENWORTH TRUCK T800 #31			$ 275,000	
Service Truck Replacement				$ 100,000
New Hook Truck - FY2508	$ 175,000.00			
Sub Total	$ 175,000.00	$ -	$ 275,000	$ 100,000
Total Roll-Off and Maintenance	**$ 290,000.00**	**$ -**	**$ 275,000**	**$ 100,000**

DROP-OFF CENTERS

Site Work

BUR	Fast Trash - FY2509	$ 90,000.00			
MIL	Design and Expansion - FY2310	$ 705,000.00			
MIL	Special Waste Building - FY2220	$ 45,000.00			
BUR	Sitework & Planning - FY2411	$ 285,000.00			
Sub Total		$ 1,125,000.00	$ -	$ -	$ -

Building & Building Repair

Sub Total		$ -	$ -	$ -

Capital Equipment

Compactors for Essex and South Burlington - FY2308 and FY2311	$ 48,500.00			
Sub Total	$ 48,500	$ -	$ -	$ -
Total Drop-Off Centers	**$ 1,173,500.00**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**

HAZARDOUS WASTE AND LATEX PAINT

Sitework

Sub Total	$ -	$ -		

Building & Building Repair

Sub Total	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Rolling Stock				
Replacement Forklift		$ 25,000		
Sub Total	$ -	$ 25,000	$ -	$ -
Total HAZARDOUS WASTE AND LATEX PAINT	**$ -**	**$ 25,000**	**$ -**	**$ -**

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Sub Total		$ -		
Total Property Management		**$ -**	**$0**	**$0**

ADMINISTRATION

Site Work				
Building Site Design & Permitting FY2232	$ 55,000.00			
Sub Total	$ 55,000.00	$ -	$ -	$ -
Intangible				
Revenue Sufficiency Analysis FY2317	$ 55,000.00			
Website Upgrades - FY2231	$ 99,000.00			
Sub Total	$ 154,000.00	$ -	$ -	$ -
Total Administration	**$ 209,000.00**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**

Miscellaneous		**$ 50,000**	**$ 50,000**	**$ 50,000**

Total Cap Cost	**$ 2,394,700**	**$ 595,000**	**$ 400,000**	**$ 250,000**
Program Input				
General Fund Support		**$ 545,000**	**$ 400,000**	**$ 250,000**
Closed Landill Reserve		**$ 50,000**	**$ -**	**$ -**

Chittenden Solid Waste District
Fiscal Year 26 Proposed Budget
Reserve Funds

Excess income is allocated to specified reserve accounts based on their established priority and reserve type. (See Reserve Fund Waterfall below)

Reserve Types include:

Restricted Reserves: resources subject to constraints. Due to the nature of their restriction, expenses must be tracked to prove the funds are used as authorized.

Committed Reserves: include encumbrances not otherwise reflected in Restricted Reserves. Limitations on spending imposed by the annual operating budget naturally lapse with the passage of time and thus do not remain binding indefinitely. Committed Reserves allows for the inclusion of encumbrances committed to, but not yet obtained.

Assigned Reserves: may be established by the Board from time to time to meet the future needs of CSWD. These reserves are established and may be changed by resolution of the Board in accordance with the Open Meeting Law requirements.

Undesignated Funds: not considered special revenue fund and include the unrestricted surplus funds not accounted for and reported in another fund

In FY26, CSWD will manage the following Restricted Reserves:

> **Biosolids Reserve –** established by the contract with the members of wastewater treatment plants for the disposal of sludge. Reserves are often designated to reduce the impact of market conditions on the fees assessed from biosolids or to collect funds for the purchase of capital equipment. Budget projections for FY26 indicate **an increase of $3,600**.
>
> **Landfill Post Closure Reserve –** designated to assure funding exists to meet the requirements of the 30-year process of closing the landfill that began in 1996. Members of the operations team perform an annual audit to review the current closing cost and adjust for inflation and alterations, as necessary. Excess funds will remain in this fund until CSWD reaches custodial care through resolution with the state. This determination is currently under review, and we expect a final decision by FY2027. A portion of the reserve earns interest through interest-bearing accounts. Both expected expenditures and expected interest earned are included in the annual budget. Budget projections for FY26 indicate **a reduction of $83,154** ($50K in capital expenditures and $33K in “operational” expenditures).
>
> **Facilities Closure Reserve** – mandated to safely remove solid waste from closed operating facilities as required by state law. Members of the operations team perform an annual review of the current termination cost adjusting for inflation and alterations, as necessary. Funds for this reserve reside in an interest-bearing account; revenue from the account is included in the Finance budget. Budget projections for FY26 indicate **an increase of $50,000.**

In FY26, CSWD will manage the following Temporarily Restricted Reserves:

> **Debt Service Fund-** developed to maintain a minimum fund balance per the bond resolution. The fund will be maintained at a balance equal to 100% of the following year’s debt service until the debt is retired. Budget projections for FY26 indicate consistent balance.
>
> **MRF Project Capital Fund**- dependent upon approval of the increased SWMF ($40/ton). Proposed reserve to fund projected MRF project shortfall. The Budget projections for FY26 indicate **an increase of $1,778,999**.

In FY26 CSWD will manage the following Assigned Reserves:

Solid Waste Management Reserve – designated to provide support to management services as described in the Charter through a management fee structure. Budget projections for FY26 indicate **no change**.

Operating Reserve – designated to provide funds to operating programs and reduce the reliance on the solid waste management subsidy. It is assumed contributions are made in years when operation allocations balances are in excess; withdraws are made when operational allocations balances are insufficient. In the event operating reserves are depleted, funding will be withdrawn from the Solid Waste Management Reserve. Budget projections for FY26 indicate **a decrease of $470,054**.

Capital Reserves – established to preserve funding for future capital projects, asset upgrades and replacement of disposed assets. In FY26 the capital budget projects **a net decrease of $525,000** ($545K in capital expenditures and an increase of $20K of interest).

Community Clean Up Fund – designated to member communities for local permissible projects. Budget projections for FY26 indicate **a decrease of $95,000.**

Reserve Fund Waterfall

In FY22, the District revised the Reserve Fund Guideline and structure. The new structure establishes a priority funding mechanism, minimum and maximum balances, and proposes to restrict certain funds (Closed Landfill, Facility Closure, and Biosolids). As each priority reserve reaches its maximum, remaining excess revenue flows ("waterfalls") to the next priority reserve fund in order, as illustrated below:

Reserves Subject to Funding Priority Waterfall			
Assigned	Solids Waste Management Reserve (General Fund)	3 months of budgeted administrative expenses	$1,000,000
Temporarily Restricted	MRF Project Capital Fund	No set minimum, intended to close the project MRF project shortfall of $4.2M	No set maximum, intended to close the project MRF project shortfall of $4.2M, subject to revision
Assigned	Operating Reserve	3 months of budgeted operating expenses	6 months of budgeted operating expenses, or highest past calculated cost
Assigned	Capital Reserve	Current value of fully depreciated assets	Current value of total asset depreciation
Unrestricted, Unassigned	Undesignated Fund	5% of budgeted revenue	10% of budgeted revenue

Reserves Using a Set Calculation			
Reserve Type	**Reserve Name**	**Minimum Carry Value**	**Maximum Carry Value**
Assigned	Facilities Decommission Reserve	Calculated cost of facilities decommissions	Highest past calculated cost of facilities decommissions
Restricted	Facilities Closure Reserve	Calculated cost of facility solid waste termination	Highest past calculated cost of facility solid waste termination
Assigned	Community Clean Up Fund	Current balance due to communities	Current balance due to communities
Reserve Type	**Reserve Name**	**Minimum Carry Value**	**Maximum Carry Value**
Restricted	Biosolids Reserve	Current depreciation of Biosolids Trailers, as contracted	$650,000 or cost of replacing Biosolids trailers
Restricted	Landfill Post Closure Reserve	Original cost of calculated closure less operating reduction	Original cost of calculated closure
Temporarily Restricted	Debt Service Reserve	100% of upcoming year’s debt service	100% of upcoming year’s debt service

RESTRICTED FUNDS

The Biosolids, Closed Landfill, and Facilities Closure reserve funds are considered Restricted Funds as a best practice. The Debt Service Reserve is required by Bond Resolution as part of the bonding agreement and the MRF Project Capital reserve is dependent upon approval of the new SMWF and is temporarily restricted. Restricting these reserves means that the funds attributed to these programs may be used only for the expenses of these programs. Excess funds, after their restricted use, may be redistributed as deemed appropriate by management or, in the case of the Biosolids Reserve, returned to the member cities/towns that contribute specifically to that reserve. Interest revenue resulting from the investment of monies from these funds are credited to these funds.

ASSIGNED FUNDS

The remaining reserve funds (except the Undesignated Reserve) are assigned but not restricted. This means that those funds have a specific intended use but are available to be reassigned to other reserves if needed. These funds are organized in priority order and are filled with revenue in excess of expenses at the end of the fiscal year. When the first priority fund is full, the remaining excess revenue is assigned (flows as a waterfall) to the next priority fund. Four reserves make up the “waterfall” reserves: Solid Waste Management Fee, MRF Project Capital reserve, Operating, Capital, and Undesignated reserves, in that order. When the Undesignated Reserve maximum is met, any remaining excess revenue will be assigned to the Capital Reserve. The Facilities Decommission and Facilities Solid Waste Termination Reserves were seeded with excess solid waste management fee revenue. The Community Clean Up Fund is also funded with solid waste management fees and is capped at $95,000.

Chittenden Solid Waste District
FY26 Proposed Budget Summary
Reserve Balances

	FY24	Expected FY25 *	BUD FY26 Transfers OpEx	BUD FY26 Transfers CapEx	BUDFY26
32101 - Facilities Closure Reserve	1,636,766	1,636,766	50,000	-	1,686,766
32103 - Solid Waste Management Reserve	1,913,358	1,000,000	-	-	1,000,000
32105 - Operating Reserve	2,581,686	1,409,100	(470,054)	-	939,046
32200 - DESIGNATED FOR CAPITAL	7,693,037	8,983,400	20,000	(545,000)	8,458,400
32102 - Landfill Post Closure Reserve	570,418	1,000,000	(33,154)	(50,000)	916,846
33200 - Biosolids Reserve	380,724	380,724	3,600	-	384,324
33100 - COMMUNITY CLEAN UP RESERVE	63,166	95,000	-	-	95,000
Debt Service Fund	-	340,900	-	-	340,900
MRF Project Capital Fund	-	-	1,778,999	-	1,778,999
	14,839,155	14,845,890	1,349,391	(595,000)	15,600,281

** - This represents a very rough estimate of the ending balance at 6/30/2025 and requires further development of a forecast model.*

	SCHEDULE OF PROGRAM TIPPING FEES	FY24	FY25	Rate change FY26	increase from FY25 to FY26
1	**MATERIALS RECYCLING FACILITY**				
2	*Materials Sales fluctuate with market price.*				
3					
4	Budgeted Tipping Fees:				
5	In-District materials, per ton	$ 85.00	$ 90.00		
6	Out-of-District materials, per ton	$ 85.00	$ 90.00		
7					
8	**DROP-OFF CENTERS**				
9	*Items accepted vary by facility*				
10					
11	Household Trash				
12	Small - up to 13 gallons	$ 3.00	$ 3.00	$ 4.00	$ 1.00
13	Medium - 14 to 35 gallons	$ 8.00	$ 8.00	$ -	$ -
14	Large - 36 to 45 gallons	$ 11.00	$ 11.00		$ -
15	per cubic yard	$ 48.00	$ 48.00		$ -
16	at Drop-Off Center in Burlington, per pound	n/a	n/a		
17					
18	Recycling				
19	Blue-bin Recyclables, with paid trash items	No charge	No charge		
20	Blue-bin Recyclables ONLY	$ 2.00	$ 2.00		$ -
21	More than 1 Cubic Yard		$5.00/CY		
22	Organics				
23	Food Scraps, with paid trash items	No charge	No charge		
24	Food Scraps (per 5 gallons), without paid trash items	$ 1.00	$ 1.00		$ -
25	~~Tree limbs, trunks, clean stumps, & brush (Williston no longer accept '24):~~				
26	~~Up to 1 cubic yard (Milton, SB & Essex) (up to 3 cy in 24)~~	No charge	No charge		
27	~~Up to 3 cubic yards (up to 2 cubic yards starting '24)~~	No charge	No charge		
28	~~Each cubic yard in excess of 3 cy (changed to 2 cy in 2024)~~	$ 5.00	$ 5.00		$ -
29	Pallets & clean lumber:				
30	Up to ~~1~~ 2 cubic yards (Milton, Williston, SB &Essex)	No charge	No charge		
31	~~Up to 3 cubic yards (Williston) (changed to 5 in '24)~~	~~No charge~~	~~No charge~~		
32	Each cubic yard in excess of ~~1~~ 2 cy	$ 5.00	$ 5.00		$ -
33	~~Per ton~~	~~$ 50.00~~	~~$ 50.00~~		~~$ -~~
34	Yard debris (including natural wood)	~~No Charge~~	~~No Charge~~		
35	Up to ~~1~~ 2 cubic yards (Milton, Hinesburg (NO WOOD), SB &Essex)	No charge	No charge		
36	Each cubic yard in excess of ~~1~~ 2 cy	$ 5.00	$ 5.00		
37	Special Materials				
38	Non-covered Electronics ~ per pound (by appt. only)	$ 0.18	$ 0.18	$ 0.30	$ 0.12
39	Gypsum wallboard (clean, new scrap):				

	SCHEDULE OF PROGRAM TIPPING FEES	FY24	FY25	Rate change FY26	increase from FY25 to FY26
40	Small loads (up to 2 cy), per cubic yard	$ 22.50	$ 28.00		
41	Large loads, per ton	$ 90.00	$ 100.00		
42	~~Tires ~ up to 16” (bike tires up to 20)~~	~~$ 3.00~~	~~$ 4.00~~		
43	~~Tires ~ 16.5” up to 19.5” 20" Passenger Vehicle~~	~~$ 3.00~~	~~$ 4.00~~		
44	~~Tires ~ per ton~~	~~$ 225.00~~	~~$ 250.00~~		
45	Propane cylinders over 20 lbs.	$ 5.00	$ 5.00		$ -
46	Mercury-containing products*	No charge	No charge		
47	Propane cylinders 20 lbs. & under*	No charge	No charge		
48					
49	Construction & Demolition Materials				
50	up to 13-gallon bag/barrel	$ 5.00	$ 6.00	$8.00	$2
51	up to 33-gallon bag/barrel	$ 10.00	$ 16.00		
52	up to 45-gallon bag/barrel	$ 15.00	$ 22.00		
53	up to 64-gallon bag/barrel	n/a	$ 30.00		
54	per cubic yard	$ 82.00	$ 96.00		
55					
56	Other Items				
57	Appliances without refrigerants	$ 5.00	$ 5.00	$6.00	$1
58	Appliances with refrigerants	$ 15.00	$ 15.00		
59	Batteries (household and lead acid)*	No charge	No charge		
60	Electronics -non-covered	$ -	$ 2.00		$ -
61	Electronics - items covered by State program	No charge	No charge		
62	Fluorescent lamps*	No charge	No charge		
63	XS Furniture Item	n/a	$ 3.00	$ 4.00	$1
64	Small furniture item	$4-11	$ 8.00		
65	Medium Furniture item	n/a	$ 11.00		
66	Large furniture item	$16- 22	$ 15.00		
67	XL furniture item	n/a	$ 24.00		
68	Twin box spring	$ 20.00	$ 20.00	$ 27.00	$ 7.00
69	Twin mattress	$ 20.00	$ 20.00	$ 27.00	$ 7.00
70	Full/double/queen mattress	$ 25.00	$ 25.00	$ 32.00	$ 7.00
71	Full/double/queen box spring	$ 25.00	$ 25.00	$ 32.00	$ 7.00
72	King mattress	$ 30.00	$ 30.00	$ 37.00	$ 7.00
73	King box spring	$ 30.00	$ 30.00	$ 37.00	$ 7.00
74	Crib mattress	$ 6.00	$ 8.00	$ 10.00	$ 2.00
75	Hard cover books*	$ -	$ -		$ -
76	Scrap metal	No charge	No charge		
77	Textiles*	No charge	No charge		
78	Tires	$ 3.00	$ 4.00		$ -
79	Tires ~ ~~up to 16”~~ (bike tires up to 20)	$ 3.00	$ 4.00		$ -
80	Tires ~ ~~16.5”~~ up to ~~19.5”~~ 20" Passenger Vehicle	$ 3.00	$ 4.00		$ -

	SCHEDULE OF PROGRAM TIPPING FEES	FY24	FY25	Rate change FY26	increase from FY25 to FY26
81	~~Tires ~ Up to 19.5”~~	~~$ 3.00~~	~~$ 4.00~~		$ -
82	Tires ~ 20” to 24.5” Heavy Truck/Vehicle	$ 15.00	$ 15.00		$ -
83	Tires ~ large equipment tires	$ 56.00	$ 56.00		$ -
84	Tires ~ XL equipment tires	n/a	$ 100.00		
85	Tires ~ per ton	$ 225.00	$ 250.00		$ -
86	Used oil*	No charge	No charge		
87	Used oil filters*	No charge	No charge		
88	Ashes (accepted as trash)	$2-8; $42 (Cubic Yard)	$3-15; $48 (Cubic Yard)		
89					
90	Shredded Paper, with paid trash items	NA	No charge	No charge	
91	Shredded Paper ONLY	NA	$ 2.00	$ 2.00	$ -
92	More than 1 Cubic Yard		$5.00/CY	$5.00/CY	
93					
94	**HAZARDOUS WASTE - ENVIRONMENTAL DEPOT & ROVER**				
95					
96	Environmental Depot				
97	Household hazardous waste	No Charge	No Charge		
98	Business hazardous waste ~ Conditionally Exempt Generators	Call For Pricing	Call For Pricing		
99					
100	Rover				
101	Household hazardous waste	No Charge	No Charge		
102					
103	**Organics Diversion Facility**				
104					
105	Food Waste				
106	Tip fee, per ton	$ 70.00	$ 70.00		
107					
108	**Solid Waste Management**				
109					
110	Budgeted Fee:				
111	Management Fee, per ton	$ 27.00	$ 30.00	$ 40.00	$ 10.00

FY 26 PROPOSED
CSWD ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

Budget	**FTE - FY 26**	**56.23**
Budget	FTE - FY 25	56.80