

Matters of Fact for the Newly Proposed Materials Recovery Facility

You've probably heard that CSWD is planning a new Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) to replace the outdated and undersized MRF on Avenue C in Williston, which was built in 1993. Here's some basic information about that project. For more details, visit [cswd.net/mrf-bond](https://www.cswd.net/mrf-bond).

New Location: CSWD-owned property on Redmond Road in Williston. Just 2.6 miles from the current MRF.

Why? The current MRF is at capacity and has no room to expand or upgrade. It is inefficient and limits the amount Vermonters can recycle. The facility poses difficult working conditions for employees and is too small for haulers of incoming and outgoing material to safely navigate.

The new MRF will:

- Be equipped with modern technology to separate recyclables more efficiently and effectively.
- Be built with enough capacity—40% more than the current MRF—and flexibility to adopt future innovations and adapt to changes in packaging over the next 30 years.
- Be municipally owned, continuing to serve without profit as a motive, keeping fees as low as possible and recycling more types of materials, even when not profitable.
- Include a special area for source-separated loads.
- Be safer for haulers, with a larger tip floor, bigger yard, and more separation between incoming and outgoing bays.
- Be cleaner, brighter, and better ventilated, providing improved conditions for ~21 workers.



Cost and Funding

Project Capital Cost: \$22-\$26 million

Funding: CSWD will be asking Chittenden County voters in the November 2022 election to allow CSWD to borrow up to \$22 million. CSWD will repay the bond from operating revenue—sale of recyclables and tip fees.

Payback Period: 25 years.

Tip Fee Impact: As always, the tip fee will depend on how much revenue we receive from the sale of recyclables and the remaining expenses we need to cover. Many factors contribute to the MRF expenses. We have made it a priority to set the MRF tip fee once each year, regardless of market changes, to keep costs predictable for haulers.

Matters of Scale at Green Mountain Compost (GMC)

CSWD received permits earlier this year to install a new access drive and scale at GMC and to convert a residential structure into a scale house and office. Construction of a new waterline is underway, with the scale project starting immediately thereafter. Ormond Bushey & Sons out of Essex Junction is the contractor for both projects, and the estimated date for completion of the project is late November. We appreciate your patience during construction.

Compliance Matters

The Solid Waste Management Ordinance (SWMO) is one tool utilized by the District to achieve its mission “to reduce and manage the solid waste generated within Chittenden County in an environmentally sound, efficient, effective and economical manner.” In 2021, staff began the amendment process, which involved several housekeeping-related changes in addition to a few substantive changes. The CSWD Board adopted most of the proposed amendments at its June 22nd meeting. **These amendments became effective on August 21, 2022.** Substantive changes included the following, which may of particular interest to haulers:

- Rental and Multi-Unit Property Requirements were amended to require owners of properties with 5 or more residential units to provide for the collection of trash, mandatory recyclables, and food residuals. The required frequency of collection for the above is as follows: mandatory recyclables at least as often as trash and food residuals at least weekly.
- For other commercial properties, the frequency of collection of mandatory recyclables shall occur at least monthly and food residuals at least weekly. Responsibility for collection rests with the owner of an activity unless a contract exists stating otherwise.
- Effective January 1, 2032 or at the end of useful life for existing containers, new curbside containers or their lids must meet the following color requirements:
 - Mandatory recyclables – containers or lids must be royal or medium blue
 - Food scrap collection containers greater than 10 gallons in size – container or lid shall be green in color
 - Landfill bound trash – containers cannot be blue or green and lids must be black
- Labelling requirements were modified to allow more flexibility as to label contents. Label placement on containers remains unchanged.

Safety Matters

The [Solid Waste Association of North America](#) (SWANA) reported a significant reduction in solid waste worker deaths in 2021 in the United States and Canada. Industry fatalities fell by nearly 50 percent and continued a downward trend since 2018. Of the fatalities reported, however, approximately 80% involved collection workers.



Transfer Station/Recycling Facility Safety Tips:

- *Enter and exit the facility slowly.* Trying to get in and out of the facility quickly puts you and others in harm’s way.
- *Only exit your vehicle if necessary and stay close to the vehicle when doing so.*
- *Always wear your PPE, including high visibility clothing.*
- *Make eye contact with equipment operators when exiting your vehicle.*
- *Stay clear of the refuse body and tailgate of the truck.* While we understand the need to clear the blade and similar end-of-day routines, the transfer station floor is not the area to deal with more extensive cleaning and maintenance.

Have an idea for a topic, a story you’d like to share, or a question? Contact us at (802)872-8100 x242 or compliance@cswd.net.