

## HAZARDOUS WASTE

The Hazardous Waste program provides free drop-off of household hazardous waste to all Chittenden County residents and an affordable disposal option for small businesses who generate limited quantities of hazardous waste. It also includes the Local Color paint recycling program and retail sales.

### Significant Changes from Previous Fiscal Year

- The programs of Paint and Environmental Depot are being combined. The two programs are being maintained more efficiently by the moving Paint program back into the Environmental Depot building. The sharing of resources like equipment, labor, and utilities, as well as the building itself should reduce costs, therefore making it unnecessary to allocate costs between programs.
- Anticipated hazardous waste disposal costs are up significantly as we will be finding ourselves at the end of our 3-year disposal contract with US Ecology and Clean Harbors in August. Verbal discussions re: anticipated increases put the increase in disposal costs in a new contract north of 10%, likely higher.
- Our 4-year pesticide disposal grant from VT Dept. of Agriculture will be used up much before the end of FY22 leaving us with zero dollars for reimbursement for FY23 (the original grant amount was for \$111,000; the grant period ends on June 30, 2023). We continue to have conversations around how this grant money can be supplemented but it truly highlights the need for hazardous waste extended-producer liability (EPR) as is being discussed currently in the legislature. We are not alone in finding ourselves in a shortfall, other SWMEs are in a similar boat, but there is no reason manufacturers shouldn't be on the hook for this material.
  - For other SWMEs one of the options to make up some of the lost revenue is to charge their business customers but for us the vast majority of our pesticide waste comes from homeowners, a part of our customer-base that we have historically not charged for anything.
- \$5,500 has been budgeted for FY23 to completely redo all of the signage at the Depot, adding a sign for Local Color, and produce promotional signs that can be distributed to our wholesalers of Local Color.

### Key Performance Indicators

- Increase the revenue from CEGs by 10% to offset some of the anticipated increases in disposal cost due to new contract and increased waste.
- Increase volume of Local Color sold by 10% by identifying new outlets for material and being able to accept more inbound paint due to new efficiencies in the program.

### 3-Year Budget Outlook

- The FY23 budget stops short of assuming many of the anticipated efficiencies from moving programs under the same roof (except for the obvious like the direct costs of leasing another building – rent, telecommunications, utilities, etc.) Over the next three years we hope to show those efficiencies in the form of reduced overhead costs.
- Will be looking to add additional outdoor storage space to further optimize the function of the space inside the Depot. Options will include both further addition of temporary storage or the building of a more permanent storage structure.
- Remove the biosolids silo to open up further underutilized space.