

Bottom-line benefits

- **You'll be in good company!**

Join more than 200 Chittenden County businesses — large and small — and all of our public schools in modeling good citizenship by donating and/or composting quality food, scraps and soiled paper.

- **Stop wasting money.** By separating food scraps and soiled paper from your trash, you may be able to reduce the size and/or pickup frequency of your trash service, possibly saving money.

- **Improve customer and employee loyalty.** Studies show that consumers and employees are increasingly seeking out businesses that share their values of environmental stewardship.

- **Reduce your greenhouse gases.** About 22% of the everyday “trash” Chittenden County businesses send to the landfill could have been donated or composted instead. In landfills, food scraps produce methane, a highly detrimental greenhouse gas.

- **Stop wasting oil and landfill space.** CSWD estimates that Chittenden County businesses and residents could save more than 15,000 gallons of diesel fuel annually by keeping organics out of Vermont's last remaining landfill.

Contact us to get started!

CSWD | CHITTENDEN
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Composting Works *in any office*

Don't waste resources in a landfill! Send that banana peel to a better place.



A quick guide to composting at work

FAQs

● **How do I get started?** Contact CSWD! We'll help you set up an internal collection system that works for your employees, customers, and business demands.

● **What's it going to cost me?** The costs and benefits of separating your food waste and soiled paper will vary depending on your situation. We'll work with you and your waste hauler to make sure you maximize benefits and minimize costs.

● **How can I get my employees and co-workers to participate properly?**

Contact CSWD! We'll provide training, presentations, signage, and collection buckets. We may also have grant funding available to apply towards purchase of collection containers that suit your needs.

● **Won't it smell?** Remember, this is stuff that's already in your trash. You're just putting it in a different bin where it can be better managed—without the smell or other problems your trash may already face. We'll help you set up a hassle-free system that works for everyone!

● **When does the requirement start?**

Act 148, Vermont's Universal Recycling & Composting Law, requires that food scraps be diverted from the landfill. The requirement is phased in based on the volume of material you generate:

July 2014: 104 tons per year (10–12 carts per week)*

July 2015: 52 tons per year (5–6 carts per week)

July 2016: 26 tons per year (2–3 carts per week)

July 2017: 18 tons per year (about 1 cart per week)

July 2020: Universal ban

* One 68-gallon cart of food scraps and soiled paper weighs 300-450 pounds.

Success Stories

“In just nine months we diverted roughly **1,500 pounds of food waste and paper towels** from the landfill. Plus, we've been able to reuse more than 100 garbage bags, reducing our costs and the amount of plastic going into the landfill.”

Roberta Rocheleau
Champlain Cable, Colchester

“At first, we were concerned that composting would be a lot of work, but it was so easy. We use different colored bins for recycling, food scraps and trash. The trash isn't emptied as often and it's so much cleaner because the compost items aren't mixed in.

The cost savings, benefit to the environment, and sense of community that we get as a green company makes our commitment well worth the effort.”

Lee Sevene, Kitchen Manager
Windjammer Restaurant, South Burlington

It's not just food scraps!



You may be surprised just how much in your office can be composted:

- Anything edible: veggies, meat, oils, plus bones, fat, peelings, etc.
- Coffee grounds & filters, paper tea bags
- Paper towels & napkins
- Take-out pizza boxes & more!