

Haulers & Facilities

Parallel Collection Fact Sheet

This document is written to clarify the parallel collection requirements of the Universal Recycling law for solid waste haulers and certified facilities (transfer stations, drop-offs, landfills). It is also written to provide guidance from the Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) for the frequency of collection and the on-the-ground, day-to-day application of these requirements. **Parallel collection** refers to the requirement of solid waste haulers and facilities to collect recyclables, leaf and yard debris, and food scraps at the same location as trash.

RECYCLING

- A. The following recyclables (referred to as “listed recyclables”) are banned from the landfill July 1, 2015:
- Metal:** aluminum and steel cans, aluminum foil and pie plates,
 - Glass:** bottles and jars from foods and beverages,
 - Plastics:** #1 and #2 (PET and HDPE resin types) containers,
 - Paper:** corrugated cardboard, white and colored paper, newspaper, magazines, paper mail and envelopes, boxboard, and paper bags.



Facilities:

- B. Facilities (transfer stations, drop-offs, landfills) that offer collection of solid waste, must offer collection of listed recyclables to all customers (with the exception of commercial haulers) by July 1, 2014. Facilities are not required to accept listed recyclables from commercial Haulers.
- C. Facilities may not charge a separate fee for the collection of listed recyclables, to either residents or small businesses that self-haul, but may incorporate the cost of the collection of listed recyclables into the cost for the collection of solid waste and may adjust the charge for the collection of solid waste. No separate fee may be charged to residents or small business customers that self-haul listed recyclables **only** to the Facility.
- D. Facilities that wish to collect listed recyclables from commercial Haulers may charge a fee for collection.

Haulers:

- E. Haulers that offer collection of solid waste, must offer collection of listed recyclables for all customers (including residents, businesses, and institutions) by July 1, 2015 or, subcontract with another Hauler who can provide these services to their customers.
- F. Haulers may not charge a separate line item fee to residential customers for the cost of collection of listed recyclables, but may incorporate those costs into the charge for the collection of solid waste. Haulers may adjust the charge for the collection of solid waste to account for collection costs for recyclables.
- G. Haulers may charge commercial customers for the collection of listed recyclables.
- H. If a residential customer requests curbside collection of listed recyclables **only** (without trash collection services) from a Hauler, the Hauler may charge a fee for that service call or stop.
- I. Recycling Collection Frequency: Haulers should collect recycling at least as often as trash is picked up and in a recycling container that is at least as large as the trash container provided.

LEAF AND YARD DEBRIS, AND FOOD SCRAPS

- A. Leaf, yard, and clean wood debris are banned from the landfill July 1, 2016 and food scraps are banned from the landfill July 1, 2020.

Facilities:

- B. Facilities that offer collection of solid waste must offer collection of: leaf and yard debris by July 1, 2015 and food scraps by July 1, 2017; to all customers including commercial haulers.
- C. Facilities may charge customers (including residents, businesses and commercial haulers) for the collection of leaf and yard debris, and food scraps.



Haulers:

- D. Haulers that offer collection of solid waste must offer collection of leaf and yard debris to all customers by July 1, 2016 and must offer collection of food scraps to all customers by July 1, 2017. Haulers may subcontract with another Hauler who can provide these services to their customers.
- E. Haulers may charge for the collection of leaf and yard debris, and food scraps from all customers.
- F. Frequency of Collection:
- Leaf and Yard Debris:** Haulers should collect leaf and yard debris, at a minimum 1-2 times per month in the spring and the fall, from approximately April 1st – May 30th and October 1st - November 30th. During summer months (June, July, and August) Haulers should, at minimum, offer the service for leaf and yard debris collection on an as-needed basis.
 - Food Scraps:** Haulers should collect food scraps, at minimum, weekly during all warmer months (approximately May 1st –October 31st) and at minimum, every other week during all cooler months (approximately November 1st-April 30th). In no instance should food scrap collection frequency create a health hazard or nuisance.

ANR encourages the use of the **state standardized recycling symbols** for all containers and signage. Symbols are available for free download from the ANR Solid Waste Program webpage here: www.anr.state.vt.us/dec/wastediv/solid/URsymbols.htm.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Department of Environmental Conservation

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(802) 828-1138

www.recycle.vermont.gov

For information on local recycling ordinances and resources please contact your solid waste planning entity found in the link below, or contact your town manager.

www.anr.state.vt.us/dec/wastediv/solid/swmdlist.htm.



Photos of Brattleboro's curbside compost pilot collected by Triple T Trucking. (Image Source: Windham Solid Waste Management District)