



LRSWMD Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2016

July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016

District Profile

The mission of the Lamoille Regional Solid Waste Management District (LRSWMD) is to reduce the quantity and toxicity of the trash generated and going to the landfill while maintaining or improving overall environmental quality (air, water, soil), treating customer and employees with respect and operating within a balanced budget.



The LRSWMD is comprised of the following 12 communities; each town either appoints or elects a representative to serve on the Board of Supervisors. Member communities and their representative include: Belvidere – vacant, Cambridge – Dana Sweet, Craftsbury – Adrian Owens, Eden – David Whitcomb, Elmore – Jane Oliphant, Hyde Park - Harold Bailey, Johnson – Seth Manchester, Morristown – Charles Cooley, Stowe – Willie Noyes, Waterville – Howard Duchacek, Wolcott – Richard Lee, and Worcester – Carl Witke. Additionally, the LRSWMD operates six transfer stations across the District in the following communities: Craftsbury, Eden, Johnson, Morristown, Stowe, and Worcester. The services offered at these facilities are open to District and non-District users and include: trash disposal, mixed recycling, and management of other difficult to dispose of items like tires, e-waste, and appliances. Other services provided by the LRSWMD include household hazardous waste collections, outreach and education on materials management in schools and in communities, free use of waste receptacles for community events, help member communities comply to state solid waste regulations, and sell affordably-priced recycling and composting bins available for purchase.

Annual Budget

The LRSWMD ended the 2016 fiscal year with a net income of \$51,375. The LRSWMD is one of several Districts that does NOT tax its residents with a per capita fee for membership. That means our only source of income is through the \$21 surcharge on each ton of trash hauled from within the LRSWMD and the fees charged at the six LRSWMD operated, drop-off facilities. Surcharge generally provides 28% of the overall budget; facilities fees account for approximately 72%. Since the surcharge is based on the number of tons going to the landfill, the more successful we are at our mission of reducing waste, the less income available to fund the programs that keep those materials out of the landfill. A downward spiral is not a sustainable financial strategy. As always we are committed to fiscally conservative and transparent operations while meeting our mandates. A budget of \$1,253,500 has been approved for FY2017.

Facilities



A total of 3,478 tons of solid waste was collected across all six LRSWMD Transfer Stations in FY2016, down almost 100 tons from the previous year. Recycling increased by 98 tons to 1080 tons compared to last fiscal year. We are certainly on the right track for meeting the goals outlined in the Universal Recycling & Composting law. We've also captured 1.8 tons of stretchy film plastics (i.e. shopping bags). Keep it up!



CRAFTSBURY: Thanks to Walt Gutzman for the use of his property for the weekly Saturday collections, 9 a.m.- 1 p.m. 63 tons of trash and 57 tons of recycling were captured at this location.

EDEN: Thanks to the Eden Town Garage for hosting the location of the weekly Sunday operation, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. 84 tons of trash and 26 tons of recycling were captured at this location.

JOHNSON: Thanks to the town of Johnson for hosting us for the past two decades. Hours of operation are Friday and Saturday, 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. 467 tons of trash and 137 tons of recycling were captured at this location.

MORRISVILLE: Thanks to Morrisville Water & Light for hosting this site. Open weekly, Saturdays 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. 87 tons of trash and 66 tons of recycling were captured at this location. Note that this location has since been relocated to Cochran Road, just south of Morrisville.

STOWE: The scale house is open every day except Tuesday from 7:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Reuse is open Thurs & Sat, 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. and Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Reuse materials may only be left when the scale house is open. The Bottle Redemption Room is open during regular Transfer Station hours - closed Tues & Sun. 2625 tons of trash and 709 tons of recycling were captured at this location.

WORCESTER: Thanks to the Town of Worcester for providing our location on Calais Road. Open every Saturday 7:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. This facility also hosts a regular bottle donation fundraiser for the local 6th grade class trip. 152 tons of trash and 84 tons of recycling were captured at this location.

Member Services

Through the help of a grant from the State of Vermont, Agency of Natural Resources, Department of Environmental Conservation, three Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection events were held. The collections are an effort to directly support the mission of the District to reduce both the volume and toxicity of materials going to landfills. The events were held in Morrisville, Worcester and Jeffersonville. More than 5,190 gallons of HHW were recovered and over 585 participants took advantage of the collections - 16 of those were businesses. PaintCare, in concert with these three collections, captured 3,600 gallons of unused paint. All materials collected at these events will be recycled or responsibly disposed of.



Special wastes are materials that are not collected with regular trash or recycling. Many of these items are not collected by curbside haulers or privately run facilities. We are proud to report that several tons of various special wastes were diverted by the LRSWMD for proper disposal. 100 tons of e-waste was collected at the Johnson, Morrisville, and Stowe sites. Just under 1.80 tons of film plastics were diverted to be recycled into new products. More than 50 tons of tires were sent to K-N-S Tire Recycling and over

32 tons of textiles and books were diverted. More than 28,600 feet of fluorescent tube bulbs and over 3,500 CFL and odd shaped mercury-containing bulbs were sent to be properly disposed of. 663 refrigerant-containing appliances were properly managed to prevent the hazardous materials contained within them from leaching into the surrounding environment.

Green Up Day is organized locally in each of our twelve District towns. LRSWMD contributes \$1200 on behalf of our member towns for Green Up Day to the statewide organization. Contact your local Green Up representative to get involved!



LRSWMD continues to offer all District members easy and convenient ways to reduce the amount of organic waste they send to the landfill. Composting receptacles are for sale at a subsidized cost all year at the office and at most Transfer Stations. In FY2016, 42 Soil Saver Compost Bins, 46 countertop kitchen collectors, and 13 Green Cone Digesters were sold. One hundred seventy-two recycling bins were also sold.

District Outreach & Education

Education happens in all sorts of ways for our District members. Over twelve school presentations were given at District schools last fiscal year. Presentations for pre-schoolers to high schoolers covered the Universal Recycling & Composting law, “how-to sort for a clean stream” basics, and the importance of responsible materials management. Information tables were hosted at several events over the year where people were able to meet the worms, ask questions about recycling and understand who the LRSWMD is and how to access us! Recycling Workshops were offered at various locations around the LRSWMD over the summer and International Compost Awareness Week was jammed packed with interactive activities all week long! These activities provided interaction with over 300 District members. Check the website or ask your LRSWMD representative for information about any of these services or events.



Two Vermont Governor’s Awards for Environmental Excellence were brought home this past year by leveraging partnerships with the great neighbors! Stowe Farmers’ Market and the LRSWMD received the award for diverting recycling and food scraps away from the landfill and reducing the overall amount of waste created at the weekly event. UVM Extension 4-H Teen & Leadership Program and LRSWMD co-created the award-winning TRY- Waste Solutions program helping students learn about sustainable materials management practices and implementing those at their respective schools.

A newsletter is sent twice each year to all 15,000+ households and businesses located within the District. A special winter edition contained the Recycling survey. 1,026 surveys were returned with Morrisville (18%) and Stowe (16%) having the highest return rate. 81% of those who responded were 45 years of age or older and 98% reside in Vermont year-round; 84% own their own home. About a quarter of respondents utilize curbside services for their waste management needs while the remainder self-haul their materials to various drop-off facilities around the District. 72% of the trash and recycling that is self-hauled is handled at the six LRSWMD facilities. Over 60% of respondents manage their leaf and yard and debris can food waste on-site via composting. 52% reported already being in compliance with Act 148 while 9% reported that they had never heard of the law. Thanks to everyone who took the time to return the completed surveys. Look for it again in 2019!



The LRSWMD Twitter and Facebook (LRSWMD) accounts are a great way to learn cool stuff and share your successes. Follow us today! You will also regularly see us on Front Porch Forum (www.frontporchforum.com). A monthly email news blast is another way to keep updated on what the LRSWMD is up to. If you would like to be added to our mailing list please email outreach@lrswmd.org and if you would like more information on any of these services or have other suggestions about how to get your community involved in recycling, composting, and waste reduction.