



Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance  
210 South Street, Suite 6  
Bennington, VT 05201  
(802) 442-0713 x302

**Date:** Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023

**To:** The Select Boards of Arlington, Bennington, Dorset, Manchester, Pownal, Rupert, Sandgate, Searsburg, Shaftsbury, Stamford, Sunderland, and Woodford and the Town Supervisor of Gastenbury

**Re:** Amendments to the Solid Waste Implementation Plan to include new household hazardous waste collection facility

**Summary:**

This memorandum outlines a request for the review and approval of amendments to the 2020 Solid Waste Implementation Plan (SWIP) (See Attachment 1), by the governing bodies of each of the member towns of The Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance (BCSWA). The amendments were approved by the BCSWA Board at the Feb. 1, 2023 BCSWA public meeting, and will update the SWIP to include the use of a permanent Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection facility that complies with state regulations. The amendments will become effective following approval of the Select Boards of the member Towns.

**Background:**

BCSWA was formed in 2015 through an interlocal contract between the Vermont towns of Arlington, Bennington, Dorset, Glastenbury, Manchester, Pownal, Rupert, Sandgate, Searsburg, Shaftsbury, Stamford, Sunderland, and Woodford; and is governed by a Board of Directors made up of appointed representatives from each municipality.

On November 12, 2020, the BCSWA member towns adopted a Solid Waste Implementation Plan (SWIP) to assist in the management and reduction of waste in the region, and to ensure local compliance with the 2019 Vermont Agency of Natural Resources Materials Management Plan (MMP). BCSWA

Section H1 of the MMP outlines a requirement that local solid waste management entities provide access for the safe disposal of Household Hazardous Waste (HHW), by either holding collection events or by providing access to a permanent collection facility. Since 2015, BCSWA has hosted a series of HHW collection events to meet this requirement. However, due to rising costs related to hosting HHW collection events, the BCSWA Board has determined that the development and operation of a permanent HHW collection facility will offer improved opportunities for residents to dispose of waste, at a lower cost.

In 2021 BCSWA was awarded a Materials Management Infrastructure Grant from the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation for the establishment of a facility for the collection and storage of HHW waste. Using these funds along with matching funding from our member towns, BCSWA has begun development of a facility at the Bennington transfer station located at 802 Houghton Lane, Bennington VT 05201; with an expected opening date in June of 2023.

**Request for municipal review and approval:**

In order to receive the required permits from the state of Vermont to open and operate the facility the BCSWA SWIP will need to be amended to reflect this change in operations.

In accordance with Article IX of the SWIP; the attached amendments were unanimously approved by the BCSWA Board at the Feb. 1, 2023 BCSWA public meeting (See Attachment 2). The BCSWA Board reviewed the proposed amendments and opened the hearing for public comment. No members of the public participated.

Following that vote, BCSWA requests that your municipality place the approval of these amendments onto the agenda of an upcoming select board meeting, and that the results of a vote related to these amendments are shared with us prior to April 15, 2023.

The amendments will become effective upon approval of the Select Boards of all of the member Towns.

Thank you for your consideration. Please contact me if you have any questions, need any additional information, or if you would like me to attend any events where this item is on the meeting agenda.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Grimm-Lyon". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light gray rectangular background.

Scott Grimm-Lyon, AICP  
Program Manager  
Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance  
201 South St., Suite 6  
Bennington, VT 05201

## ATTACHMENT 1: Proposed 2023 SWIP Amendment

Existing SWIP (below is the existing language in the sections approved for amendment, to see the existing SWIP in it's entirety you may visit the BCSWA website at <https://bcswa.org/swip>):

### Existing Facilities and Services

#### Section 1 Solid Waste Facilities (pp.14)

Appendix II lists facilities in the BCSWA area (Map 2). Appendix II.A. lists transfer stations and Appendix II.B. lists closed landfills that will require recertification by the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources every five years. The Pownal, Rupert, Searsburg, Shaftsbury and Stamford stations are operated by those towns, and each station serves the residents of the respective towns. The Northshire (Dorset, VT) and Sunderland stations are operated by Casella and may be used by residents of Arlington, Dorset, Manchester, Sandgate, and Sunderland through the Integrated Solid Waste Applications Program (ISWAP). The Bennington Transfer Station, also operated by Casella, is used by residents of Bennington and Woodford. The Town of Rupert does not have a transfer station.

### HHW & CEG\* Hazardous Waste

#### Section H1 (pp29):

The Alliance will hire a qualified HHW disposal company and hold three four-hour events within the Alliance area. This will include outreach and advertising. One event will serve the southern portion of the area, and a second the northern portion with one of those in the spring and one in the fall. We will hold a third event specifically for the towns of Searsburg and Stamford which are both more than 20 miles from either those event sites. These activities will be reported in ReTRAC and the annual SWIP reports.

The Alliance will work to develop a permanent facility for residents, businesses, and institutions. If and when that becomes operational, events will cease to occur.

### Transfer stations

#### Appendix II A (pp 48)

Appendix II.A.. Transfer stations (see Map 2).		
Facility	Hours	Services Offered
Bennington Town Recycling Area (BN082)	Hours not specified	Asphalt, brick, and concrete recycling
Casella Waste Management Transfer Station (BN081)	M, W, F 8 A to 3P T, TH 8A to 3P	MSW, recyclables, E-Waste, mercury containing bulbs, appliances, clean wood, scrap metal, furniture and bulky waste, C&D, tires, lead-acid batteries, and yard waste

Appendix II.A.. Transfer stations (see Map 2).		
Facility	Hours	Services Offered
Casella (formerly TAM) Organics Compost Facility (Earthlife) (BN070)	Not open to public	Organics facility for collection of food scraps and composting

**ATTACHMENT 2: 2023 SWIP Amendments approved by BCSWA Board on Feb. 1, 2023**

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**Existing Facilities and Services****Section 1 Solid Waste Facilities (pp.14)**

Appendix II lists facilities in the BCSWA area (Map 2). Appendix II.A. lists transfer stations and Appendix II.B. lists closed landfills that will require recertification by the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources every five years. The Pownal, Rupert, Searsburg, Shaftsbury and Stamford stations are operated by those towns, and each station serves the residents of the respective towns. The Northshire (Dorset, VT) and Sunderland stations are operated by Casella and may be used by residents of Arlington, Dorset, Manchester, Sandgate, and Sunderland through the Integrated Solid Waste Applications Program (ISWAP). The Bennington Transfer Station, also operated by Casella, is used by residents of Bennington and Woodford. The HHW Depot collocated at the Bennington Transfer station will be operated by the Alliance and open to all residents, schools and VSQG's located in the Alliance. The Town of Rupert does not have a transfer station.

**HHW & VSQG\* Hazardous Waste****Section H1 (pp29):**

The Alliance previously held three HHW collection events annually, in northern, central, and southeastern areas of the Alliance. In 2022 and 2023, The Alliance received funding from Vermont ANR to develop a semi-permanent, seasonal HHW Facility ("HHW Depot") to be located at the Bennington Transfer Station, 802 Houghton Ln. Bennington VT 05201 (see Appendix II A on page 48). It is anticipated that the HHW Depot will be open the summer of 2023. The proposed facility will meet all Vermont Solid Waste Facility certification requirements and meet the definition of a semi-permanent HHW collection facility as defined within Vermont's Materials Management Plan. All required HHW collection reporting will be completed in ReTRAC.

The facility will be open seasonally from May through October with a minimum of 18 weeks of operation. The facility will be open to all Alliance member town residents, schools, and Very Small Quantity Generators of Hazardous Waste (VSQG). During that time, the facility will be open at least one day each week at a minimum of 4 hours per day. Residents using the facility may be charged a flat user fee (to be applied at the direction of the Board of Directors). Schools and VSQGs will be charged pertinent disposal fees and invoiced by the Alliance accordingly. Appointments will be required for residents to use the facility during open hours; Schools and VSQGs will be required to register materials to be dropped off in advance and schedule a special appointment.

A press release and promotional flyers will be distributed prior to opening each year to promote the facility. Social media outreach and newspaper ads will also promote the facility. The Alliance's HHW webpage will be modified to promote the new HHW Depot, and explain details related to acceptable materials, charges, etc. A website-based registration form and scheduling tool will be developed for residents, schools and VSQGs to complete.

**Transfer stations**  
**Appendix II A (pp 48)**

Appendix II.A.. Transfer stations (see Map 2).		
Facility	Hours	Services Offered
Bennington Town Recycling Area (BN082)	Seasonally from May through October, open 1 day/week. Specific days/hours TBD	Household hazardous waste, brick, and concrete recycling
Casella Waste Management Transfer Station (BN081)	M, W, F 8 A to 3P T, TH 8A to 3P	MSW, recyclables, E-Waste, mercury containing bulbs, appliances, clean wood, scrap metal, furniture and bulky waste, C&D, tires, lead-acid batteries, and yard waste, asphalt
Casella (formerly TAM) Organics Compost Facility (Earthlife) (BN070)	Not open to public	Organics facility for collection of food scraps and composting

\*Note Very Small Quantity Generators of Hazardous Waste (VSQG) is being used to replace the previous terminology of Conditionally Exempt Generator of Hazardous Waste (CEGs) as per 2020 EPA guidelines.

\*\*Page numbers may be modified after amendments have been applied