

CVSWMD Community Services Project Advisory Committee – August 30, 2016

Summary of Responses to Topic #5 - Visualizing CVSWMD Programs in 5 to 10 Years

What are the challenges that the central Vermont region faces with respect to solid waste over the next 10 years?

1. Get every town on board with CVSWMD plans. All towns have to buy in without the option of dropping out on short notice. We need planning for future financial resources and facilities.
2. Keep waste removal affordable to residents. Increased cost and burdensome regulations make illegal dumping increase, costing municipalities more. Make “pay to throw” work!
3. Educate!! – Some older people and low-income folks are outside the loop. Educate citizens about the locations and items to recycle, and means to reduce at the source. The average citizen may or may not know what CVSWMD is or what we do. Education needs to tell people their benefits: focus on what's in it for them. Too many people (adults & youth) don't understand the whys behind the rules and the costs.
4. Enforce Act 148 rules around what can go in a landfill.
5. Reduce the amount of waste we have in the first place. (The increase in on-line shopping creates boxes, bubble wrap, styrofoam like never before.)
6. Identify the most convenient solutions AT THE SOURCE: business, residence, public facilities, etc.
7. Get food scraps out of energy production, even bio-digesters.
8. Help stabilize/assure stability of markets for commercial waste transporters.
9. With limited facilities and the growth of recycling and Act 148 diversion, how can CVSWMD continue to support the growing needs of its members?
10. When more municipalities join the district, what do we need to do to scale up in order to accommodate them?



How should CVSWMD address the central Vermont regional challenges with respect to solid waste over the next 10 years?

- A. Programs and services should be more de-centralized, operate in more locations.
- B. Operate a central collection point for all recyclables -- funded by both municipalities and user fees -- that can regularly, consistently provide the full scope of services to all towns in our region. Capital cost need to be value within the full scope of services and ease provided through having our own building.
- C. Sponsor more “events” (e.g. hazardous waste days).
- D. CVSWMD should work with other districts and municipalities to share resources.
- E. Increase use of drop-off facilities for no/low-cost sharing of usable items.
- F. Change District governance to provide for longer-term control of membership, so that towns cannot secede.
- G. Plan/implement a phased-in facility flexible for meeting multiple purposes.
- H. Provide on-going education for towns (members), their citizens and schools.
- I. Keep costs down.
- J. Maximize convenience to residents.
- K. Design/create “at-home” stations for managing additional recyclables.
- L. Incorporate incentives for haulers and utility workers to aid in collection and processing?
- M. All CVSDMD program & service needs new names, using same logo & colors, to support Branding and Education. State agencies, Community Grants and Corporate Sponsors could be sources of funds and/or free personnel to facilitate such marketing, educational gathering and planning involving a broad base of stakeholders.