

## **Mad River Resource Management Alliance**

P.O. Box 210, Waterbury Center VT 05677

(802) 244-7373 / fax (802) 244-7570

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The Mad River Resource Management Alliance(MRRMA) includes the Towns of Fayston, Moretown, Waitsfield, Warren and Waterbury. The Alliance was formed through an Interlocal Agreement that began in 1994. We changed our name in 2008 to reflect the fact that we are managing resources not wastes.

2020 was certainly a very challenging year in many areas. Due to the pandemic the Alliance cancelled our Spring Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day event at the Harwood Union High School in Duxbury. Our Fall event was held on October 3 2020. A total of 354 households participated in this event. We collected 11.36 tons of household hazardous waste at the event. Residents within the Alliance communities are able to bring all their architectural paints, waste pesticides, alkaline batteries and up to 10 additional gallons of hazardous waste to each event for disposal at no charge. The Alliance will swap your mercury fever thermometer for a digital thermometer at no charge at these events. Bring your mercury thermostats to the Household Hazardous Waste Collection and you will receive a coupon that can be redeemed for a \$5.00 rebate by the Thermostat Recycling Corporation which will process the thermostats. Residents can also bring all their compact fluorescent bulbs(CFLs) and up to ten or fewer non-CFL general purpose mercury containing lamps at no charge. We are planning two collection day events in 2021, at Harwood Union High School. They are scheduled for May 8 and October 2, 2021.

A total of 219.7 gallons of used crankcase oil was collected within the Alliance at our Used Oil Collection Tank during 2020. The tank is located in Waitsfield at the Earthwise Transfer Station.

Grow Compost of Vermont in Moretown collected food scraps and food processing residuals from the Washington West Supervisory Union waste streams, from other large generators in the MRRMA and in collection totes at their Moretown facility. A total of 270 tons of food scraps were collected by Grow Compost of Vermont in 2020 in the MRRMA. Visit our web site at [madriverrma.org](http://madriverrma.org). You will find information on solid waste issues on this web site.

The twenty fourth truckload sale of compost bins resulted in the distribution of 56 compost bins and 8 Green Cones. It is estimated that each compost bin can compost 650 pounds of garden and kitchen waste annually. This means rich soil to add to your garden and less waste to go to the landfill. We held four composting workshops for Alliance residents this year and expect to hold more in 2021. We will hold our twenty fifth Compost Bin Sale this spring. The Alliance held a car and pickup truck tire and metal collection event at the Earthwise Transfer Station in conjunction with Green Up Day on May 30, 2020 due to the Pandemic. A total of 11.55 tons of tires and a ton of metal were collected during this event. The Wheels for Warmth Program was cancelled last year due to Covid-19. We are planning to hold a spring tire and metal collection in conjunction with Green Up Day on May 1, 2021.

Alliance residents can bring their mixed paper, glass bottles and jars, metal cans and plastics #1 through #7, except for plastic film wrap and bags and beaded styrofoam for single stream recycling to the Earthwise Transfer Station, Rodney's Rubbish Transfer Station and Redemption Center. There are also local haulers and Saturday Fast Trash Collections available in the Mad River Resource Management Alliance. Currently the recyclables are taken to the Chittenden County Materials Recovery Facility for processing. Due to market conditions there is now a charge for collecting and processing recyclables. Computers, printers, monitors and televisions can be recycled at no charge at the Earthwise Transfer Station or the State Surplus Property Office on Route 2 in Waterbury. Other e-waste can be brought to the State Surplus Property facility in Waterbury and recycled at a small per pound fee. During 2020, 45.69 tons of e-waste was collected. Additional information on this program is found on our web site. The Alliance is a member of the Northeast Resource Recovery Association which helps us market some recyclable commodities such as tires, propane cylinders other materials and assists with educational programs. The Alliance is also a member of the Product Stewardship Institute(PSI). As a stakeholder in the PSI we work with other entities to reduce the environmental and health impacts of a variety of consumer products. This is accomplished by looking at the life cycle impacts of products and their packaging. Things like energy and materials consumption, emissions during manufacturing, toxicity, worker safety and waste disposal are among the issues reviewed. The objective of product stewardship is to rethink the way things are created in order to have more sustainable products in the future. We are also a member of the Vermont Product Stewardship Council which provides a local focus on legislative initiatives and other stewardship issues.

Our Solid Waste Implementation Plan(SWIP) is updated every five years. The draft update is available for review at our website, [madriverrma.org](http://madriverrma.org).

Backyard burning of trash is illegal and causes air pollution problems. Be a good neighbor and don't burn trash. If you know of any illegal dumping sites within your town that would benefit from an Adopt a Site Program give John Malter, Alliance Administrator a call at 244-7373 and let's see what we can do to help eliminate these types of problems together. The FY21 assessment for the administration and programs remains at \$7.00 per capita.

The representatives of the Alliance include: Fayston, Chuck Martel; Moretown, Jonathan Siegel; Waitsfield, Sal Spinosa; Warren, Margo Wade; Waterbury, Alec Tuscany and John Malter from Waterbury is the Administrator for the Alliance.