

## Charlotte Universal Recycling Actionable Proposals April 28, 2014

Actions under consideration:

1. Adopt: "The Town of Charlotte, Vermont is dedicated to making all events in public spaces as waste free as possible. Recycling is mandatory in Vermont (Act 148). Charlotte now collects compost, zero-sort recycling and trash in 3 separate waste streams. Any event held in a public space (indoors or outside), be it a town sponsored event or a private event held in a public space will comply with these expectations. All Town lease and use of facilities agreements will guide event planners through sustainable waste management planning."

(If above is adopted in principle, then administrative action will amend facilities use policies, town websites, beach job description, etc.)

2. CSWD Container Grant application for on-site composting systems at the beach and Town Hall.

Action under consideration: approve **grant application** for \$630.00, %40 of which (\$252.00) would be reimbursed to the Town if the grant comes through. Grant is requesting funds to cover purchase of four large compost bins (\$630). (Additional needs: weather proof signage, locks/tamper proofing, straw bales, pitchfork. Cost unknown. Funding will be sought through business donations).

3. Reappointment of Abby Foulk, Charlotte's representative to the Chittenden Solid Waste District for a two-year term ending May 31, 2016.

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### Explanation of proposed on-site composting system:

I recommend 2 compost bins be located at the Town Beach and 2 compost on the Town Green. This would enable turning materials from one bin to another. Bin choice is up to Selectboard, but I recommend the Maven Vermont animal proofed bins. (see quote below, with vendor information) While it is the most expensive bin of 3 viable options, I believe it would be the most successful and convenient, in producing usable compost without issues (animal or smell).

"Feedstocks" of leaves, sawdust, manure bedding would be stored next to the compost bins, to add after food scraps, consistent with the compost recipe of 3-1 carbons-nitrogens.

Educational and operational signage would be displayed next to the bins at both sites.

Library, Town Party, Fire and Rescue, Recreation Commission are on board in principle, details not all worked out. Senior Center: May 1<sup>st</sup> Board Meeting will discuss.

Food scraps at all events and at beach would be collected in clearly marked 5 gallon bins. Private events would pay \$10/bin deposit, refunded upon delivery of scraps and return of clean bin. The bins are a unit of measurement for building the compost recipe.



Training would be offered to Beach Attendants, Senior Center, Fire and Rescue, Town Hall (by Abby).

Employees/staff would be expected to add food scraps and follow recipe. Abby will oversee and turn piles. I will oversee the beach for the first year and participate in annual beach attendant training as needed.

The CCS Compost Shed is finished. It will be operational soon. So this is now a possible summer drop-off site for collected food scraps. This would mean more intensive transporting of 5 gallon bins of food scraps.

## Proposed system options

**Applies to all options:** Set up 5 gallon buckets for collecting food scraps (only) side-by-side with recycling/trash bins at beach, town hall and all events in public spaces. Install consistent waste stations, symbols, guidance signage throughout Town.

**Applies to all Events only:** \$10/bucket deposit required for private events in public spaces. Use/Lease agreements will determine # of buckets needed per event. Deposits/tracking/return will be managed (using forms or website) by Recreation Commission or CSWD representative. Food scraps generated at events will be managed by event sponsors (4 possible choices: add to onsite compost bins, drop-off at CCS Compost Shed, drop-off at CSWD compost collection, add to Casella compost hauling bin)

- a. **(On-site) option 1 for Town and Events:** In conjunction with food scrap buckets, larger backyard compost bins are used at Town Hall (2) and Beach (2) as depositories for the food scraps. Leaves and sawdust feedstock are stored next to these bins. Town employees (town hall and beach) are trained to manage these bins. Oversight and turning managed by Abby. Examples of bin types:



Maven Compost bins: \$225/\$190/\$145 (-30% off)

Soilsaver Compost bins: \$49

Green Cone Compost digester: \$130

Other costs: locks/tamper proofing, straw bales, gloves, shovel/pitchfork, weather proof signage

- b. **(Offsite) option 2 for Town and Events:** Collect food scraps in 5 gal buckets and take to CCS Compost shed. Beach attendants and event sponsors would be responsible for delivering to the shed.
- c. **(Offsite) option 3 for Events only:** Collect food scraps and other compostables to take to CSWD municipal drop-off center.
- d. **(On-site) option 4 for Town and Events:** Renegotiate hauling contract with Casella to include compost hauling from Beach (4 months).

Casella hauling contracts are *negotiable*. Preliminary estimate for 4 months pick-up compost at beach is **per month** \$50/1 bin, \$65/2 bins

# Maven Vermont Products, LLC

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April 24, 2014

Dear Abby,

Thank you for your interest in using Maven Compost Bins for composting in the Town of Charlotte. I would like to offer you a 30% discount off the regular retail price for four large bins, for a total savings of \$270.

Regular: price:  $\$225 \times 4 = \$900$

Your price:  $\$157.50 \times 4 = \$630$

In addition to this discount I would be happy to donate my time to help set up the bins. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Holly R. Taylor

Owner

