



Universal Recycling

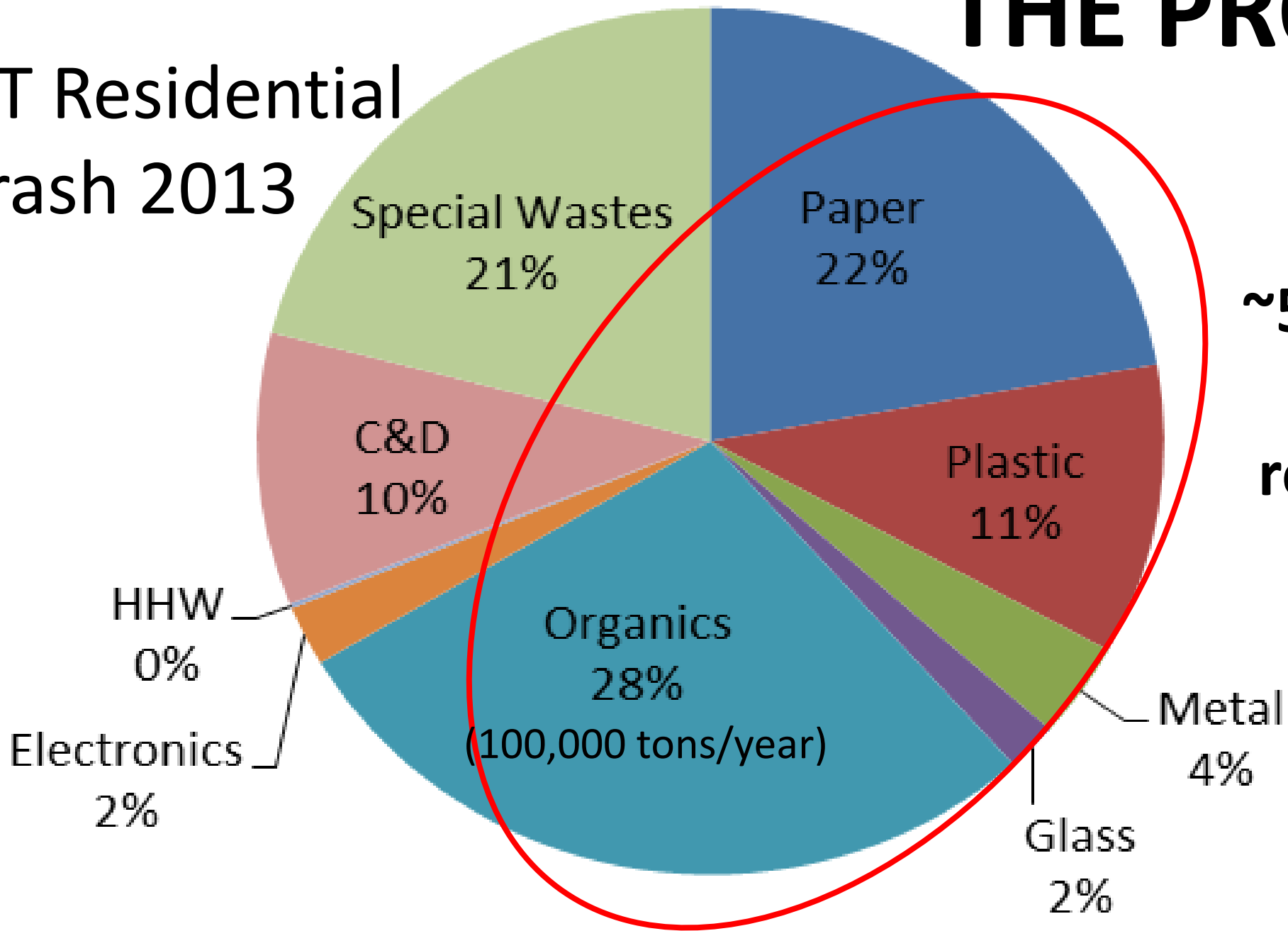
Vermont's Recycling and Composting Initiative

NERC & NEWMOA Regional Harmonization Webinar May 2, 2018

Josh Kelly, Materials Management Section Chief

THE PROBLEM

VT Residential Trash 2013



**~50% could be
recycled,
recovered, or
composted**

What a waste





But Why?

Saves valuable resources

Reduces GHG emissions. By an est. 37% in VT

Supports green jobs, new markets and businesses

Preserves landfill capacity

Improves environmental health

2012 – BIG year for Vermont

Universal Recycling (Act 148) passes unanimously

Hey, you can
compost
that!



That's
recyclable!

State Organics Bans

CA Jan. 2016 – 8-cu.yd. With increasing organics targets

CT Jan. 2014 – 2-ton w/in 20 miles. 2020 1-ton w/in 20 miles.

MA Oct. 2014 – 1-ton regardless of distance.

RI Jan. 2016 – 2-ton w/in 15 miles.

VT July 2014 – 2-ton w/in 20 miles. Phases to full ban in 2020.

brand?

2013

Act 148 Working Group

Symbol(s)?

name?



LANDFILL



YERBA BUENA GARDENS

RECYCLE



YERBA BUENA GARDENS

COMPOST



YERBA BUENA GARDENS

Yerba Buena Gardens – San Francisco



Seattle, WA



San Francisco, CA

Seattle University



Portland, Oregon



Seattle Airport



Food & Compost



Recycle



Garbage



Food & Compost

All Food Waste



Food-Soiled Paper (without shiny coating)



Approved Compostable Packaging & Bags



Yard Waste, Plants, Untreated Wood



No Plastic. No Glass. No Metal. No Plastic Bags.
No Animal Waste. No Rocks.

Recycle

Clean Paper & Cardboard



Clean Plastics



Clean Glass & Metal



Clean Recyclables Only.
No Food. No Liquid. No Single Plastic Bags.

Scrap Metal



Garbage

Non-Recyclable Paper & Plastic



Foam Trays & Containers



Kitchen Grease



Non-Recyclable Glass and Other Garbage



No Food. No Yard Waste. No Recyclables.
No Hazardous Waste.

Seattle
Public
Utilities



Where Does it Go?

seattle.gov/util/wheredoesitgo

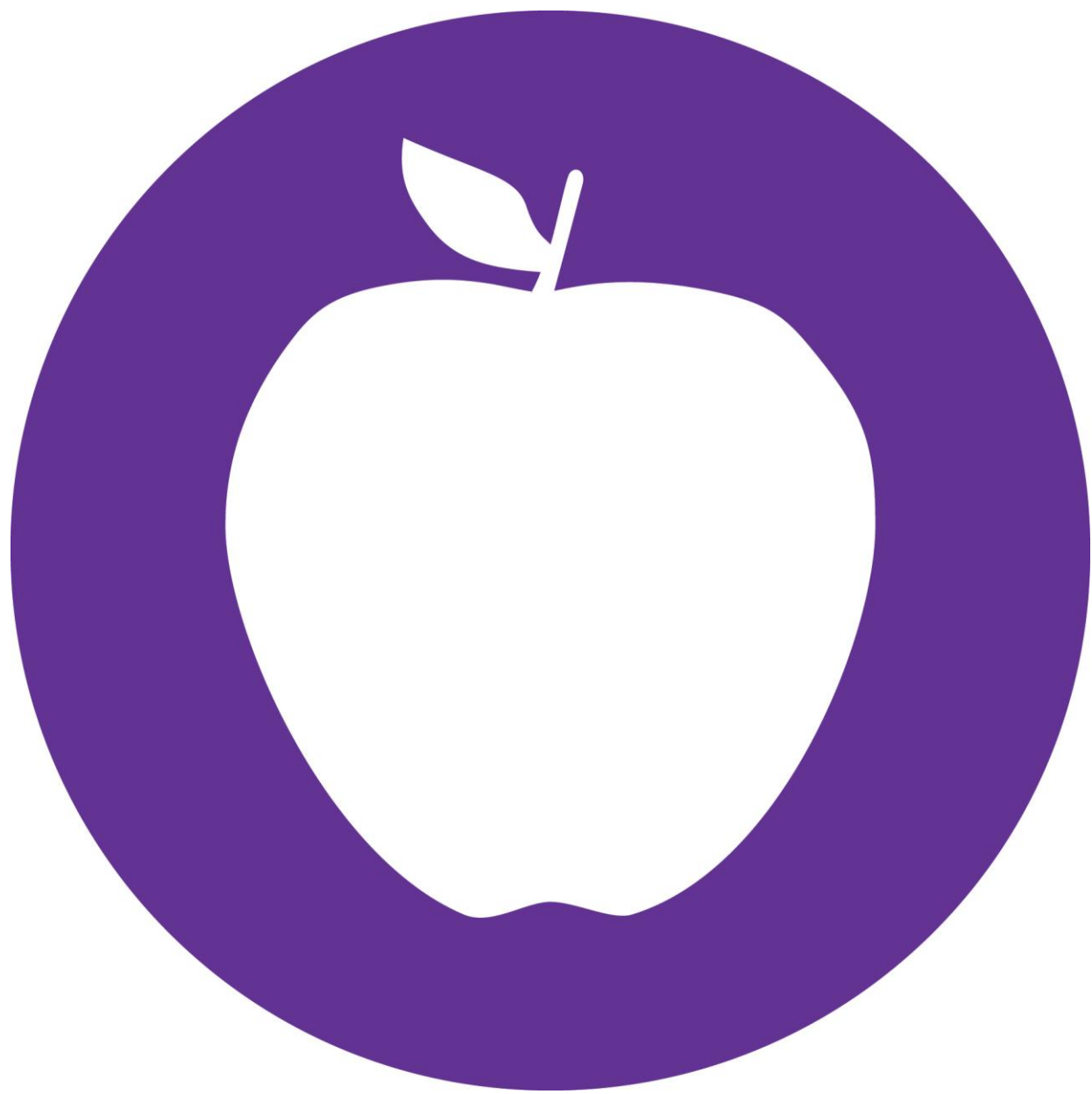
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RECYCLING



FOOD SCRAPS



TRASH



COMPOSTABLES



LANDFILL



FOOD DONATION



**GIVE A
SCRAP**



What about leaf and yard debris?



Keep it simple







**US Composting
Council®**



BPI®

COMPOSTABLE
IN INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES

Check locally, as these do not exist in many communities. **Not suitable for backyard composting.** CERT # SAMPLE

Mixed Recycling



Paper
& Cardboard



Aluminum
& Steel



Glass Jars
& Bottles



Plastic Bottles
& Containers



Clean and empty only, please.



Food Scraps



All Food Scraps

Fruits, vegetables, dairy,
bread, grains, meat &
bones, oils, sauces, eggs



Remove stickers
from produce!



Coffee Grounds & Filters



www.VTrecycles.com



Landfill



All Trash Items

Napkins, tissues



Paper cups, stirrers &
straws, plastic utensils



Bottle caps



Plastic bags & film, chip
and candy wrappers



Styrofoam (all kinds)



When in doubt, throw it out!
It's better than trashing the recycling bin.

www.VTrecycles.com





Green is for Organics: Voluntary Container Color Standard Recommended by Consortium of Organics Collection Organizations and Agencies

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Keep America Beautiful and USCC study 2017

And....It's Working

Trash (MSW) decreased 8.5% (2014 vs. 2016)

Recycling & Composting rate increased 3% (33% to 36%)

Food rescue more than doubled

99% of transfer stations have food scrap drop-off

Business Outreach



Photo credit: Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District (CVSWMD)

Benefits of Keeping Food Waste out of the Landfill



1

VERMONT
AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Feeds People

Rescued food donations
more than doubled
from 2014 to 2016 at the
Vermont Foodbank.



2

Reduces
Greenhouse Gas
Emissions



3

Supports
Green Jobs



4

Compost
Restores Soil



5

Reduces
need for
Landfills

VT landfills ~60,000
tons of food scraps
each year.



Composting the
scraps



instead of trashing
them would...

reduce greenhouse
gas emissions



as much as not
driving ~84 million
miles.

That's like
driving
around Earth
3,373 times!



January 2018

FREE SYMBOLS – download at VTrecycles.com



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