### What is recyclable?



#### Did you know?

Each ton of material recycled saves about 2.92 metric tons of carbon dioxide (CO2). If we can capture just 50 percent of the recyclables now going to the landfill in Vermont (or 29,000 tons per year), then we could eliminate upwards of 85,000 metric tons of CO2 per year, the equivalent of taking 17,708 cars off the road.



Office of Sustainability

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## **ACT 148**

Vermont's Universal Recycling Law



Mandatory protocol for students living on campus



# Why Act 148

The amount of food wasted by Americans has increased 50% since 1974, so we now throw out \$165 billion worth of food a year. Not only could this food be used to feed other people, but food waste in landfills is one of the largest emitters of CO2 and methane, known greenhouse gases accelerating climate change.

In order to reduce the impact waste has, the state of Vermont has enacted a new state law, **Act 148**, that bans food scraps and other organics from the landfill. Here's a snapshot of what SMC is doing to adhere to this state law and what your role is.

# Source Reduction Food for People Food for Animals Composting & Anaerobic Digestion Course

#### What does this mean for me?

As a student, you must adhere to the state law. This means all recycling, food scraps and trash must go in their designated bin.

# Where will these bins be located? Trash & Recycling

- Each room in each residence hall
- Each residence hall floor in the main trash and recycling area
- Each classroom
- Throughout Academic & Administration buildings

#### **Food Scraps**

- Each residence hall floor
- · First floor of each academic building
- Dining hall
- Townhouses/Apartments: in the kitchen (empty contents into nearest outdoor green toter - located next to your trash/recycling dumpsters). Empty every other day to keep it clean. Do not leave your container outside.

#### How do I use each bin?

Green= Food Scraps
Blue= Recycling
Black/Brown/Gray= Trash

All bins will be clearly labeled in addition to the color code above.

#### **Additional Info and Tips**

#### Reduce the food you waste

- Take less food
- Try a bit of something before a large portion
- Use smaller plates
- Share with others

#### What is Compostable?



#### **○ NOT ACCEPTED**

Wood, Petroleum-based Plastic, Dirt, Glass, Metal, Non-Compostable Utensils, Cups and Plates, Plastic Bags, Rubber Bands, Plastic Gloves, Bottle Caps, Twist Ties, Foli, Condiment Packets, Packaging, Styrofoam, Coated or Waxed Paper, and Shrink Wra

#### Did you know?

In 1987, Vermonters threw an average of 3.15 pounds per person per day into the landfill. By 2011, it increased to 3.62. In Chittenden County, that figure was 3.08 pounds in 2012.