



State of Vermont, Department of Environmental Conservation
Waste Management & Prevention Division
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Guidance on Explaining Recycling Costs for Solid Waste Haulers and Facilities

Current Recycling Requirements: The Universal Recycling law (Act 148 of 2012) requires transfer stations and haulers to bundle mandated recyclables collection fees with trash collection fees and does not permit haulers to list these recycling charges as a separate line item on a residential customer’s bill. Solid waste haulers may charge separate fees for the collection of mandated recyclables from commercial, a.k.a. business and institution customers and transfer stations may charge these customers separately for recyclables when they have no trash.

Showing Recycling Costs: Solid waste haulers or facilities are not prohibited from disclosing and explaining the collection costs for mandated recyclables to their customers. Further, transfer stations may provide signage or handouts explaining recycling costs to customers and haulers may explain these costs on a bill so long as they are not listed as a “separate line item fee.”

Here are a few examples of acceptable explanations of recycling collection costs.

EXAMPLE 1. Transfer Station Recycling Costs Signage or Handout

RECYCLING IS NOT FREE
\$1* of your trash bag fee
pays for recycling
transportation costs.

EXAMPLE 2. Hauler Invoice with Recycling Costs Explained

COMPANY NAME	DATE:	1/1/2111	
Address	INVOICE #:	1	
Phone (802) 123-1234	Customer ID:	123	
BILL TO			
Customer Name			
Address			
Date	Description	Quantity	Amount
1/1/2111	Weekly Curbside Solid Waste Service (64 gallons)	1	\$30.00*
TOTAL DUE:			\$30.00*
COMMENTS			
Recycling costs make up \$10* of this bill. As required by state law, your trash collection costs are combined with recycling costs on your bill. We make every effort to reduce your cost and help you recycle. Thank you for your business.			

***Note: any dollar figures shown are samples only, recycling costs vary.**