

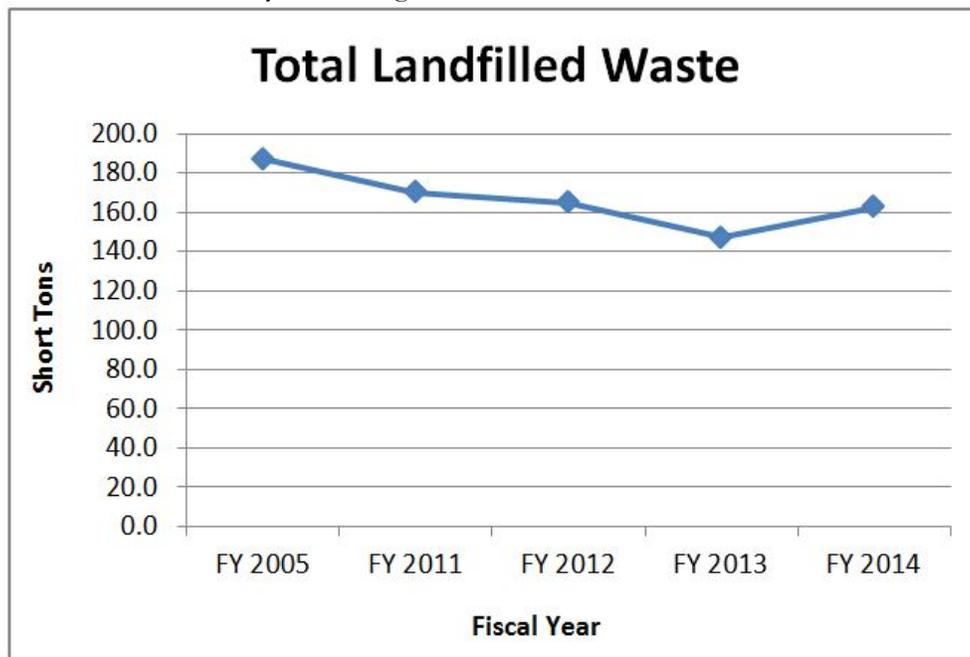


GMC Waste Report FY 2014

The sustainability office has compiled Green Mountain College's waste figures for FY 2014. These figures are based on several data sources including Casella Resource Solutions, Good Point Recycling, Wright Construction, DTZ and internal sustainability office data collection efforts. Results show that GMC has far exceeded the goal of a 6% increase in waste diversion set in the two-year waste plan that was approved by the Campus Sustainability Council in 2012. Over the last two years, GMC has increased waste diversion by 13.2% compared to FY 2012. Between FY13 and FY14, the College increased diversion by a modest 1.2%, meaning most of the gains were seen in FY13. However, as this report will show, most categories of waste diversion increased in FY14. A greater overall increase would have been realized if the Lyman flood did not occur in 2014, as this resulted in 20 tons of landfilled waste¹. At this rate, the College will be on track to achieve a 50% waste diversion rate by 2020, a critical goal for the *Sustainability 2020* strategic plan.

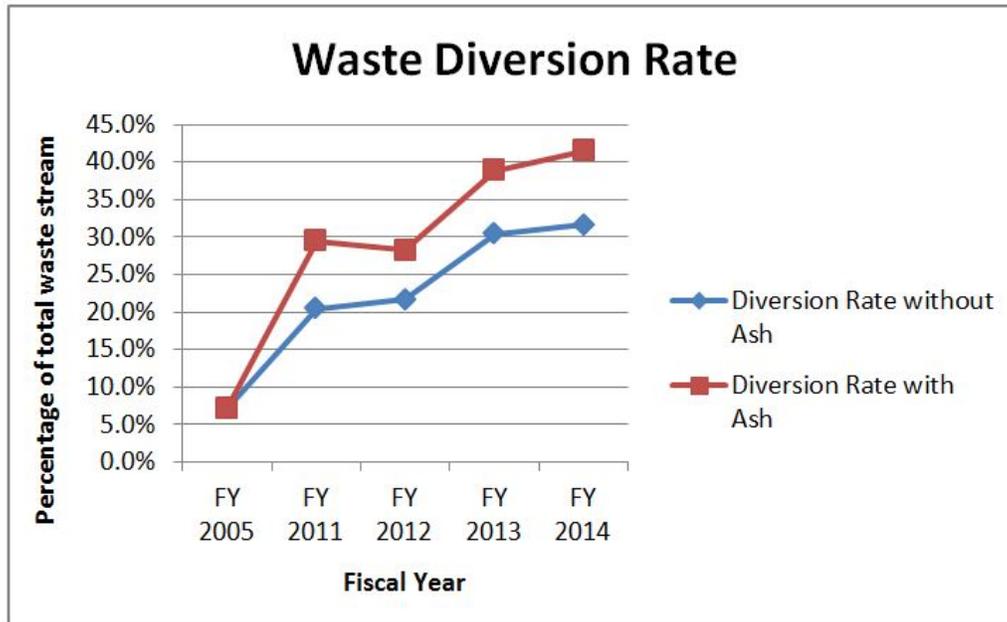
The following items highlight trends over the last four years and FY 2005:

- Total landfilled waste in FY14 increased by 15.2 tons over FY13 (representing the only increase in the last four years. A higher rate of waste diversion offsets this increase.



¹ This increase was largely the result of the Lyman flood. Wright Construction could not confirm the final destination of that waste, so the sustainability office assumed it was landfilled. All other landfilled waste streams decreased an average of 4.8 tons, meaning that normal business operations have improved their relative impact on waste.

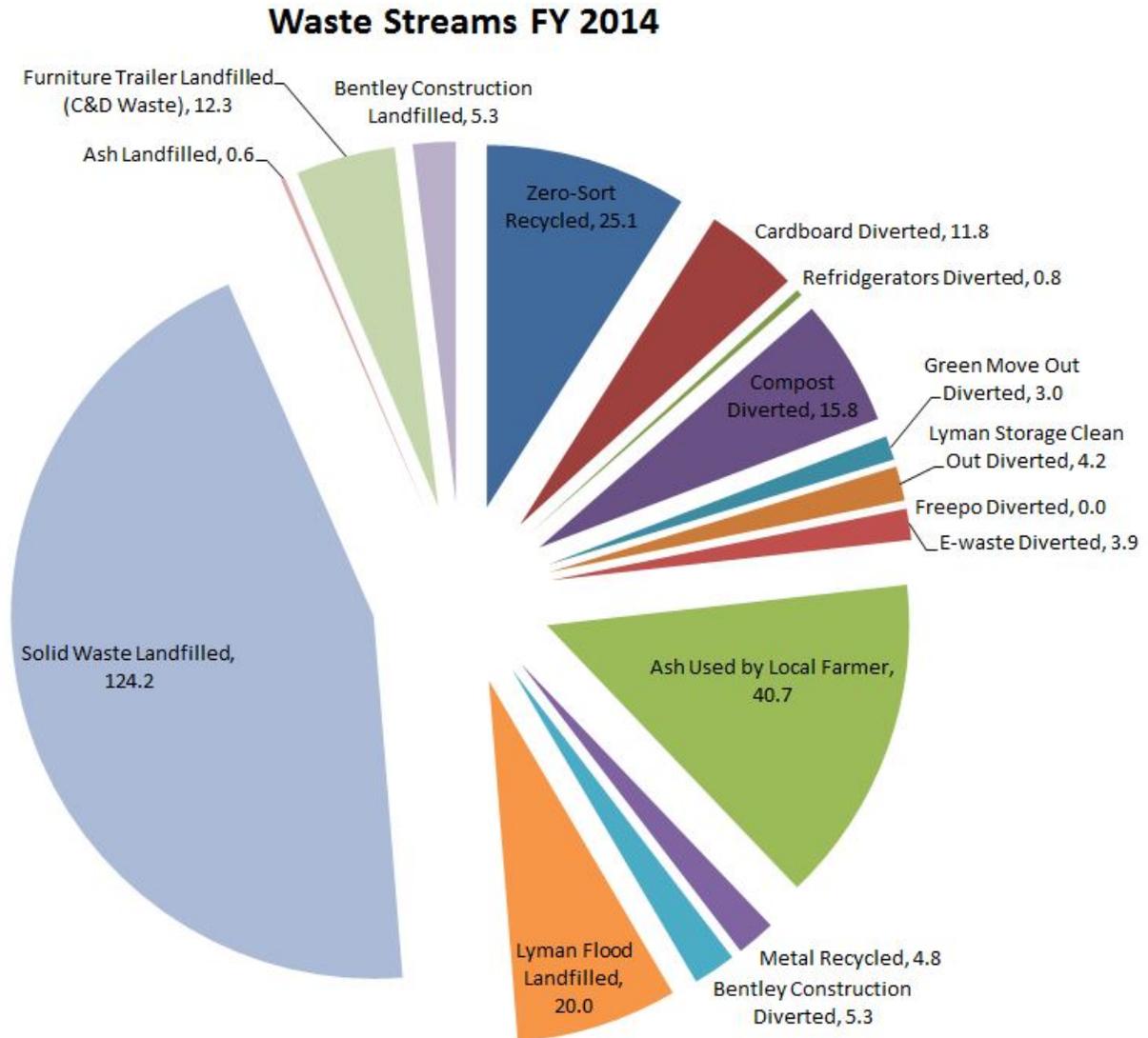
- College-wide waste diversion rates increased from 38.9% in FY13 to 41.5% in FY14, despite a flat line in Killington's diversion rate and the Lyman flood on main campus. See below for how this percentage has increased over time².



- College-wide Zero-Sort recycling tonnage increased from 21.9 tons in FY13 to 25.1 in FY14, indicating that the waste diversion crew has become more efficient at recycling rounds, and the program to put trash in clear bags in order to identify additional recycling material has begun paying off.
- Compost recycling tonnage has also increased from 13.1 tons in FY13 to 15.8 tons in FY14, indicating that the transition of separate recycling and composting crews to a combined crew has resulted in less missed rounds, especially because workers are paired up with each other for evening rounds rather than being on their own.

² All numbers in this report have been normed to FY 14 methodology based on new information provided from Wright Construction for the Bentley Renovation project, which affected waste streams in FY 13 and FY 14. On a separate note, ash from the biomass plant used by a local farmer comprises a significant percentage of the diversion rate, but even when it is factored out, the overall trend remains.

- Overall, the four available waste inventories from the last eight years show a steady positive trend as most waste diversion categories continue to increase as a percentage of the total waste stream. The following graph shows the relevant contribution of each category in FY14. Numbers are reported in tons:



Notable opportunities for improvement include the following items, some of which were originally identified in the two-year waste report, but have not yet been fully realized: ³

- Divert a portion of the material that is disposed of in the “furniture box” (such as construction debris, furniture, and other large items) by working with facilities to cover the trailer permanently to deter unauthorized dumping and keep out precipitation, and build a woodshed to collect usable scrap wood (4.4% additional possible)

³ The corresponding percentages indicate the **additional** portion of the total waste stream improvements could account for if realized to their full potential.

- Work with subcontractors carrying out construction and renovation programs to not only divert more of their waste, but to report their diversion rates as required in the new Guidelines for Business Partners, approved by Cabinet in 2014 (7% additional possible).
- Build a certified composting facility on campus capable of handling an additional 50 tons of food waste that is estimated to exist outside of Chartwells⁴ and build waste stations for every floor in order to collect the material (18% additional possible).
- Continue to strengthen recycling, composting, and re-use programs run by the sustainability office (16.9% additional possible)
- Develop creative ways to change consumption behavior of students, staff, and faculty (9% additional possible)

⁴ Over 90% of the food scraps produced in Chartwells are already being diverted.