

NH House Continuing Education
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Regulation of Solid Waste in New Hampshire

Objectives

For this presentation

- Introduction to NH's statutory framework for solid waste management (RSA 149-M)
- Overview of NHDES' Solid Waste Management program and regulated facilities in NH

RSA 149-M

Solid Waste Management Act

New Hampshire's statutory
framework for management of
solid waste

Enacted in 1981

NHDES charged
with
administering
and enforcing

Solid Waste
Rules adopted
under this
statute

(Env-Sw 100 et
seq.)

RSA 149-M

What is solid waste?

RSA 149-M:4, XXII

- Generally defined as abandoned or discarded material
- Excludes hazardous waste, nuclear waste, sludge and septage, point source discharges of certain municipal/industrial wastewater, and yard waste

RSA 149-M

Waste Diversion Goal

RSA 149-M:2

Established in
1990

Divert at least
40% of solid
waste from
disposal by year
2000

Current level of
achievement
undetermined

RSA 149-M

Waste Management Hierarchy

RSA 149-M:3

Standard of preference for solid waste management in NH

1

Source Reduction

reduce generation of waste

2

Diversion

recover discarded resources & avoid disposal

3

Disposal

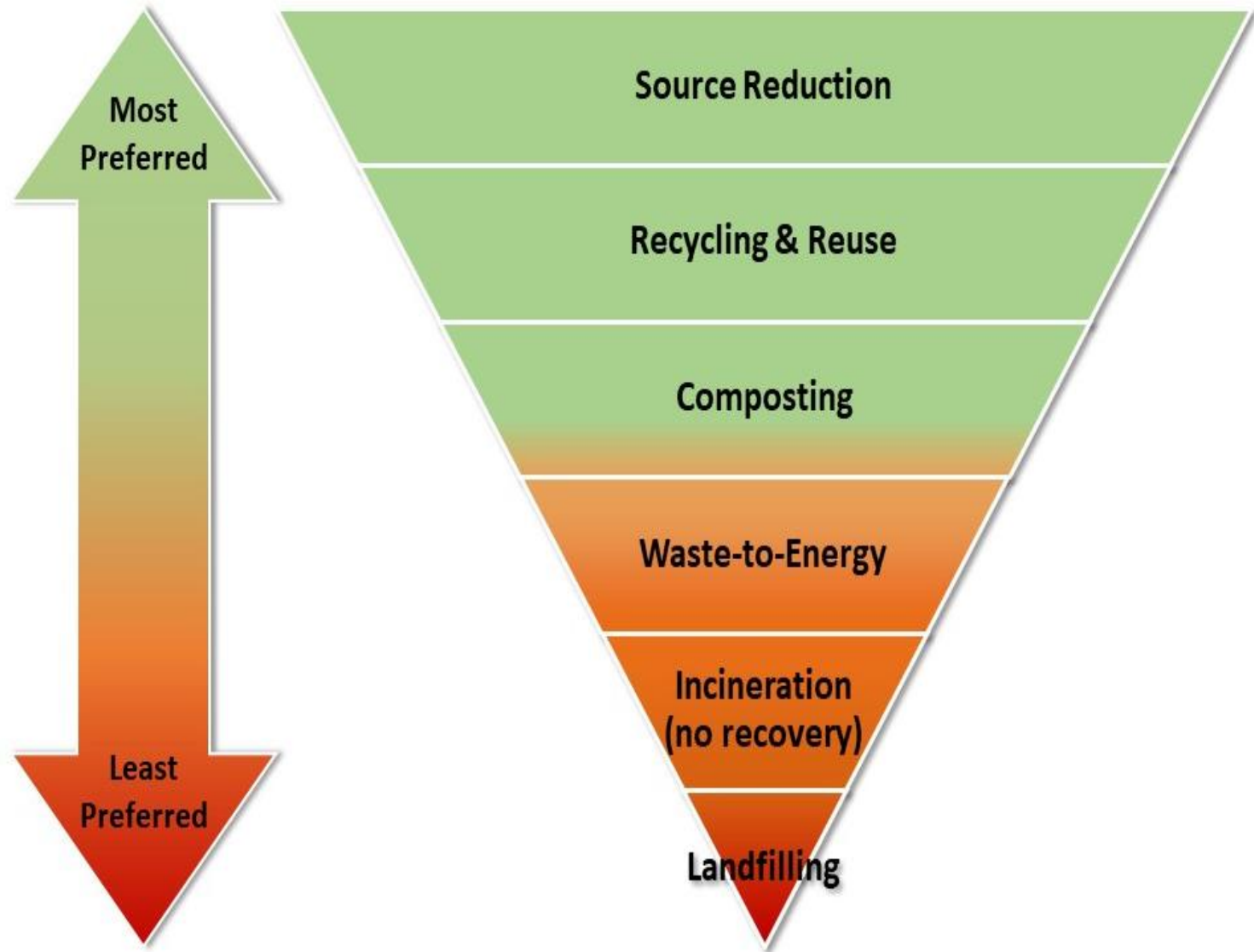
landfill or incinerate items that can't be reduced/diverted

RSA 149-M

Waste Management Hierarchy

RSA 149-M:3

Standard of preference for solid waste management in NH



RSA 149-M

NHDES' Major Duties and Responsibilities

Enforce provisions of RSA 149-M and the Solid Waste Rules

Regulate SW Facilities via a permit system

Certification program for SW Facility Operators

Technical assistance and educational outreach

Rulemaking

Prepare State Solid Waste Plan

Regulation of SW Facilities

NHDES' Two Key Program Areas

SW Facility Permitting

- Process applications for facility permits, permit modifications, and other approvals
- Provide engineering design review
- Provide permitting technical assistance
- Monitor the operation, construction and closure of NH's active landfills.

SW Facility Compliance Assurance

- Assure that all SW Facilities are operated and closed in compliance with permit req's, SW Rules, and Statute
- Conduct facility inspections
- Review facility reports
- Assure facility owners maintain adequate funds for proper closure and post-closure care of facilities

Regulation of SW Facilities

Three categories of facilities

1

***Collection,
Storage, and
Transfer
Facilities***

(e.g. transfer
stations,
recycling
centers, scrap
yards)

2

***Processing and
Treatment
Facilities***

(e.g.
incinerators,
composting
facilities,
anaerobic
digesters)

3

Landfills

(e.g. active and
inactive landfills,
inactive
asbestos
disposal sites)

Regulation of SW Facilities

Overview of Facilities in NH

Collection, Storage, and Transfer Facilities (C/S/T)

- **239** active, permitted solid waste C/S/T Facilities:
 - **174** publicly-owned municipal transfer stations
 - **65** commercial transfer stations & scrap yards
- **120** motor vehicle salvage yards (approx.)
- No commercial materials recovery facilities (MRFs) in NH

Regulation of SW Facilities

Overview of Facilities in NH

Processing and Treatment Facilities (P/T)

- **14** active, permitted solid waste P/T facilities:
 - **2** operating solid waste incinerators (one commercial waste-to-energy facility, and one small-scale municipal incinerator)
 - **6** composting facilities
 - **1** contaminated soils treatment facility
 - **5** C&D/wood processing facilities
- No solid waste anaerobic digesters in NH

Regulation of SW Facilities

Overview of Facilities in NH

Landfills

- **6** active, lined municipal solid waste landfills
 - Map on following slide
- **300+** closed/inactive landfills
 - Mostly unlined former municipal “dumps”
- **360** documented asbestos disposal sites
 - Mostly in Nashua/Hudson
 - Legacy of industrial waste distributed for use as fill on public and private properties.

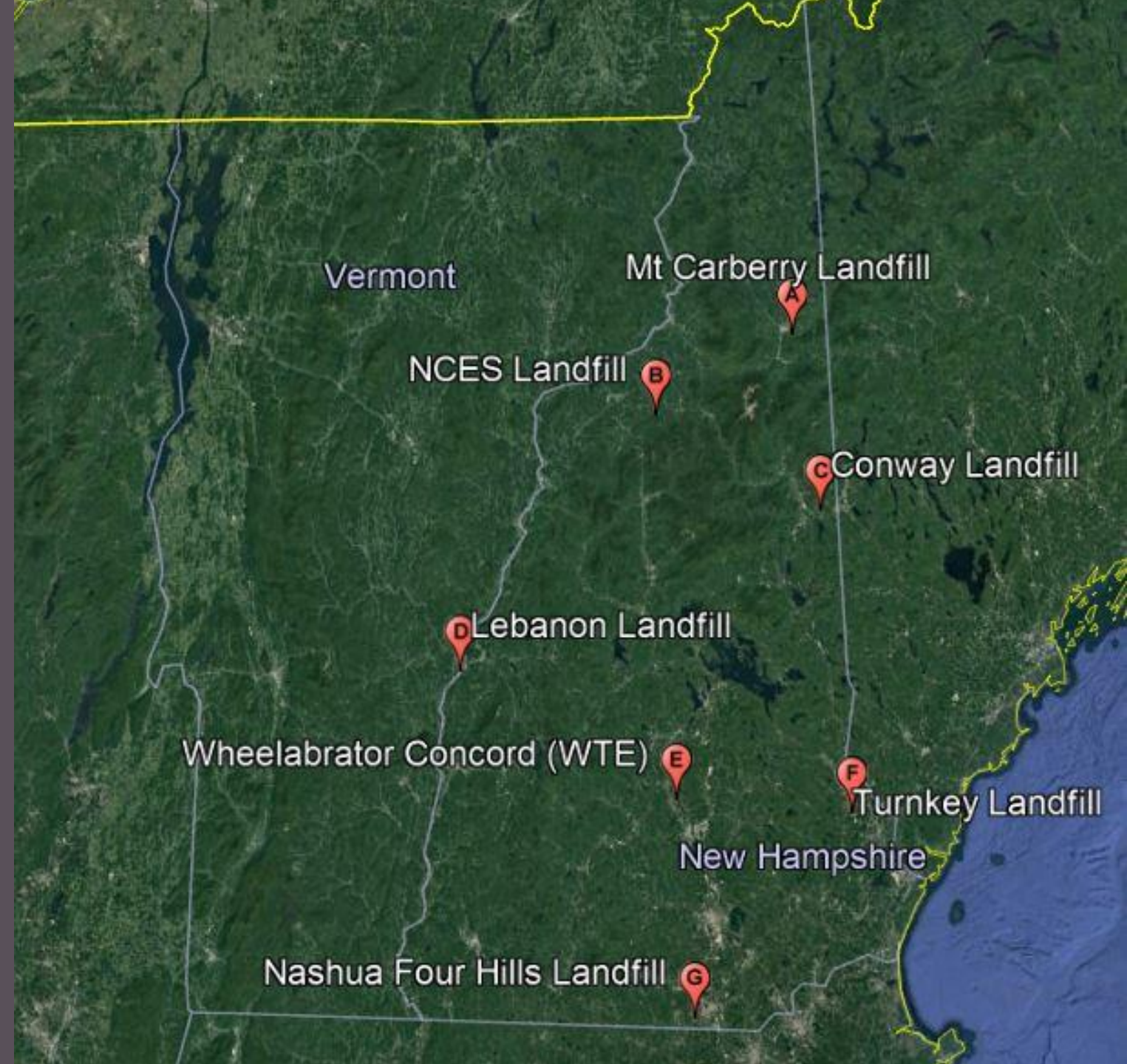
Primary Disposal Facilities in NH

6 Landfills:

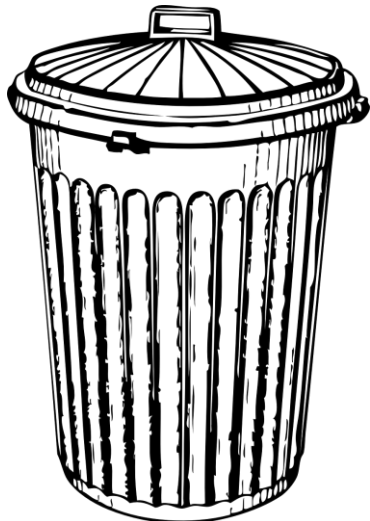
- Mt. Carberry – Success, NH
- NCES – Bethlehem, NH
- Conway
- Lebanon
- Turnkey – Rochester, NH
- Nashua

1 Waste-to-Energy (WTE) Facility:

- Wheelabrator Concord – Penacook, NH



For More Information



www.pixabay.com

2019 Biennial Solid Waste Report

<https://www.des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pip/publications/documents/r-wmd-19-02.pdf>

2003 Solid Waste Management Plan

<https://www.des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pip/publications/documents/r-wmd-03-2.pdf>

2019 HB 617 Study Committee Report

<http://gencourt.state.nh.us/statstudcomm/committees/1476/reports/2019%20Final%20Report.pdf>

Contact:

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<https://www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/waste/swmb/>

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