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NWSWD COMPLETES SITE EXPANSION PROJECT District's Main Recycling Center Prepares to Wrap Construction

[FAIRFAX, VERMONT, May 21]: — Financed in part by two state-funded grants, Northwest Vermont Solid Waste Management District (NWSWD) is on track to complete its Georgia Recycling Facility's expansion project by late June.

The project expands the site by more than 4,200 square feet, building a new two-story addition as well as a specially designated collection and storage area for hazardous waste—a critical addition to the district's infrastructure. Notably, the expansion will allow for storage of many more baled recyclables. Other amenities include additional office space and quality of life additions such as a second restroom.

"As northwest Vermont grows, so should we," says NWSWD executive director John Leddy. "This construction project expands our capacity, allowing us to process more material—and to do it more safely."

When the facility was built in 2007, NWSWD primarily managed recyclable paper products and served around 34,000 people. Today, NWSWD serves well over 50,000 residents and accepts a wide variety of materials including electronic waste, mattresses, household hazardous waste, and maple sap tubing. To account for the steady increase in customer volume, the Georgia Recycling Center expansion project also includes a new traffic pattern with additional parking and an enhanced drop-off experience.

The construction project has been in the works for more than four years, having gone to a District-wide vote in March 2023. Voters of the district's nineteen member towns approved authorization for the district to borrow up to \$1.5 million to finance the cost. Voters passed the bond measure 3879-1828 on the 2023 Town Meeting Day ballot. NWSWD then supplemented with funds from reserves and grants, ultimately receiving two grants from the State of Vermont totaling \$242,000.

This construction project empowers NWSWD to serve customers better, allowing for the diversion of more waste via improved operational efficiency and expanded recycling programs.

The district plans to hold a ribbon-cutting ceremony sometime in early July to mark completion of the project.

NWSWD can be contacted via phone at 802-524-5986 or by email at info@nwswd.org.