Food Scraps / Organics Collection & Diversion Working Group Meeting
November 19, 2020
1:00 – 3:00
Food Scraps / Organics Collection & Diversion Working Group

Welcome & Introductions, Co-chairs:

• Katie Dykes, Commissioner
• Ronald McDaniel, Mayor Town of Montville
Food Scraps / Organics Collection & Diversion Working Group

Housekeeping

- Please keep audio on mute
- CCSMM Members: Please “rename” yourself on Zoom to add town/affiliation (via Participants)
- This meeting is being recorded
- Non-municipal participants: Input, ideas and comments will be accepted through chat
- You are encouraged to provide feedback through: DEEP.RecyclingProgram@ct.gov
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Focus of Today’s Meeting:

Presentations:

Caren Harder, Environmental Compliance Specialist 3, CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection – Commercial Organics Recycling Law

Daria Larson, Graduate Student Professional Intern, South Central Regional Council of Governments – Farmer Food Donation Factsheet and Project

Discussion:

- **Barriers** to Food Scraps/Organics Collection and Diversion
- Collection Systems
- Infrastructure
- Financing
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• Q & A for Panelists
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Barriers

Collection systems
• Contamination
• Limited processing centers
• Storage and handling

Infrastructure

Financing and costs
• Education and technical assistance
  • Behavior change
  • Ease of change
• Scope of Commercial Organics Recycling law
• Permitting process
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Barriers

Collection systems
- Contamination
- Limited processing centers
- Storage and handling

Infrastructure Financing and costs
- Education and technical assistance
  - Behavior change
  - Ease of change
- Scope of Commercial Organics Recycling law
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Additional Barriers:
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**Barriers**

**Collection systems**
- Contamination
- Limited processing centers
- Storage and handling

**Infrastructure**

**Financing** and costs
- Education and technical assistance
  - Behavior change
  - Ease of change
- Scope of Commercial Organics Recycling law
- Permitting process

**Solutions**

- Increase food donations
- Simplify addition of food to leaf composting
- Streamline permitting to increase options/capacity
- Expand organics law (CGS 22a-226e):
  - Reduce threshold
  - Expand 20-mile radius
  - Include additional generators
- Focus on education & school-based programs
- Consider regional collection or drop-off locations
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Discussion:

Collection process and challenges

Brian Paganini, Quantum BioPower
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Discussion:

Infrastructure

What do you need to start or improve your infrastructure (home composting, school program, community composting, transfer station collection/processing, commercial facility)?

Are you interested in participating in a regional food waste collection/reduction partnership?
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Discussion:

**Financing**

How does, or could, your municipality fund food waste diversion?

What funding mechanisms would you be most supportive of?
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Next Steps & Schedule:

• Final Working Group Meeting - Dec 10th (1-3pm)
• Full CCSMM Coalition meeting - Dec 16 (1-3pm)
• Final Full CCSMM Coalition meeting - January 5th (1-3pm)