

# Stonington's Unit-Based Pricing Program

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Stonington's UBP program covers both household and commercial waste utilizing town-issued bags and dumpsters, both priced by volume.

## Program Highlights

- Total of 7,500 households plus summer population
- Illegal dumping is a non-issue
- Stores are happy to participate and carry the bags with no mark up
- Residents like the program and voted via referendum to keep the program
- The unit-based fees cover approximately 98% of the solid waste program.
- Stonington has achieved over **\$7 million in avoided disposal costs** since program inception.
- Stonington residents generate **389 pounds per capita**. The Average in CT is about 700lbs per capita
- UBP enhances all other programs, which is why Stonington is interested in piloting co-collection with trash and food waste
- The Simple Recycling textile collection diverts 3 times the volume of the average CT Community
- Significantly lower contamination than other non-UBP communities



# Stonington: Waste Characterization

Small waste characterization studies in 2019 provide insight into Stonington’s waste streams, showing that there is potential to divert more trash while also reducing recycling contamination.

<b>Recycling</b>	<b>Lbs.</b>	<b>%</b>
Paper (office paper, newspaper, etc.)	239.7	32.4%
Cardboard (corrugated)	82.7	11.2%
Plastics (bottles, jars, tubs, etc.)	86.1	11.6%
Metal (aluminum cans, foil, tin, etc.)	41.2	5.6%
Glass (bottles, jars, etc.)	202.2	27.3%
Plastic film	4.8	0.7%
Residual recyclables (sweepings; under 2 inches)	4.0	0.5%
Reusable items (textiles, household items, etc.)	8.4	1.1%
Food waste (liquids and solids)	21.7	2.9%
Trash + Organic paper + Non-recyclable plastics	48.7	6.6%
	<b>739.5</b>	<b>100%</b>

<b>Trash</b>	<b>Lbs.</b>	<b>%</b>
All recyclables	47.0	8.0%
Reusable items (textiles, household items, etc.)	21.2	3.6%
Electronics (coffee machine, headsets, etc.)	25.6	4.3%
Remaining trash (not recoverable) Food, organic paper, non-recyclable plastics, pet waste, diapers	494.8	84.1%
	<b>588.6</b>	<b>100%</b>

# of Bags	26	15	41
Total Weight (Lbs.)	469.43	120.00	589.43
Avg. Weight (Lbs.)	18.06	8.00	14.38
Heaviest Bag (Lbs.)	30.98	13.58	NA
Lightest Bag (Lbs.)	3.28	2.28	NA

<b># Homes Involved</b>	40
<b>Avg. Persons/Home (Census)</b>	2.3
<b># Weeks Covered</b>	1
<b>Recycling Lbs./Capita (Annualized)</b>	418
<b>% of Recycling Contamination</b>	11.8%
<b>Trash Lbs./Capita (Annualized)</b>	332.7
<b>% of Trash that Is Recyclable/Reusable</b>	8%