

State Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee

Workshop: “Are We Getting There?” Status Update on the State’s Solid Waste Management Plan



Changing the Balance

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State Solid Waste Management Plan, Amended December 2006: Summary Abstract on the Status of the 80 Strategies Listed in the Plan

Status	Number of Strategies	Percentage of Total
Start delayed	3	3.75%
On-target	30	37.50%
Struggling	22	27.50%
No Action	12	15.00%
Strategy Completed	8	10.00%
Strategy to extend to longer term	3	3.75%
Future	2	2.50%
Total	80	100.00%

Objective 1 – Source Reduction

1-1	Continue to implement the CT DEP's Pollution Prevention Plan that establishes goals and identifies strategies to reduce the quantity and toxicity of wastes discharged to the land, air, and waters of the state.
1-2	Educate consumers and businesses about the effects of their purchasing choices and behaviors on waste generation, and provide education and incentives to help change purchasing and behavioral practices to reduce the amount and toxicity of waste produced.
1-3	Continue to support regional and national efforts to change manufacturer practices to produce products that generate less waste and less toxic waste.
1-4	Continue to promote environmentally preferable purchasing ("EPP") standards in state and local government; encourage state agencies and municipalities to become members of EPA's WasteWise Program; and support green design standards and encourage their adoption by Connecticut local governments and institutions.
1-5	Provide funding to promote reuse and publicize product reuse opportunities.
1-6	Promote through such activities as technical assistance, start-up funding, and/or other incentives, the implementation of effective pay-as-you-throw (PAYT) pricing systems by municipalities and haulers for managing solid waste from residents and small businesses to achieve waste reduction.
1-7	Seek partnerships, provide funding, and coordinate a model source reduction program to reduce the amount and toxicity of solid waste generated in at least one Connecticut community.
1-8	Continue to enforce Connecticut's Toxics in Packaging Act and other toxic reduction programs and efforts. Continue to work in conjunction with the Toxics in Packaging Clearing House and other member states to assess compliance rates with toxics in packaging laws.

Objective 2 – Recycling and Composting

2-1	Update Connecticut's beverage container deposit system by increasing the deposit amount and expanding coverage to at least plastic water bottles.
2-2	Add plastics PET #1 and HDPE #2 and magazines to the list of State mandated recyclables.
2-3	Continue to support Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP) at CT DAS and promote and ensure state agencies and political subdivision utilization of EPP standards. CT DEP and CT DAS will evaluate the relevant statutes to ensure their completeness and effectiveness in actual State purchasing practices.
2-4	Through the Agency's Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee identify incentives for municipalities and haulers to implement effective PAYT pricing systems for managing solid waste from residents and small businesses to achieve waste reduction. (See 6.3)
2-5	Increase technical assistance, education, outreach, and enforcement with regard to the business and industry sectors (especially the small businesses) and institutions to decrease their waste disposal rates by increasing recycling and source reduction. Promote EPP, including recycled content products, by Connecticut's businesses, industries, and institutions.
2-6	Continue the CT DEP's Municipal Recycling Honor Roll Awards Program and the Green Circle Awards Program to recognize and support exemplary source reduction and recycling practices and promote technology transfer.
2-7	CT DEP, in collaboration with regional authorities and the hauling industry, will identify incentives for haulers to increase the amount of material recovered for recycling.
2-8	Develop the infrastructure necessary to increase the amount of paper that is recycled. Create incentives and funding for increased paper recycling and for source reducing the amount of waste paper generated.
2-9	Support the continued recycling of non-mandated recyclables.

Objective 2 - Recycling and Composting (cont.)

2-10	CT DEP, the Agency's Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee and other State Agencies will work with recycling business representatives to facilitate the development, expansion, and creation of markets for recycled materials.
2-11	Build local, regional, and state capacity for implementing State recycling policies, regional planning and program implementation, and recycling information sharing.
2-12	CT DEP and regional recycling entities will work to build partnerships with groups that can assist with and support the State's recycling efforts. Potential partners include regional recycling programs, municipalities, CRRAs, trade associations, non-governmental organizations, universities and others.
2-13	CT DEP will designate a "State Source Reduction and Recycling Coordinator" to coordinate and implement the strategies described in this section and other sections of the Plan to increase source reduction, recycling, and composting.
2-14	Identify the internal barriers and solutions to streamlining the permitting process for source separated organic material recycling, especially for those institutional, commercial, and industrial operations that process food scraps, soiled paper and waxed cardboard.
2-15	The Agency's Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee will be requested to discuss options that could stimulate organics recycling, especially food scraps, soiled paper, and waxed cardboard from the institutional, commercial and industrial sectors.
2-16	Include compost and compostable materials in a statewide or regional on-line materials exchange to link generators of source separated organic material with processors and compost users.
2-17	Encourage the marketing of compost products for such uses as erosion control, potting soil blends, topsoil blends, playing field mediums, etc.
2-18	Promote home composting and grasscycling.

Objective 3 - Management of Solid Waste Requiring Disposal

3-1	Minimize the need for additional capacity for disposal of MSW, MSW RRF ash residue and C&D waste through aggressive implementation of the source reduction, recycling, composting, and other initiatives in this Plan. This Plan establishes a target of achieving a 58 percent MSW disposal diversion rate by FY2024.
3-2	The State will monitor waste generation and capacity on a regular basis, and with input from the Agency's Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee, evaluate the need for additional MSW, MSW RRF ash residue and C&D waste disposal capacity.
3-3	The Department will seek legislative authorization to require any applicant for new RRF or landfill capacity, at the time any application is submitted to the CT DEP, to create a fund to be accessed by the host municipality to: (1) fund a local advisory committee and (2) hire appropriate expertise to assist the host municipality in reviewing the application and taking part in the application process. The local advisory committee should include elected officials and residents from both the host community and contiguous communities.
3-4	Require C&D waste to be processed to the greatest extent practicable prior to its disposal at any solid waste facility.
3-5	Research and track new solid waste management technologies that have the potential to reduce environmental impacts and maximize benefits.

Objective 4 - Management of Special Waste and Other Types of Waste

4-1	The Agency Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee will be requested to discuss and identify opportunities to reuse and recycle building related C&D waste.
4-2	Revise the statutory and regulatory definitions of solid wastes and solid waste categories to more accurately reflect the character and management of these wastes.
4-3	Manage building related C&D waste that cannot be reduced, reused, recycled, or composted, in a manner that ensures protection of land, air, and water resources and the public health, in compliance with the state hierarchy for managing solid waste.
4-4	Support reuse and recycling of highway/road C&D waste, and dispose of that portion that cannot be reduced, reused, recycled, or composted, in a manner that ensures protection of land, air, and water resources and the public health in compliance with the state hierarchy for managing solid waste.
4-5	Increase the recycling, composting, and beneficial use of land clearing debris.
4-6	Increase the reuse and recycling of oversized MSW.
4-7	Manage oversized MSW that cannot be reused or recycled in a manner that ensures protection of land, air, and water resources and the public health in compliance with the state hierarchy for managing solid waste.
4-8	Seek legislation that provides for recycling of electronic wastes based on a producer responsibility model.
4-9	Enhance the statewide Household Hazardous Waste Program.
4-10	CT DEP will continue to monitor and research management options for other types of special wastes that have not been adequately addressed to date, or as problems and the need arises, and as resources allow. Types of wastes that need to be addressed include: animal mortalities; road wastes; dredge material from Long Island Sound; contaminated soils; sewage sludge; water treatment residual solids; preservative treated wood; sharps and waste pharmaceuticals; disaster debris; and other materials as appropriate.

Objective 5 – Education and Outreach

5-1	Undertake education and outreach actions using minimal additional resources. Such actions could include: coordinating existing resources and sharing information; enhancing the CT DEP website; promoting awareness through recognition programs; integrating solid waste issues with other environmental issues; ongoing outreach to media; and encouraging municipalities to provide solid waste and recycling information to residents and businesses.
5-2	Undertake education and outreach actions using additional resources. These actions can include: providing comprehensive assistance to regional and local outreach programs; developing partnerships; and assessing and modifying outreach programs on a two year basis.
5-3	Undertake education and outreach actions using expanded resources. These actions can include: researching and developing effective outreach approaches; disseminating new educational and outreach materials; developing an independent recycling web site that acts as a clearinghouse and listserve for municipal and regional recycling coordinators; and developing education and technical assistance for targeted sectors.

Objective 6 - Program Planning, Evaluation, and Measurement

6-1	Establish per capita waste disposal minimization goals for MSW and C&D/oversized MSW.
6-2	Minimize the reporting burden for municipalities and others by only requiring the collection of data necessary to support the goals of the Plan and provide the information needed for on-going solid waste management planning and evaluation.
6-3	Establish a standing Agency Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee of affected stakeholders to help implement the new State Solid Waste Management Plan, revise the Plan, identify emerging issues, and find solutions.
6-4	Implement an iterative planning process for the State's Solid Waste Management Plan to allow revisions on a more frequent and as needed basis, following a management system model of Plan/Do/Check/Act. A strong on-going stakeholder process, local and regional planning, and an improved methodology for measuring success will inform the planning cycle.
6-5	Evaluate and make recommendations for changes to underlying legal authorities to improve state, regional, and local solid waste planning and coordination. Develop system performance benchmarks relevant at both the state and local levels aimed at achieving a unified solid waste management vision. Explore opportunities to fund planning activities at the state, regional, and local level and develop incentives for full participation.
6-6	Provide training and informational materials to municipal officials, regional and local waste management and recycling staff regarding best practices and strategies for strengthening solid waste and recycling programs. Encourage communities and regional recycling programs to share their best practices and strategies. Investigate the possibility of established a municipal solid waste/recycling mentor program.
6-7	The CT DEP will conduct a solid waste characterization study.

Objective 7 – Permitting and Enforcement

7-1	CT DEP will make the permitting of solid waste facilities that increase waste diversion from disposal a priority.
7-2	CT DEP will designate a permitting team whose responsibility is to review all solid waste diversion applications and to make determinations in a timely manner.
7-3	CT DEP will facilitate the permitting process by developing model permits and fact sheets for applicants and interested parties, so that the process and the applicant's obligations are well defined and readily comprehensible.
7-4	CT DEP will establish target time frames for acting on solid waste diversion and beneficial use applications.
7-5	CT DEP will conduct a comprehensive assessment of the state statutes and regulations as they relate to solid waste management and to the implementation of the State Solid Waste Management Plan. In its review, the CT DEP should take into account broader environmental concerns, such as air and water issues.
7-6	CT DEP will streamline the beneficial use process, with consideration given to an exemption from permitting for certain types of materials.
7-7	CT DEP will establish a streamlined method of regulating waste haulers in order to incorporate reporting and other substantive requirements, along with a simple means of assessing the solid waste fee. Any action taken by the CT DEP will be consistent with the Governor's Task Force Report recommendations that are carried forward.
7-8	CT DEP will seek authority to establish categories of demonstration projects that would not require traditional permitting.
7-9	CT DEP will continue to identify activities appropriate for approval by general permit, and devote staff resources to this effort.
7-10	CT DEP will develop a procedure to allow the modification of existing permit approvals in order to facilitate improved or modified business operations and enhanced protection of the environment that are needed due to evolving technologies, markets conditions, and environmental concerns.
7-11	CT DEP will seek amendments to CGS Section 22a-208a(d) to allow municipal transfer stations to accept and do minimal separation of residentially generated construction and demolition waste without requiring full permit modifications and fees.

Objective 7 – Permitting and Enforcement (cont.)

7-12	CT DEP will establish criteria for C&D waste Volume Reduction Facilities to help ensure that more of this waste stream is diverted from disposal.
7-13	CT DEP will seek and encourage public input at the appropriate steps with regard to the development of General Permits for certain activities and Beneficial Use General Permits.
7-14	CT DEP will consider host community agreements as part of the re-writing of the solid waste regulations. Until such time regulations are adopted, host community agreements shall be encouraged on a case-by-case basis.
7-15	CT DEP will continue to evaluate the environmental impacts of the alternatives for solid waste disposal and will examine its authority to require an applicant for new capacity and disposal to provide detailed information on such impacts.
7-16	CT DEP will increase its compliance outreach efforts to develop a more comprehensive and mutually supportive network of communications with land use, public works, and other municipal officials who are directly involved in solid waste activities. CT DEP will take appropriate actions to ensure compliance.
7-17	CT DEP will take enforcement actions against recycling law violators as necessary to ensure compliance.
7-18	CT DEP will evaluate incentives that would encourage municipalities to take on enforcement responsibilities they are already authorized to do.
7-19	CT DEP will establish civil penalty regulations for violations of recycling laws.
7-20	CT DEP will evaluate additional tools for taking enforcement actions against violators of the solid waste statutes, regulations, and permits.
7-21	CT DEP will ensure that RRF's and other solid waste facilities including landfills and transfer stations comply with CGS Section 22a-220c(b) which requires solid waste facilities periodically to inspect loads delivered to them for significant quantities of recyclables and report such violation back to the municipalities.

Objective 8 - Funding

8-1	Adopt a comprehensive, long term, integrated solid waste management funding system to ensure that adequate revenue is available to implement the strategies and achieve the goals of this Plan. The Agency's Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee will assume a major role in identifying appropriate funding mechanisms.
8-1(1)	Expand the current \$1.50 fee on waste processed at Connecticut RRFs to all disposed solid waste, including all MSW, C&D debris, and oversized MSW, whether disposed in-state or out-of-state.
8-1(2)	Capture some portion of the unclaimed bottle and can deposits (escheats) to fund needed solid waste source reduction and recycling/composting programs at the state, regional, and local levels.
8-1(3)	Direct penalty monies from solid waste enforcement actions to municipal and regional recycling and other diversion programs.
8-1(4)	Increase the Solid Waste Assessment beyond the present \$1.50 per ton.
8-1(5)	Use state bond funds for needed infrastructure projects such as publicly controlled composting facilities and recycling facilities.
8-2	CT DEP will initiate discussion with the Connecticut General Assembly regarding options for funding, including directing a significant portion of any new funds to municipal and regional programs.
8-3	CT DEP will work with the CT Department of Economic Development and Community Development to identify the types of economic assistance that are needed and could be provided to businesses, especially recycling, composting or other businesses that directly support the goals of the Plan.

Discussion

- ❖ Committee members to share with the group their identified top three strategies to be addressed and responsible lead/key partners.