



# 2023 REGIONAL WASTE AUTHORITY GRANT PROGRAM INFORMATIONAL WEBINAR

March 7, 2023

# AGENDA

1. DEEP welcome and brief overview on Regional Waste Authorities
  2. Presentations from existing Regional Waste Authorities
    1. David Aldridge, Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resources Recovery Authority
    2. Jennifer Heaton-Jones, Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority
    3. Mark Bobman, Bristol Resource Recovery Facility Operating Committee
  3. Presentation from Matt Hart, Capital Region Council of Governments
  4. DEEP presentation on grant program
  5. DEEP will accept questions about the grant program
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# REGIONAL ENTITIES

Regional Waste Authorities

- [C.G.S. Sec. 7-273aa et seq](#)

Interlocal Agreements

- [C.G.S. Sec. 7-339a et seq](#)


Single-town Authorities

# REGIONAL WASTE AUTHORITIES IN STATUTE

- Section 7-273aa-bb of the Connecticut General Statutes authorizes municipalities to establish, by municipal ordinance, regional resource recovery authorities with a broad range of powers to support a comprehensive program for solid waste disposal and resources recovery in accordance with the state solid waste management plan.
    - Two or more municipalities can pass concurrent ordinances to create/join an authority
  - CGS 7-273bb gives Regional Waste Authorities many powers, including:
    - Establish offices and hire staff
    - Charge user fees for its services
    - Purchase, lease, or rent property
    - Construct, acquire, or improve infrastructure necessary to manage solid waste
    - Own, operate, and maintain infrastructure
  - [CGS 7-273cc](#) and following gives Regional Waste Authorities ability to issue bonds.
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# WHAT CAN REGIONAL WASTE AUTHORITIES DO


- RWAs provide leverage of scale and greater buying power on behalf of their member towns to issue bonds and negotiate multi-year MSW service agreements.
  - RWAs can:
    1. Manage hauler registration and fee collection on behalf of member towns
    2. Assist municipalities with filing required reports to DEEP
    3. Manage public outreach and education programs
    4. Implement recycling and diversion programs
    5. Facilitate household hazardous waste programs
    6. Negotiate regional agreements for household hazardous waste, textiles, and other recycling programs
    7. Apply for grants to offset costs for member towns
    8. Fund recycling coordinators and other services shared by member towns
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David Aldridge, Executive Director  
Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resources Recovery Authority

A stylized, colorful landscape illustration. The top right corner features a bright yellow sun. Below it is a large, vibrant green hill. The bottom portion of the image is a light blue area representing water, with a dark blue wavy line separating the land from the water. The text is centered on the green hill.

Jennifer Heaton-Jones, Executive Director  
Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority



Mark Bobman, Executive Director,  
Bristol Resource Recovery Facility Operating Committee





Matt Hart, Executive Director  
Capital Region Council of Governments

# SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS MANAGEMENT REGIONAL WASTE AUTHORITY (RWA) GRANT PROGRAM

- \$1.5 million in available funding for technical assistance for Connecticut municipalities and regions through the Sustainable Materials Management Grant Program
    - Pursuant to Public Act, Spec. Sess., June 2021, No. 21-2, § 308
  - DEEP invites proposals seeking grant funds to help municipalities and regional waste authorities evaluate interest and identify governance to form new or expand existing RWAs.
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# WHO CAN APPLY

Applicant must be:

1. A Connecticut municipality
  2. A group of Connecticut municipalities
  3. A Connecticut regional entity
    1. A council of government
    2. A regional planning agency
    3. A resource recovery authority
    4. A recycling operating committee
    5. Another entity representing Connecticut municipalities
- Preference will be given to proposals from coalitions of municipalities, or existing regional waste authorities, which have the potential to include the largest number of municipalities or municipalities with the largest volume of waste generated.
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## ELIGIBLE PROPOSALS

Eligible proposals will support formation, or expansion, of regional waste authorities that contribute to:

1. Reducing MSW generation
  2. Increasing diversion and collection/ processing of recyclables and organic materials
  3. Increasing in-state solid waste disposal capacity
  4. Providing efficient and streamlined services and administrative capacity for member municipalities
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# ELIGIBLE EXPENSES

## 1. Technical assistance

- Identifying potential services provided by the RWA
- Providing inventory and evaluation of infrastructure and service needs in the region

## 2. Legal assistance

- Determining governance structure
- Preparing legal documents including memorandums of understanding/ agreement, bylaws, municipal resolutions/ ordinances

## 3. Administrative costs

- Approved by DEEP to be prudent and reasonable for project implementation
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# APPLICATION EVALUATION AND REVIEW CRITERIA

Applications will be evaluated based upon the following review criteria:

1. Detailed description of proposed budget
2. Timeline for implementation
3. Municipalities identified in proposal are compliant or actively working towards compliance with all applicable recycling and waste related laws and regulations
4. Preference will be given to proposals from coalitions of municipalities or existing waste authorities which have the potential to include the largest number of municipalities or municipalities with the largest volume of waste generated
5. Demonstrated support from key stakeholders
6. For those applicants who have previously received funding through the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, past performance will be a factor considered in the approval process
7. Environmental compliance history
  - Using [CGS Section 22a-6m](#) as a proxy with other applicable environmental regulations or statutes may impact eligibility

# AWARDS

- Approved projects will receive awards in the form of a contract and reimbursable work may not proceed until the contract is fully executed
  - The municipality/ region will be required to begin the program within 60 days of an executed contract, or any funds awarded will be refunded to DEEP prior to final disbursements of any award(s)/retainages
  - Final request for reimbursement must be no later than 90 days following the expiration of the date of the grant contract
  - Any municipality receiving an award that is not in compliance with the following will be expected to actively work towards compliance within the first few months of being awarded a grant:
    - [C.G.S Sec. 22a-241j](#) equitable collection requirement that municipalities offering curbside collection of MSW must also provide curbside collection of recyclables. Size of recycling collection containers must be equal to or greater than MSW containers and large enough to contain the volume of recyclables that are generated at each household
    - Relevant DEEP solid waste and recycling reporting requirements (Annual Municipal Recycling Report, Municipal Transfer Station Quarterly Reports, etc.)
    - [C.G.S. Section 22a- 220a\(d\)\(1\)](#) requirement that municipality registers haulers.
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# REPORTING

Applicant agrees to provide timely progress reports on the proposed project as agreed upon with DEEP which shall include, but not be limited to:

1. A description of milestones achieved and any challenges to the program implementation, detailing how such challenges were resolved.
  2. Program budget expenditures.
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# SUBMISSION DEADLINE AND OTHER INFORMATION

Proposals must be submitted to [DEEP.MMCAPlanning@ct.gov](mailto:DEEP.MMCAPlanning@ct.gov) by **Friday, March 31 at 5:00 PM**.

- DEEP reserves the right to postpone or reschedule the deadline for submissions

Additional information, including the Request for Applications can be found on the DEEP website [here](#).

All slides from this meeting will be available on the grant webpage

- A recording of the meeting will be available upon request

The Request for Applications can be downloaded [here](#) and on the webpage.

- The application is located at the bottom of the document

# QUESTIONS

DEEP will now accept questions from attendees and will post responses to those questions on our website at a later date for all interested stakeholders and potential applicants to view.

Applicants may reach out to [DEEP.MMCAPPlanning@ct.gov](mailto:DEEP.MMCAPPlanning@ct.gov) with questions about the RFA.