



Potential Environmental Impacts

Throwing recyclables in the trash has negative impacts on air and water quality and wastes energy and natural resources. Diverting reusable materials from the waste stream through recycling results in using fewer raw materials and reduces the amount of waste that must be landfilled or incinerated.

Note: If your business dismantles vehicles, please see the [Auto Recycling Compliance Guide](#) for more information on recycling scrap metal and scrap catalytic converters.



Illegally disposed corrugated cardboard and mixed waste

Legal Requirements

- ◆ All businesses, municipalities and state agencies are required to recycle [CGS Section 22a-241b(d)].

What Are The Mandated Items That Must Be Recycled In Connecticut?

Your facility probably does not generate large volumes of some of the mandated items listed in the table below. However, removing these items from your regular waste is required and can reduce the amount you pay for trash disposal.

Connecticut law requires that mandated recyclables be collected in a separate container(s) from other trash and it is your responsibility to assure that happens. It is a violation of state law to collect mandated recyclables and trash in the same container.

There are no facilities or trash haulers permitted in Connecticut to “pick through” mixed trash to retrieve designated recyclable materials. It is your responsibility to separate your recyclables from your trash.

Mandated item	How to recycle
Used Oil	See Used Oil fact sheet for more information
Lead Acid Batteries	See Batteries (Lead Acid) fact sheet on for more information.
Scrap Metal	Recycle items consisting predominantly of ferrous metals (steels), brass aluminum, copper, lead, chromium, tin, nickel or alloy.
Nickel cadmium Batteries	Call (800) 8BATTERY or go to the call2recycle website to find the

	nearest participating retail outlet that collects these batteries for recycling.
Corrugated Cardboard (has three layers -- a wavy layer between two flat paper layers)	Keep corrugated cardboard separate from other wastes. Remove any plastic, foam, wood, etc. from corrugated boxes. Open and flatten the boxes and place them in a dumpster or compactor used only for corrugated cardboard.
High grade Office Paper (white and colored), newspaper, boxboard, magazines	Contact your recycler, trash hauler or municipal recycling contact to identify the best way to recycle paper generated at your business.
Glass and Metal Food/Beverage Containers Plastic containers labeled #1 (PET) or #2 (HDPE) at the bottom of the container	Bottle bill containers can be redeemed for deposits. Non-deposit containers which are mandated for recycling need to be kept separate from the trash and recycled.
Leaves and Grass Clippings	Rake leaves to a wooded area on the site, or compost leaves on site in a small contained pile. In some towns you may be able to place leaves at the curb for municipal collection or take them to a municipal leaf composting pile. Leave grass clippings on the lawn.

In addition to the items listed above, your town may mandate additional items for recycling. Contact your [municipal recycling contact](#) or refer to your local solid waste and recycling ordinance.

Specific questions about recycling options can be answered by your [municipal recycling contact](#), your hauler or call DEEP's Recycling Program at 860-424-3366. More information can be found on the DEEP [recycling](#) web pages.

Legal References

- Recycling - [CGS Section 22a-241b\(d\)](#)

Best Management Practices

- ★ Educate employees about separating recyclables from the trash.
- ★ Ensure contracts for recyclables and trash collection are volume based rather than frequency of pick-up.
- ★ Purchase products made with recycled content to close the recycling loop (i.e., create a market for the products you recycle). The quality of these products is just as good as those made with virgin materials and prices are competitive. (See "Environmentally Preferable Products" Fact sheet.)
- ★ Purchase frequently used products in bulk (e.g., oil, antifreeze) to reduce packaging waste.

- ★ Keep dumpsters covered or position them in a roofed area. Make sure their drain plugs are intact.

Additional Resources

DEEP web pages:

- [Business Recycling Assistance](#)
- [Reuse and Recycling Markets](#)

Pollution Prevention Checklist

- ✓ Do you have separate, labeled containers for recyclables at your facility?
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Did You Know?

The automobile is the number one recycled product in America. Over 75% of the materials from cars are recycled. Recycled vehicles generate over 12 million tons of recycled steel, saving enough energy to power over 18 million homes for a full year.

DISCLAIMER: This guidance is a tool to help you evaluate compliance at your facility. It is not a complete list of all regulations and requirements that may apply to your business. You are responsible for knowing and complying with all updated applicable state, federal, local and tribal requirements. Please be aware that environmental laws and regulations, as well as process technology may have changed significantly since these were published. Please do not rely on them for current information, but rather to provide background information.

Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Office of Pollution Prevention, 860-424-3297. Published 2014, Links updated January 2023
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