

August 25, 2022

RE: CT Commercial Organics Recycling Law (CGS Sec. 22a-226e)

Dear Business Manager:

The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection believes your commercial food business is subject to Connecticut's commercial organics recycling law.

As of January 1, 2022, each commercial food wholesaler or distributor, industrial food manufacturer or processor, supermarket, grocery store, resort or conference center in Connecticut that generates a projected annual volume of **26 tons (or more)** of source separated organic material (SSOM), **and** is located not more than 20 miles of an authorized source-separated material composting facility must comply with the CT Commercial Organics Recycling Law [https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/Chap\\_446d.htm#sec\\_22a-226e](https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/Chap_446d.htm#sec_22a-226e).

Your commercial food business likely generates 26 tons or more source-separated organic materials, including but not limited to, food scraps, food processing residue and soiled or unrecyclable paper that has been separated at the point or source of generation from nonorganic material.

### **Want to Confirm if Your Business is Subject to CT's Commercial Organics Recycling?**

You can determine whether your business is in fact subject to the commercial organics recycling law yourself, or seek assistance from the Center for EcoTechnology, which can provide your business free technical assistance.

**Calculate now:** The Food Waste Estimation Guide can help you estimate the amount of SSOM your business generates annually <https://recyclingworksma.com/food-waste-estimation-guide/>.

**Determine if your business is within 20 miles of an authorized SSOM facility (as the crow flies):** DEEP has created a map showing authorized compost facilities that trigger the Commercial Organic Recycling Law <https://tinyurl.com/yetayxy7>

### **Those food businesses that fall within the above parameters shall:**

- A. Separate such source-separated organic materials, such as food scraps, from other solid waste; and
- B. Ensure that such source-separated organic materials are recycled at any authorized source-separated organic material composting facility that has available capacity and that will accept such sour-separated material.

## How to come into compliance with CT's Commercial Organics Recycling Law:

- Prevent generation of wasted food by establishing more efficient food service;
- Partner with food recovery organizations or food banks to donate surplus food;
- Start on-site compost system to manage your own SSOM;
- Contract a hauler to transport your separated food scraps for animal feed;
- Contract a hauler to transport SSOM to an authorized SSOM processing facility such as anaerobic digestion or composting facility.

Even if your business is not subject to the law, you may find diverting food scraps can be a cost-saving measure.

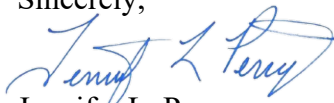
### Need Help?

Free technical assistance is available to your business to help you reduce, reuse and recycling, which includes organic materials such as food scraps. Whether you need to come into compliance or need other types of waste reduction solutions, the Center for EcoTechnology (CET) is under contract with CT DEEP to provide easy and practical solutions to help Connecticut businesses save money and become more sustainable. Reach out now to one of their consultants to receive customized recommendations for your business. Additional resources can be found at <https://www.centerforecotechnology.org/ctwasteassistance/>.

If you have any questions about how to comply with Connecticut's Commercial Organics Recycling Law or other Recycling Laws, you can contact CET at 888-410-3827 or [ReduceWasteCT@cetonline.org](mailto:ReduceWasteCT@cetonline.org) to begin receiving free personalized recycling support for your business. You can also reach out to Sherill Baldwin at 959-895-2711 [sherill.baldwin@ct.gov](mailto:sherill.baldwin@ct.gov) or Chris Nelson at 860-424-3454 [chris.nelson@ct.gov](mailto:chris.nelson@ct.gov) of the Sustainable Materials Management group at DEEP.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Jennifer L. Perry

Bureau Chief

Materials Management and Compliance Assurance

Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection