

Connecticut Coalition for Sustainable Materials Management Full Coalition Meeting

November 16, 2020



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CCSMM Full Coalition Meeting Agenda

- Welcome and introductory remarks (5 min)
- Working group updates and takeaways (70 min)
 - Organics
 - Increase Recycling
 - EPR
 - Unit-based Pricing
- Presentation: Funding waste initiatives (20 min)
- Discussion & Next steps (20 min)
- Public comment (5 min)

CCSMM Housekeeping

- This meeting is being recorded.
- Municipal participants are encouraged to actively participate during the meeting.
- Non-municipal participants: Please share your ideas and comments will be accepted through the ZOOM chat feature.
- Anyone/everyone encouraged to provide feedback to: DEEP.RecyclingProgram@ct.gov

CCSMM Housekeeping

- CCSMM Page: <https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP-CCSMM>
- Connecticut is looking to the future of waste reduction and sustainable materials management. DEEP and many municipalities from across the state are joining together to form the **Connecticut Coalition for Sustainable Materials Management (CCSMM)** and explore ways to reduce the amount of waste that is generated in our state, improve reuse, recycling, organics collection, and other innovative solutions.
- CCSMM is looking to find preferred ways to reduce and manage the amount of waste produced in Connecticut to provide system reliability, environmental sustainability, and fiscal predictability.

Food Scraps/ Organics Collection and Diversion Working Group

Connecticut Coalition for Sustainable Materials Management

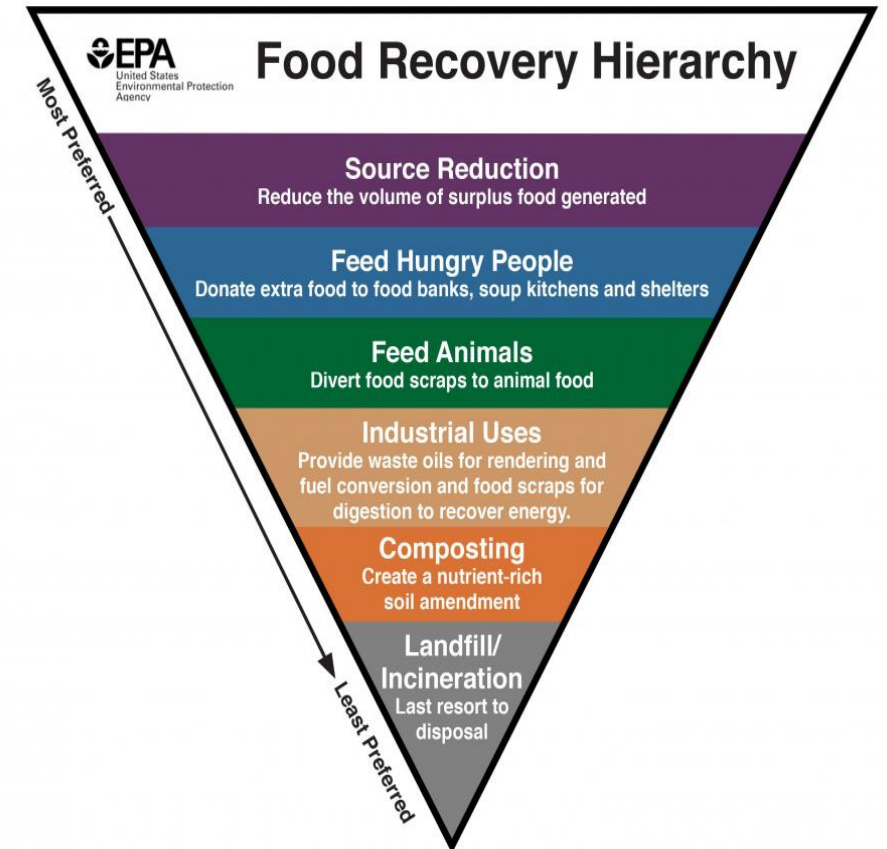
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Topics Covered

- Collection Systems
 - Co-Collection
 - Curbside collection
 - Transfer Station collection
- Organics Diversion Requirements
- Anaerobic Digestion
- Commercial Composting
- Backyard Composting
- Food Recovery Hierarchy
- Food Donation

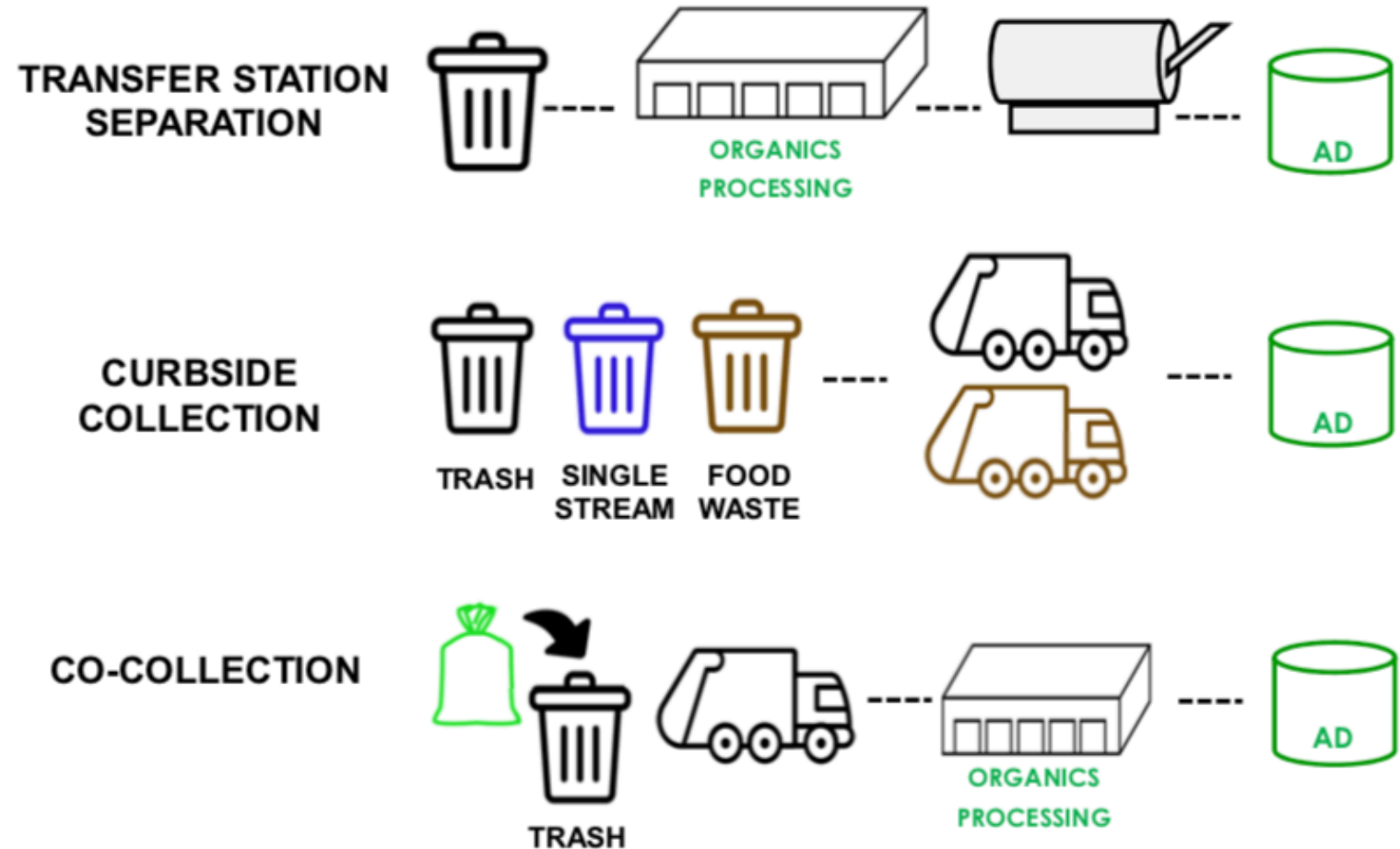


Challenges & Opportunities

- **Collection systems**
 - Contamination
 - Limited processing centers
 - Storage and handling
- **Infrastructure**
- **Financing**
- Education and technical assistance
 - Behavior change
- Scope of Commercial Organics Recycling law
- Permitting process

Emerging Solutions

- Increase food donations
- Simplify addition of food to leaf composting
- Streamline permitting to increase options/ capacity
- Expand organics law (CGS 22a-226e):
 - Reduce threshold
 - Expand 20-mile radius
 - Include additional generators
- Focus on education & school based programs
- Consider regional collection or drop-off locations



Provided by Brian Paganini of Quantum Biopower

Increase Recycling Working Group

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Themes

- Little to no cost
- Incentive
- Convenience
- Green jobs
- Education
- Technical Assistance
- Regional/ state-wide initiatives
- Public Comments
- Environmental Justice Presentation



Topics Discussed

- Swap shops
- Collecting food scraps at transfer stations
- Transfer station design
- Textile collection
- CT WRAP program (plastic bags/ plastic film "return to retail" program)
- Regional approaches to supporting municipal recycling leaders
- Modernizing Bottle Bill
- Source-separated glass collection and processing
- Deconstruction and building material reuse
- Upcoming: Recycling Contracts, Waste Authorities



Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Working Group

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Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Working Group

PROBLEM – Funding of many municipal materials management programs are unsustainable

- Costs to manage disposal (e.g. tires, gas cylinders, municipal recyclables/packaging) are rising, and these costs are passed along to municipalities and/or their residents
- Municipalities bear the risk and feel the most burden when markets fall and change
- Items such as propane tanks, sharps, smoke detectors and household hazardous waste should be removed from the waste stream but have no or limited recovery programs

Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Working Group

Presentations through first 3 Working Group Meetings:

- What Is EPR & how CT has benefitted from existing EPR programs
- Common Elements of EPR
- EPR for packaging Legislation in Maine
- Overview of Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) and Paint Collection programs
- Proposed EPR for Gas Cylinders & Tanks
- Evolution & Benefits of the Paint Stewardship Program in CT
- Packaging EPR viewpoints from the Flexible Packaging Association, Ameripen and The Recycling Partnership

Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Working Group

Key Takeaways thus far:

- EPR programs improve recovery and recycling for a myriad of materials
- EPR programs can substantially reduce/shift costs that have traditionally been borne by municipalities
- Legislation is needed to enact new EPR programs
- Common EPR elements can be used as the foundation for new EPR legislation
- There are existing EPR programs elsewhere that can be used as models
- Industry input & collaboration is valuable for development of an EPR program that works for all stakeholders.
- Some existing business models need to change
- EPR is the common sense alternative to some calls to take materials out of recycling (and put into trash) to “save money”

UBP Working Group

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Unit-Based Pricing Key points

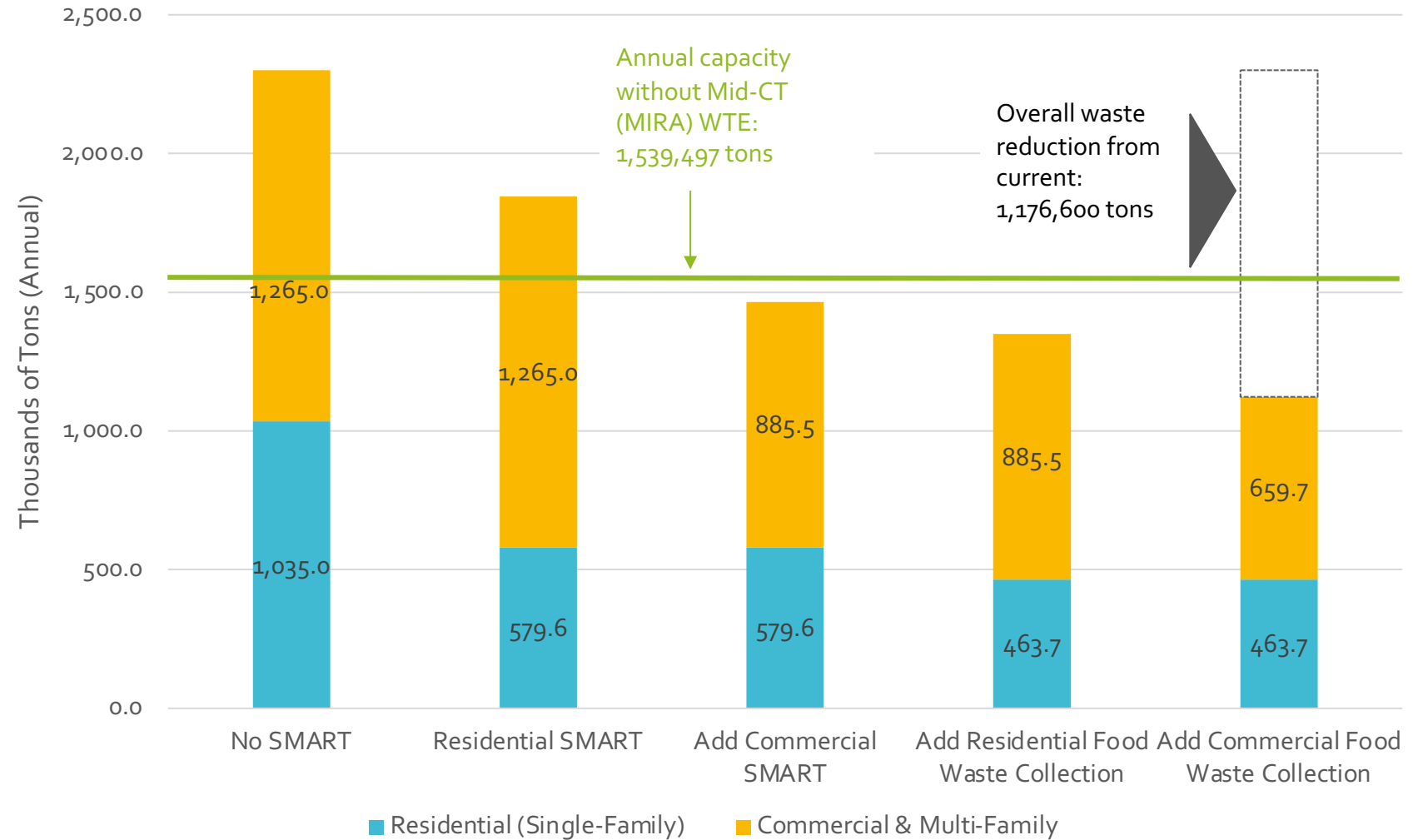
- UBP is most effective policy to reduce waste and optimize all other materials management programs. Benefits are immediate and long-lasting.
- Robust community outreach is essential for achieving adoption of a UBP program.
- UBP is first step to state self-sufficiency, meeting short and long-term materials management goals.
- Some haulers are offering reduced pricing for smaller carts, but not incentivizing waste reduction or educating customers on choosing smaller size.

UBP Options/ Considerations

- Administrative
 - Regional approach
 - WTE-facility led
 - Statewide legislation
- Logistical
 - Bag based
 - Cart based
 - Hybrid cart with overflow bag
- Program control
 - Municipal contract or fleet
 - Subscription/drop off

UBP impact on waste stream is significant

Impact of UBP + Universal Food Waste Collection Programs on the Waste Stream



Connecticut's Solid Waste Management Current and Alternative Funding Options

Connecticut Coalition for Sustainable Materials Management

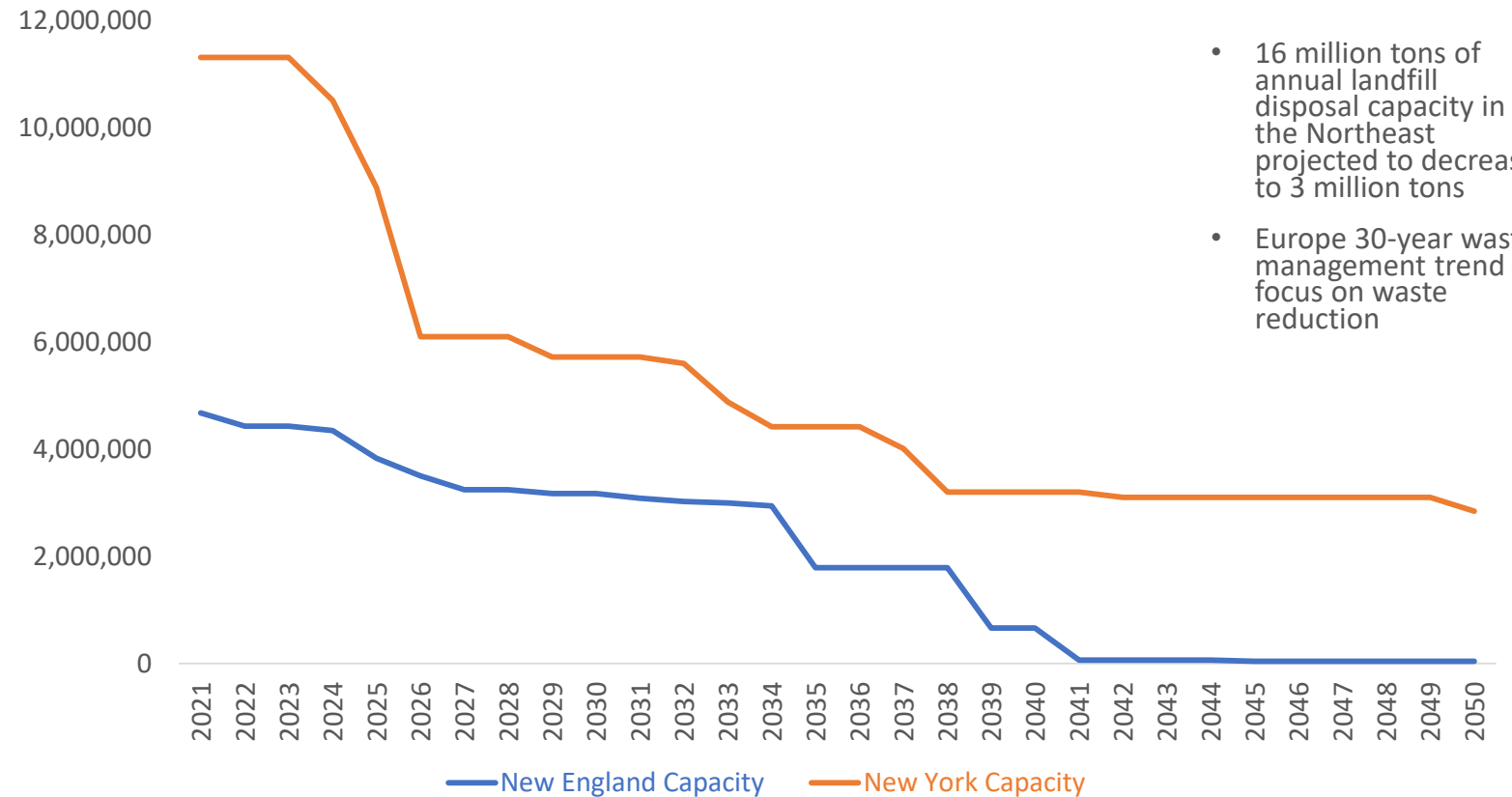
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Regional Landfill Capacity Will Shrink 40% in Next 5 Years

Landfill Capacity Through 2050



- 16 million tons of annual landfill disposal capacity in the Northeast projected to decrease to 3 million tons
- Europe 30-year waste management trend – focus on waste reduction

Sources: Report to the Joint Standing Committee on the Environment and Natural Resources, Maine Solid Waste Generation and Disposal Capacity Report, *January 2017*; NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF GENERAL SERVICES, *Material Recovery and Waste Reduction Program, ANNUAL REPORT*, Fiscal Year 2007-08; BIENNIAL SOLID WASTE REPORT, OCTOBER 2019, Prepared by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services; MA Material Management Capacity Study February 11, 2019, MSW Consultants

Challenge & Opportunity

- We need to start scaling sustainable materials management strategies now, to be prepared for increased disposal costs and lower capacity in the future
- How do we drive investment and reward performance in waste reduction and diversion?
 - Grant programs
 - Solid Waste Assessment
 - Renewable Portfolio Standard

Current Connecticut Grant Programs

DEEP Municipal and Regional Grant Program

- Available to municipalities and regional organizations actively engaged in waste reduction through UBP programs.

RecycleCT Grants

- RecycleCT School Grants
 - Open to all K-12 schools, with preference for schools registered with the CT Green LEAF Schools.
- RecycleCT Innovation Grants
 - This grant program is currently on hold.

Connecticut's Disposal Fees & Funding

Solid Waste Assessment Fee

- Connecticut currently assesses a fee of \$1.50/ton for MSW transferred to and disposed at in-state waste-to-energy facilities
- Generates approximately **\$3 million** annually (roughly \$750,000 of that from MIRA assuming 500,000TPY)
- Does not apply to disposal at landfills, or to construction & demolition waste.

Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS)

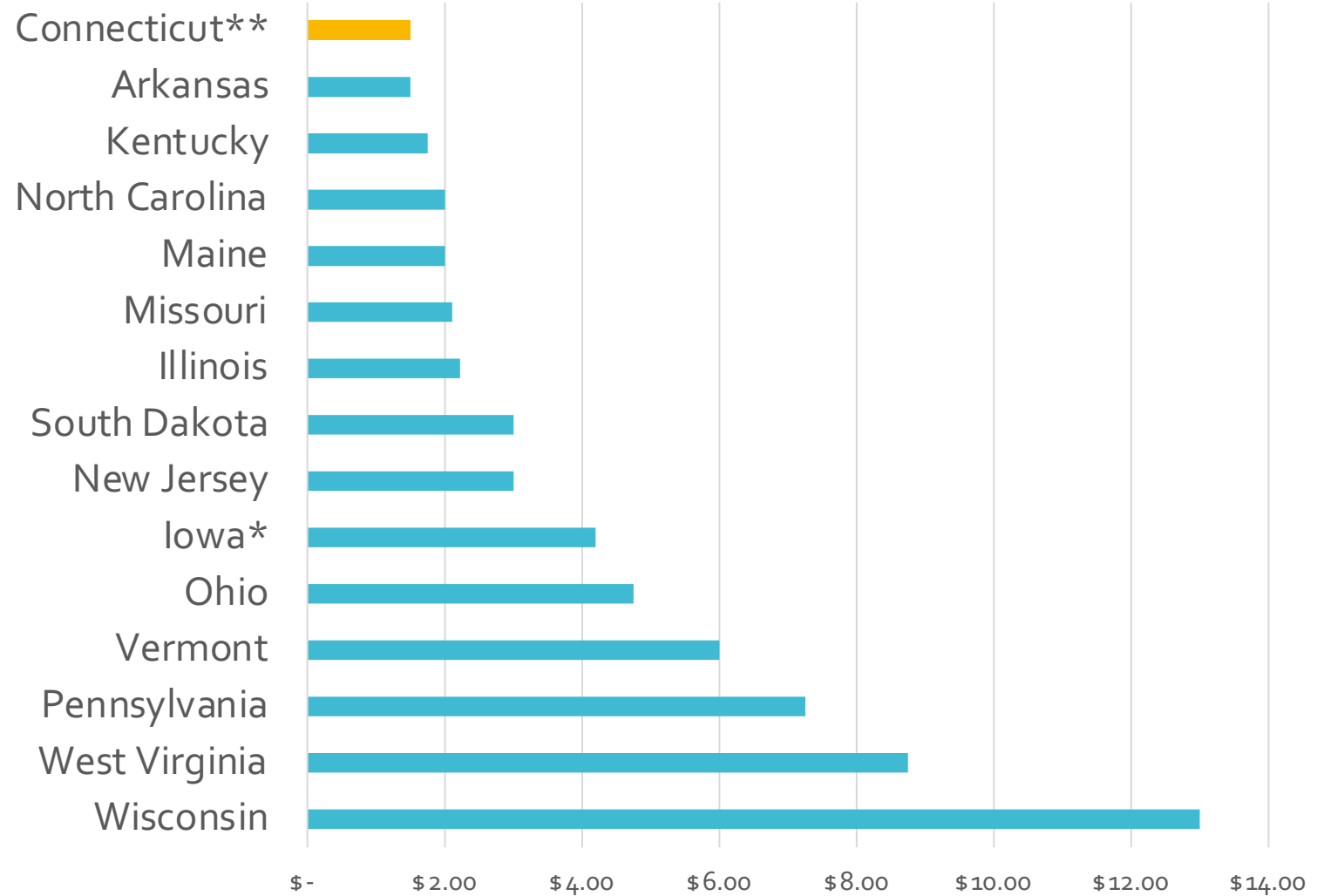
- Waste to Energy (WTE) facilities qualify as Class II renewables in Connecticut's RPS
- Class II REC sales generate *approximately \$15-20 million* per year in revenue for CT's WTE facilities

Spotlight on
Massachusetts:
*Reinvesting in
Sustainability*

Massachusetts invests **50% of RPS revenues**—about \$4.5 million per year—in waste reduction and recycling

- 1. Sustainable Materials Recovery Program** – Municipal grants to support local recycling, composting/organics, reuse, source reduction, and enforcement
- 2. Recycling Dividends Program** – Provides payments to municipalities that have implemented specific programs proven to maximize reuse, recycling, and reduction
- 3. Recycling Business Development Grants** – Helps Massachusetts recycling processors and manufacturers create sustainable markets for eligible materials

Solid Waste Assessment (\$/ton), by State

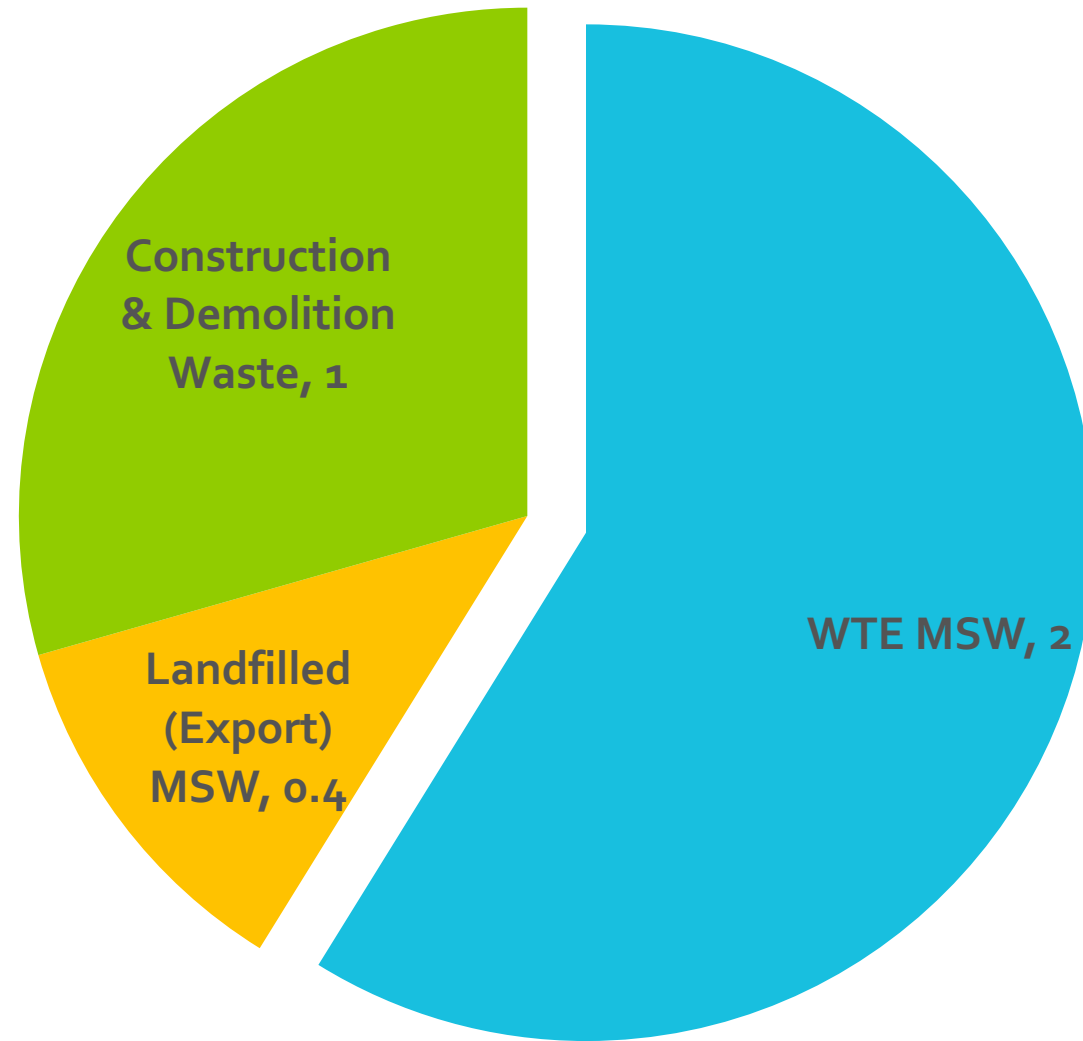


Spotlight on Iowa *Performance- Based Fees*

Iowa assesses a base fee of \$4.25/ton fee on MSW disposed at Iowa landfills. Landfills that achieve higher levels of diversion are assessed lower fees, and retain a portion of fees collected to be reinvested in planning and environmental protection

Diversion Rate	Fee (\$/ton)	Retain for planning & env. protection
Less than 25%	\$4.75	\$1.45
25% to 36%	\$3.65	\$1.45
36% to 50%	\$3.65	\$1.55
Greater than 50%	\$3.25	\$1.30

Annual Disposal Tonnage in Connecticut



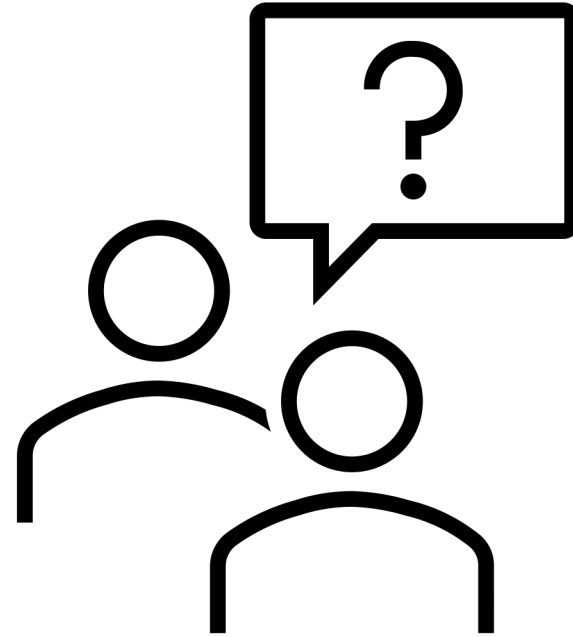
Imagine Reinvesting in Sustainability

- Performance rebates to municipalities based on progress in reducing per capita disposal rates
- Municipal grants to facilitate waste reduction program adoption—funding for pilots, planning, education and outreach, transition dollars
- Technical assistance for schools to expand waste reduction, reuse, recycling and collecting or recycling organics
- Grants for up-front equipment costs for new organics collection or UBP programs.
- Technical assistance for commercial generators of food scraps
- Grant and financing support for recycling end-markets, processing and reuse business development.

Waste Reduction Credit - Alternative Funding Options

1. **Eliminate the disparity** in the Solid Waste Assessment, by applying the fee to *all* MSW (including landfilled MSW) and construction and demolition waste that is transferred for disposal to Commercial Transfer Stations and Volume Reduction facilities.
 - Aligns the SWA with Connecticut's waste hierarchy
 - Incremental revenue could fund municipal sustainable materials management programs and efforts, and assistance to schools and businesses
2. Gradually phase in **performance-based differentials** to the Solid Waste Assessment to reward facilities' success in achieving or supporting diversion.

Discussion



CCSMM Next Steps

Organics	Increased Recycling	EPR	Unit-based Pricing
Nov. 19 1-3 pm	Nov. 23 1-3 pm	Nov. 20 10 am – 12 pm	Nov. 23 9-11:30 am
Dec. 10 1-3 pm	Dec. 7 1-3 pm	Dec. 4 10 am – 12 pm	Dec. 9 9-11:30 am

Full CCSMM Meetings
Dec. 16, 1-3 pm – Working Group Report-out
Jan. 5, 1-3 pm – Finalize Recommendations