



CCSMM FULL COALITION MEETING

September 19, 2023



CCSMM HOUSEKEEPING

- This meeting is being recorded.
- Please keep your microphones muted unless sharing information.
- Municipal participants will be revised to "**Panelist**" status. Once in the Panelist area of the webinar, please rename yourself to reflect your organizational affiliation.
- Municipal participants are encouraged to turn webcams on and actively participate during the meeting.
- Non-municipal participants: Please share your questions, comments & ideas through the ZOOM Chat feature. There will also be opportunity for public comment at the end of the meeting.
- Feedback can also be sent by email to: DEEP.RecyclingProgram@ct.gov

AGENDA

- I. Welcome and Introductory Remarks**
- II. CCSMM Refresher**
- III. Sustainable Materials Management (SMM) Grant Program Update**
- IV. Municipal/Regional Updates**
- V. Other Updates**
 - Surcharge on Miniature Alcohol Bottles & Usage Survey
 - Hauler Registration
 - Regional Waste Authority (RWA) Grant Process Update
 - Bottle Bill Advisory Group Update
- VI. Call for Future CCSMM Discussion/Presentation Topics**
- VII. Public Comment**
- VIII. Closing Remarks**



CCSMM REFRESHER

[Commissioner Dykes](#)

CCSMM REFRESHER

- Convened in September 2020 to develop a menu of options to scale sustainable materials management solutions and reduce reliance on landfills & waste-to-energy
- Four initial working groups:
 - [Increasing Recycling](#)
 - [Unit-Based Pricing](#)
 - [Food Scraps & Organics](#)
 - [Extended Producer Responsibility](#)
- Consideration of Environmental Justice concerns
- 72 initial signatory municipalities, 85 had joined by the first meeting, and now **102 municipalities** are participating members
- All municipal partners are welcome to join in this endeavor
- [CCSMM Sign-on Statement](#)
- Main CCSMM webpage: <https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP-CCSMM>

CCSMM – CURRENT STRUCTURE & LEADERSHIP

- **Full Coalition**

- Commissioner Katie Dykes, tri-chair
- Matt Knickerbocker, Wilton , tri-chair
- **VACANT**, tri-chair

- **Increasing Reuse & Recycling Working Group**

- Denise Rapp, Litchfield, WG co-chair
- Benjamin Florsheim, Middletown, WG co-chair
- Next IRRWG meeting: 10/17/23 @ 1:00-3:00pm, [REGISTER HERE](#)

- **Extended Producer Responsibility Working Group**

- Matt Knickerbocker, Wilton, WG co-chair
- **VACANT**, WG co-chair

- **Unit-Based Pricing + Food Scraps & Organics Working Group**

- **VACANT**, WG co-chair
- **VACANT**, WG co-chair



SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS MANAGEMENT (SMM) GRANT PROGRAM UPDATE

DEEP Staff

SMM GRANT PROGRAM

Background / Drivers

- CT generates 2.3 million tons per year of municipal solid waste (MSW)
- 41% of what CT residents throw away is organic material that can be composted, converted to energy or processed into animal feed
- 22% of residential trash is food scraps
- CT is exporting 860,000 tons MSW per year out of state
- Tip fees for MSW disposal have nearly doubled over the last decade and will continue to escalate as disposal capacity in the northeast declines

High-Level SMM Pilot Goals

- Support municipalities in conducting waste reduction pilots that contain elements of both food scrap diversion and Unit-Based Pricing (UBP)
- Gather data that municipalities can use to estimate the costs/benefits of various diversion strategies as paths to permanence are considered.

FOOD SCRAP COLLECTION OPTIONS



Growing interest in food scrap collection:

- 15 food scrap diversion pilots funded through SMM Grant Program
- Other towns undertaking food scrap reduction, composting, or collection efforts outside of SMM Grant Program
- Stamford SWIFR grant award to address food waste diversion

UNIT-BASED PRICING (UBP) ELEMENTS



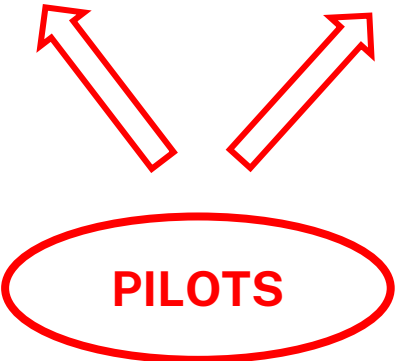
Voluntary Program /
2 free bags +
extra free bags
as needed

Voluntary Program /
2 free bags +
purchase extra
bags as needed

Mandatory Program /
Some free
bags? / Extra
bags priced at
actual bag
cost or slightly
higher

Mandatory Program /
No free bags /
Bags priced to
partially cover
actual bag
cost + disposal
cost of bag
contents

Mandatory Program /
No free bags /
Bags priced to
fully cover
actual bag
cost + disposal
cost of bag
contents



PILOT PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

Evaluate options for collecting & separating food scrap

- Drop-off (transfer station or similar location)
- Co-collection (curbside)
- Separate collection route (curbside)

Assess ability to collect separated residential food scrap from pilot area residents

- Will residents participate if given the option?

Assess quantity & quality of separated residential food scrap

- How “clean” is the separated food scrap (i.e., what is the contamination rate)?
- How much food scrap is being collected (e.g., % of estimated available and pounds per participating household)

Can pilot participants meet the challenge of 2 bags or less of MSW disposed per week?

Will this “UBP Lite” pilot approach help to reduce trash disposal for the pilot areas?

What other results might the pilots programs generate (e.g., will recycling increase)?

FREQUENT PILOT PROGRAM QUESTIONS

Q: I don't like the orange bags (i.e., UBP aspect of pilot). Couldn't we just offer the food scrap diversion program instead?

A: Towns are free to adopt any food diversion program of their choosing as a permanent program. Several towns have implemented transfer station-based food scrap collection programs without support from SMM grants. But keep in mind that any food scrap collection program will add new costs to a town's budget.

This is why DEEP encourages towns to adopt UBP for trash in combination with a food scrap diversion program. Full UBP is the primary driver for reducing waste generation and reducing associated MSW tipping costs.

Q: Should I expect to see cost savings during the course of my town's pilot?

A: No - DEEP is not expecting to see cost savings during the initial pilot period. None of the SMM pilots have adopted full UBP, so MSW cost savings are not yet being realized to offset the costs of the food scrap collection program.

As noted previously, one of the goals of these pilots is to capture data that towns can use to better evaluate projected paths forward post-pilot.

SMM GRANT PROGRAM STATUS

Pilot Program	November 2022	December 2022	January 2023	February 2023	May 2023	July 2023	August 2023	September 2023
West Haven	Launched							
Middletown	Launched							
Ansonia		Launched						
Stonington			Launched					
Deep River				Launched				
Woodbury				Launched				
Seymour				Launched				
Guilford					Launched			
Madison					Launched			
West Hartford					Launched			
Middlebury						Launched		
Kent						Launched		
Meriden							Launched	
Bethel							Launched	
Newtown								Launched

PILOT RESULTS

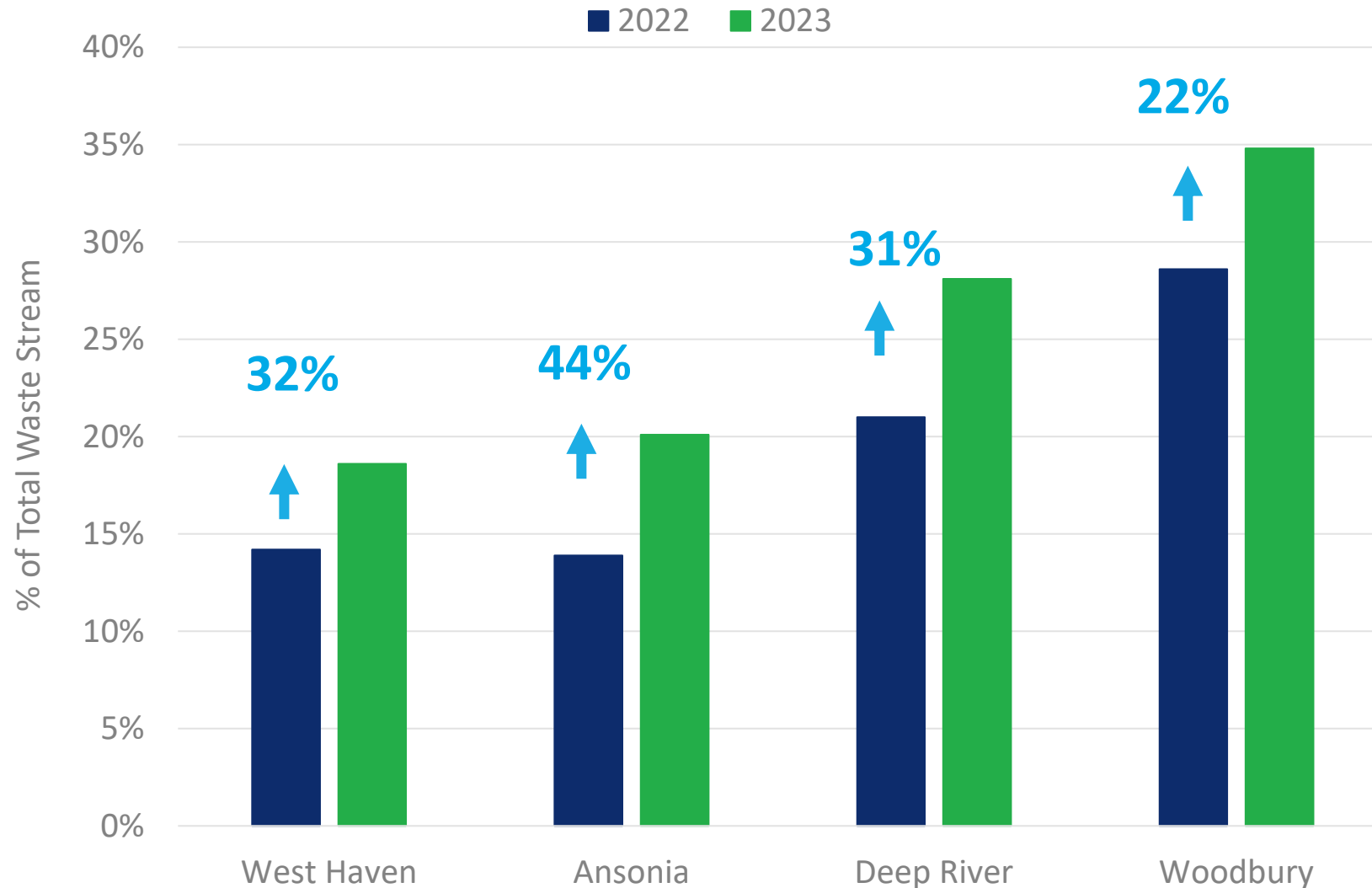
GENERAL OBSERVATIONS / TAKEAWAYS

- Waste diversion exceeds food waste diversion for all program types because of increases in recycling and source reduction
- All program types demonstrated ability to separate significant amounts of food scrap – over 1 million pounds in total
- Drop-off programs result in high levels of diversion, low contamination and are cost effective – but are challenging to implement for larger towns
- Co-Collection is cost effective and significantly increases diversion, but does have higher food scraps contamination rates - those rates improve over time with education and some enforcement
- Separate collection programs are effective, but will be too expensive for most towns
- Problems aligning pilot data with historical data remains a challenge for some towns

SMM GRANT PROGRAM – KEY INDICATORS

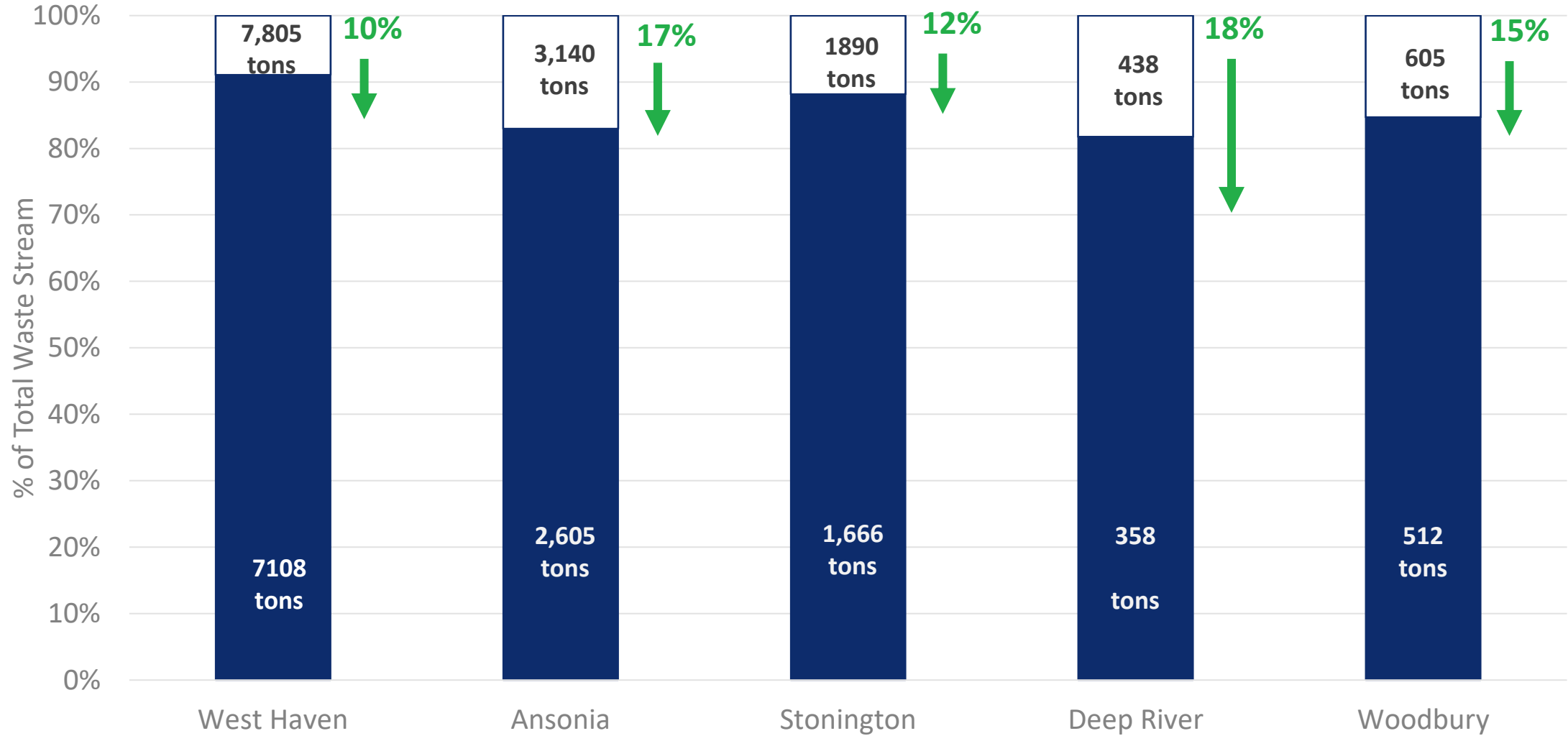
Pilot Program	# of Weeks of Data	Collection Type	*Clean Food Capture Rate	Food Scraps Captured (cumulative lbs)	Contamination Rate (prior week)	Waste Reduction	Curbside Diversion (Recycling + Food Scraps) Increase
Deep River	27	Drop Off	41%	60,040	0.6%	18%	31%
Woodbury	26	Drop Off	22%	46,360	2%	15%	22%
Ansonia	30	Co-Collection	15%	236,117	9%	17%	44%
Middletown	30	Co-Collection	17%	84,701	16%	N/A	N/A
Seymour	28	Co-Collection	13%	NA	13%	N/A	NA
West Haven	38	Co-Collection	14%	495,858	19%	9%	32%
Stonington	24	Separate Collection	35%	247,900	1%	12%	6%
West Hartford	13	Separate Collection	58%	45,750	2%	NA	NA

SMM GRANT PILOT CUMULATIVE DIVERSION RATE CHANGE (RECYCLING + FOOD SCRAPS)

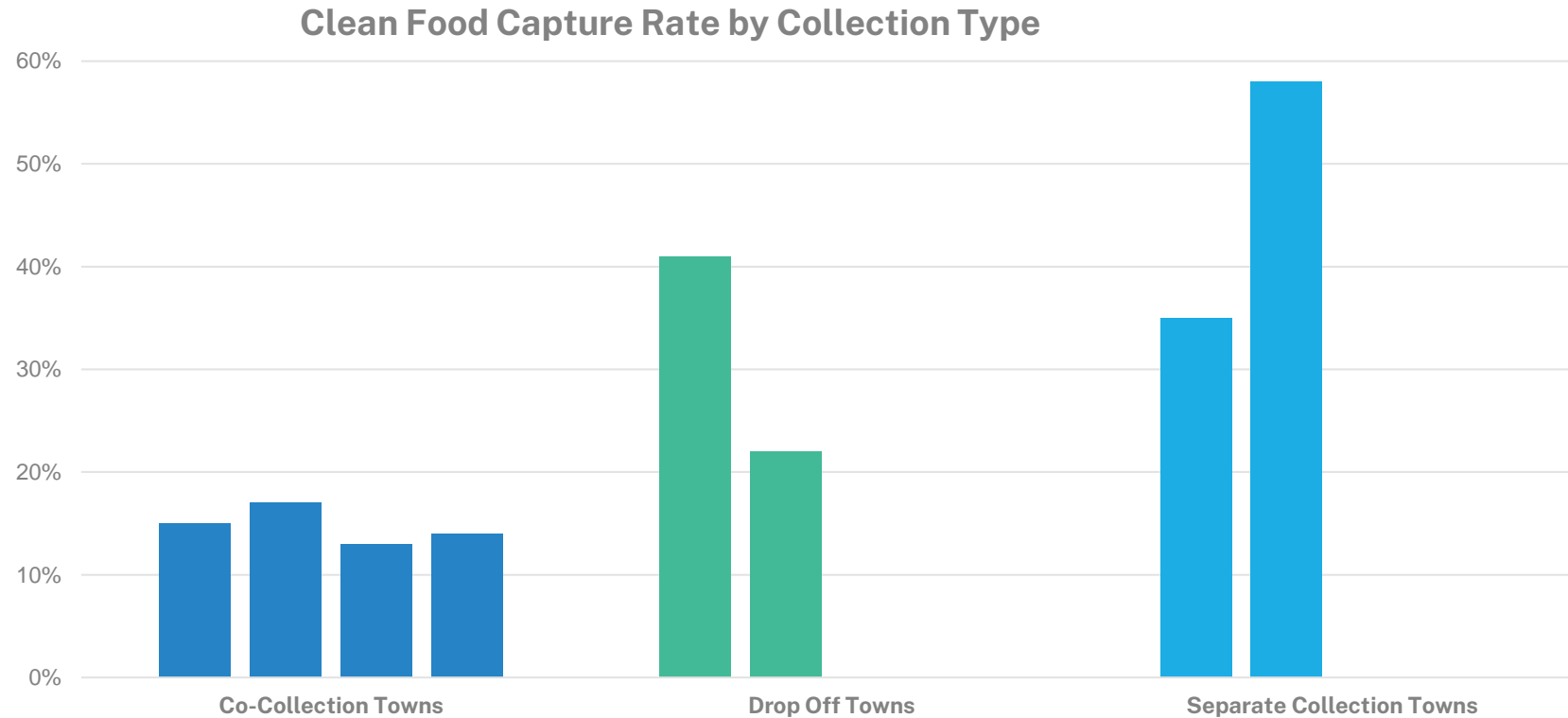


SMM GRANT PILOT CUMULATIVE WASTE REDUCTION

■ 2023 □ 2022



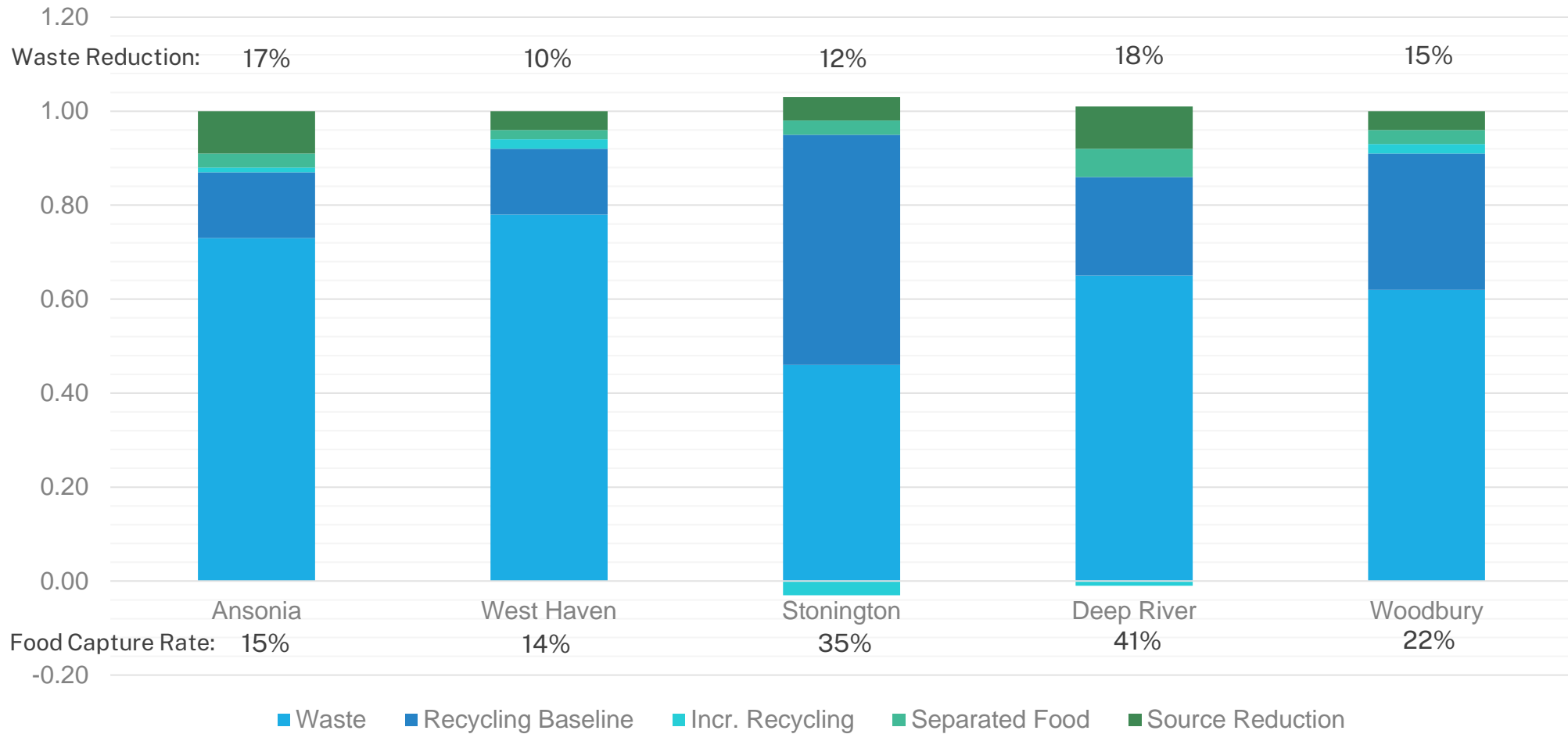
PROGRAM TYPE



- Clean food capture rate has been higher in Drop Off and Separate Collection programs

Components of Waste Reduction

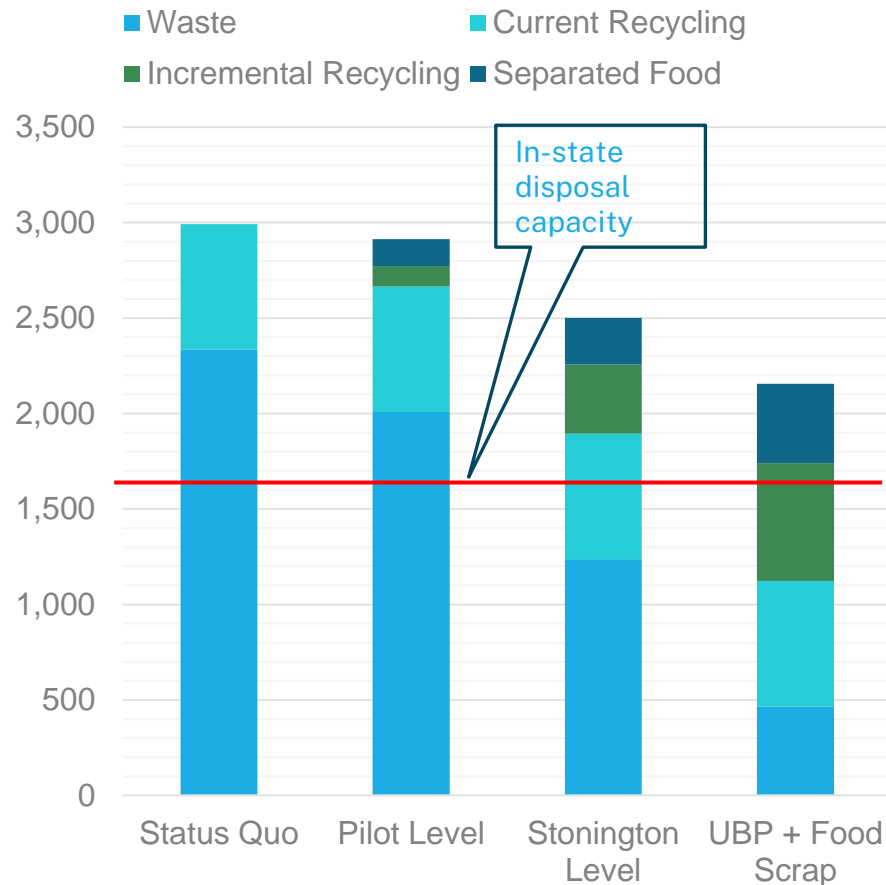
Change in Waste



IMPLICATIONS

Diversion Program Impact - Statewide

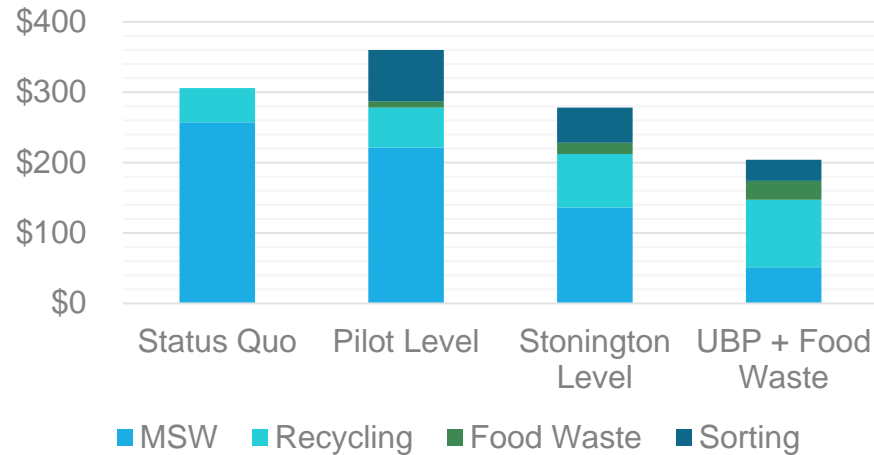
CT Waste Diversion (000 tons)



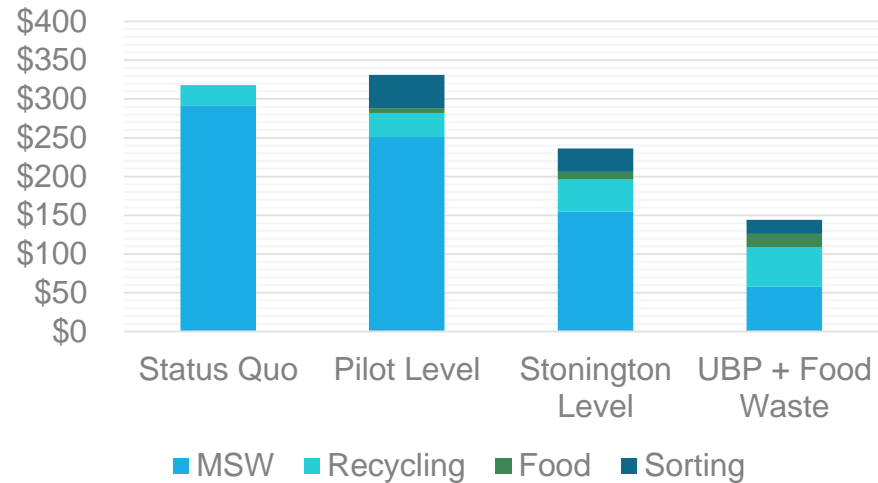
- The waste reduction levels reached through the voluntary pilot programs, if achieved state-wide, would reduce the in-state disposal capacity shortfall by more than 1/2
- Reaching the waste reduction levels of Stonington would bring statewide waste levels well below current disposal capacity
- Reaching the waste reduction levels achieved by communities outside of CT using UBP, coupled with food waste separation, would reduce statewide waste levels to about 1/3 of disposal capacity

Diversions Program Impact - Statewide

Waste Disposal Cost – Current Mkt (\$million)



Waste Disposal Cost – Expected Mkt (\$million)



	Current Market	Expected Market
MSW Tip Fee/ton	\$110	\$125
Recycling Tip Fee/ton	\$75	\$40
Food Waste Tip Fee/ton	\$65	\$40
Sorting Cost/HH	\$34	\$20

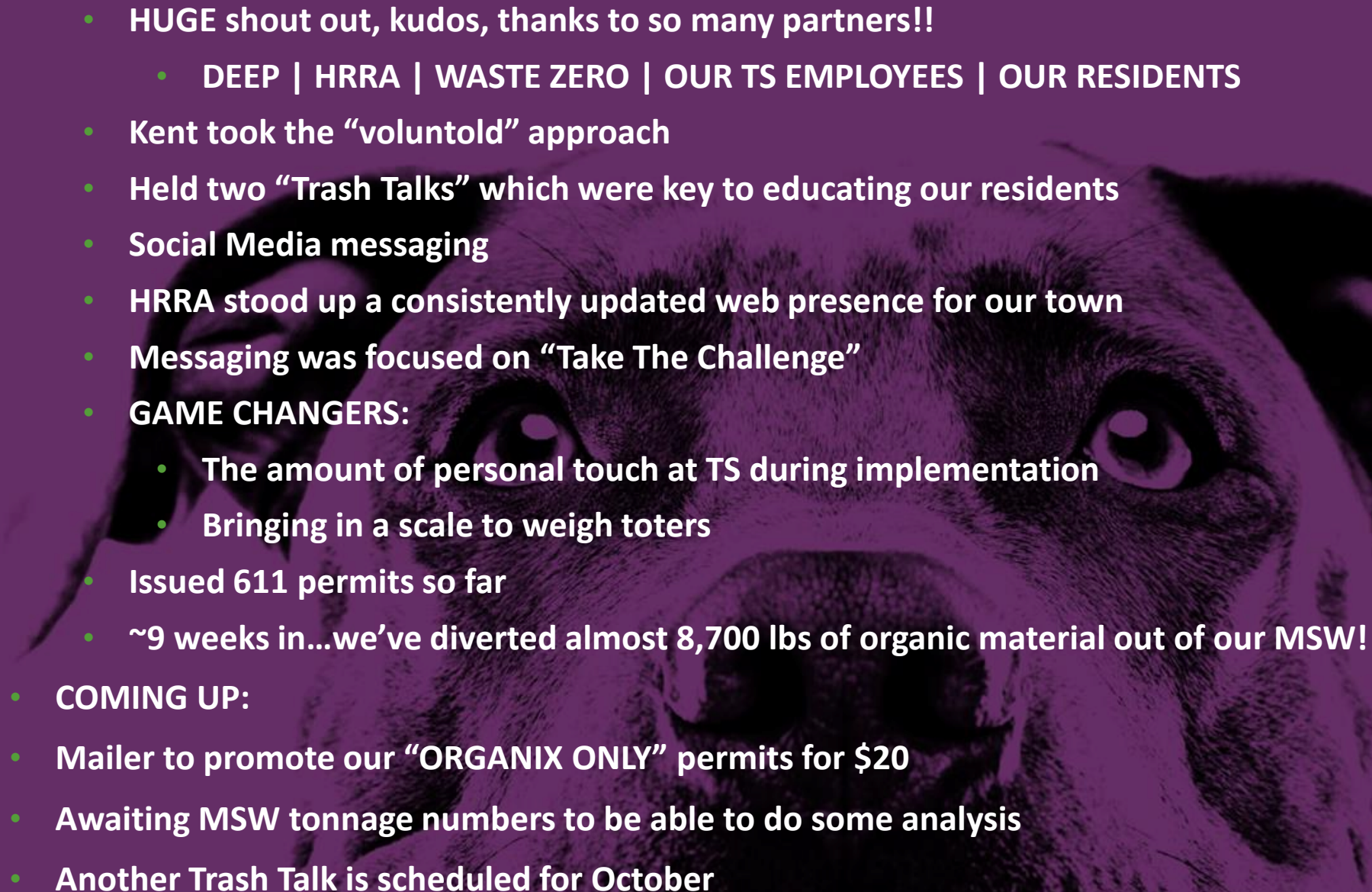
- At current market and voluntary pilot level diversion, cost saving would not offset additional sorting expenses
- At current market, statewide annual waste disposal costs would decline by ~\$75 million at Stonington level diversion, and by ~\$185 million with full UBP and food waste separation
- At expected market, voluntary pilot level diversion cost savings would effectively offset sorting costs
- At expected market, statewide annual waste disposal costs would decline by ~\$130million at Stonington level diversion, and by ~\$260 million with full UBP and food waste separation
- **These forecasts exclude local collection savings that also would be realized as these savings are more difficult to estimate**



MUNICIPAL / REGIONAL UPDATES

- Update on Middletown's Pilot Program – Kim O'Rourke
- Stamford's SWIFR Grant Award – Dan Colleluori
- Kent's Food Diversion Program – Jean Speck, First Selectwoman
- Others?

TOWN OF KENT FOOD SCRAPS “S.A.Y.T.” PILOT

- **HUGE shout out, kudos, thanks to so many partners!!**
 - **DEEP | HRRRA | WASTE ZERO | OUR TS EMPLOYEES | OUR RESIDENTS**
 - **Kent took the “voluntold” approach**
 - **Held two “Trash Talks” which were key to educating our residents**
 - **Social Media messaging**
 - **HRRRA stood up a consistently updated web presence for our town**
 - **Messaging was focused on “Take The Challenge”**
 - **GAME CHANGERS:**
 - **The amount of personal touch at TS during implementation**
 - **Bringing in a scale to weigh toters**
 - **Issued 611 permits so far**
 - **~9 weeks in...we’ve diverted almost 8,700 lbs of organic material out of our MSW!**
 - **COMING UP:**
 - **Mailer to promote our “ORGANIX ONLY” permits for \$20**
 - **Awaiting MSW tonnage numbers to be able to do some analysis**
 - **Another Trash Talk is scheduled for October**
- 



OTHER UPDATES

- Surcharge on Miniature Alcohol Bottles & Usage Survey - Nicholas Velseboer, Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ)
- Registration of Haulers – Chris Nelson, DEEP & Matt Hoey, First Selectman of Guilford
- Bottle Bill Advisory Group – James Albis, DEEP
- Regional Waste Authority (RWA) Grant Process update – Joe DeNicola

Connecticut Council on Environmental Quality



Background

- ▶ Public Act 21-58, Section 10 established a 5¢ surcharge on all miniature alcohol bottles of 50ml or less
- ▶ The surcharge took effect in October 2021
- ▶ Wholesalers collect the money and distribute it back to the municipality of sale every April and October
- ▶ The Public Act is codified in CGS Sec. 22a-244b



Uses

▶ CGS 22a-244b(d) states that the funds can be spent on environmental measures intended to:

1. Reduce the generation of solid waste

Example

a. hiring of a recycling coordinator

2. Reducing the impact of litter

Examples

a. Installation of storm drain filters

b. Purchasing a street sweeper, vacuum, or broom



The Council's Role

- ▶ Public Act 23-76 requires the Council to conduct a review of the program pursuant to **subsection (d) of section 22a-244b**
- ▶ From Sept 19 through October 30, the Council will conduct a survey of all Connecticut municipalities who received funds through June 30, 2023
 - ▶ Email PDF form or alternatively online form on the Council's website
 - ▶ Surveys will be distributed to Chief Elected Official
- ▶ Topics include funds spent, uses, and program feedback



How Will These Data Be Used?

- ▶ Survey results will be summarized in aggregate and appear in the 2023 edition of the Council's annual report, *"Environmental Quality in Connecticut"*
- ▶ Results will help inform policymakers and may determine how the program might change in the future
- ▶ Survey results will inform municipalities on funding options/best practices



Questions?

For questions, please contact our office at
CEQ@ct.gov or by phone at 860-424-4000



PAYMENTS TO MUNICIPALITIES FROM FEES ON MINIATURE ALCOHOL BOTTLES

Payment summaries are posted on this DEEP webpage:

<https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Reduce-Reuse-Recycle/Bottles/Bottle-Bill-Stakeholder-Process>

- [Payments to towns for 10/01/21-03/31/22](#)
- [Payments to towns for 04/01/22-09/30/22](#)
- [Payments to towns for 10/01/22-03/31/2023](#)
- Payments to towns for 04/01/23- 09/30/23 - **COMING SOON**

HAULER REGISTRATION IS THE LAW IN CT

CGS 22a-220a(d):

- (1) Any collector hauling solid waste generated by residential, business, commercial or other establishments, including, but not limited to, recyclables generated within the borders of a municipality, shall register annually in such municipality and disclose:
 - (A) The name and address of the collector and the owner of such collection company;
 - (B) the name of any other municipality in which such collector hauls such solid waste, including recyclables;
 - (C) whether the hauling done by such collector is residential, commercial or other;
 - (D) the types of waste hauled;
 - (E) the anticipated location of any disposal facilities or end users receiving recyclable solid waste; and
 - (F) any additional information that such municipality requires to ensure the health and safety of its residents.

WHO SHOULD BE REGISTERED?

- Haulers servicing your Residential properties
- Haulers servicing your Commercial properties
- Dumpster rental companies
- “Junk” removal companies (topic covered at Oct 2018 SWAC meeting)

REGISTRATION FEES

- No fee?
- Per company?
- Per vehicle?

Ordinance modification might be required (to implement a registration fee)

CENTRALIZED HAULER REGISTRATION?

The 2012 “REPORT OF THE [GOVERNOR’S] MODERNIZING RECYCLING WORKING GROUP” included a recommendation for hauler registration at the state level rather than at the municipal level.

Haulers could register online through one central portal for all of the towns in which they do business. There could be 3 potential sections of questions:

- 1) Questions applicable for all towns
- 2) Questions applicable for towns with registration fees
- 3) Any additional town-specific questions

PURPOSE OF BOTTLE BILL ADVISORY GROUP

- DEEP has received a significant number of questions about Bottle Bill changes and has seen substantial interest from consumers, retailers, distributors and legislators
- DEEP is committed to transparency, predictability, and efficiency in agency processes and has determined that continued stakeholder engagement is warranted and will provide for effective implementation of the Bottle Bill
- DEEP is hosting monthly meetings to engage all stakeholders and legislators in a Bottle Bill Advisory Group to solicit input on the areas of interest and question regarding various components of Bottle Bill implementation
- Meetings are held virtually, noticed in advance and include 1) presentations by DEEP staff and others on relevant issues requiring stakeholder education, engagement or feedback and 2) an opportunity for input from meeting participants

BOTTLE BILL ADVISORY GROUP

- Previous meeting/discussion topics include: bottle bill statistics (CT and national), overview of legislative changes to the bottle bill, nonconforming products
- Meetings have been recorded; recordings provided upon request
- Next meeting: October 16, 1:00 pm
 - [Register here](#)
- [Sign up](#) for Bottle Bill Stakeholder Process email list
- Any additional questions or feedback can be submitted via email to DEEP.MMCAPlanning@ct.gov



CALL FOR FUTURE CCSMM DISCUSSION/PRESENTATION TOPICS



PUBLIC COMMENT



CLOSING REMARKS