

Connecticut Coalition for Sustainable Materials Management Meeting

Meeting Minutes

March 06, 2023, CCSMM Coalition Meeting via ZOOM

Present: See Attachment A
Next meeting: TBD
Prepared by: Luciana Granstrand, DEEP

I. Call to Order and Announcements

Meeting began at 1:03 pm.

Katie Dykes, DEEP Commissioner, provided welcoming remarks and an overview of the CCSMM initiative process to date. Commissioner Dykes also introduced CCSMM working group chairs Denise Rapp, Litchfield's First Selectperson, Ben Florsheim, Middletown's Mayor, and Matt Knickerbocker, Wilton's Town Administrator.

Chris Nelson, Supervising Environmental Analyst, CT DEEP, provided housekeeping rules.

II. Committee Reports

James Albis, Office Director, CT DEEP, presented an update on the following topics while responding to attendees' questions:

- Draft 2023 Comprehensive Materials Management Strategy (CMMS) amendment and Connecticut's waste disposal capacity landscape. The document is available on DEEP's webpage for public review, and written comments can be filed via email at DEEP.MMCAPanning@ct.gov no later than 5:00 pm on March 10, 2023.
- Sustainable Materials Management Regional Waste Authority (RWA) Grant Program Opportunity for CT municipalities and regions. DEEP is inviting grant proposals seeking funds to help municipalities and regional waste authorities to form new or expand existing RWAs. Proposals must be submitted to DEEP.MMCAPanning@ct.gov by March 31, 2023, at 5:00 pm.
- Materials Management Infrastructure Request for Information (RFI) goals and important dates and deadlines for interested stakeholders, municipalities, council of governments, solid waste management industry representatives, facility developers, and others to submit written comments regarding the opportunities and needs associated with waste infrastructure development to help address Connecticut's solid waste management challenges.
- Overview of Governor's Bill HB 6664 – An Act Managing Waste and Creating a Waste Authority. Director Albis clarified some provisions of the bill, how the act would work, and how municipalities wouldn't lose control of their recycling operations. Additionally, he addressed some misleading information presented during the legislative session concerning the Extended Producer

Responsibility (EPR) for packaging programs, municipal recycling operations control, multinational producers, and Connecticut's recycling infrastructure.

- Relevant legislation being discussed in the Environment Committee during the legislative session was also discussed.

Co-chair Denise Raap introduced Coryanne Mansell, Client Services Strategist, Center for Ecotechnology (CET), provided an update on Connecticut's Business Recycling Assistance Program.

Co-chair Ben Florsheim introduced Jennifer Weymouth, Environmental Analyst, CT DEEP, to provide an update on the Sustainable Materials Management (SSM) grant programs. Weymouth gave a high-level overview of the current programs and successful remarks.

A panel composed of the following municipal representatives presented their SMM grant programs updates:

Kim O'Rourke, Middletown's Recycling Coordinator: Middletown Food Scrap to Clean Energy Pilot Program.

Jill Senior, Stonington's Director of Solid Waste: Stonington Curbside Food Scrap Collection Pilot Program.

Angus MacDonald, Deep River's First Selectman, shared some remarks regarding Deep River's Transfer Station Waste Reduction Pilot Program via chat.

Co-chair Knickerbocker called the following participants in the call to provide municipal and regional updates:

Tammy Thornton, Wilton Go Green President, provided a quick update on a few events happening with Wilton Go Green.

Pam Roach, South Central Regional Council of Governments (SCRCOG), Consultant, provided an update on the upcoming Repair Café event in Cheshire, School Food Scrap Collection Programs, and an update on West Haven's food scrap program and educational outreach.

III. Roundtable

Attendees were interested to learn about the Regional Waste Authority proposal HB 6664, the solid waste assessment fee, economic implications for municipalities associated with the inclusion of EPR in the bill, the export solid waste assessment fee in the bill, and DEEP's plan to divert waste not transported out of the state.

Co-chair Matt Knickerbocker shared with municipal leaders that DEEP's webpage has studies regarding EPR for packaging applications and refutes some misinformation disseminated during the legislative session regarding EPR.

The discussion then focused on EPR for packaging and the HB 6664 opt-in-opt-out mechanism offered for municipalities. Commissioner Dykes discussed the savings benefits for municipalities that the opt-in for packaging EPR program allows and how it will offset the increase in the Solid Waste Assessment fee in the bill. Further, she discussed the Solid Waste Assessments fund and how the Agency would allocate it to increase waste diversion in the State.

When discussing the packaging EPR program and the Solid Waste Assessment fund, attendees noted that the potential benefits of the EPR program go beyond municipalities to the infrastructure of material management at the local level. The group continued discussing where the revenue from the EPR program would go and where the assessment fee would get levied.

Gabrielle Frigon, Director of Waste Engineering and Enforcement Division/Bureau of Materials Management and Compliance Assurance, CT DEEP, provided a permitting clarification regarding chemical recycling.

Members pointed out concerns with the timeline to implement infrastructure to handle municipal solid waste in the State and its associated costs. Additionally, questions regarding regional solutions for waste management in the State and United-Based-Pricing programs (UBP) were asked.

Ms. Coryanne Mansell, Client Services Strategist (CET), responded to questions regarding CET programs and outreach efforts to reach out to the Regional Chamber of Commerce.

Jennifer Weymouth responded to questions regarding West Haven's Food Scraps Co-Collection program and feedback from town residents.

IV. Public Comment

Members of the public were asked to use the "chat" or "raise hand" feature to indicate if they wanted to make a comment.

Jean Speck, First Selectman, Town of Kent, shared that Kent is launching a food scrap program soon.

Mary Hogue, Sustainable Fairfield, shared about Fairfield's Food Rescue Team and is seeking advice regarding liability protection. Ms. Hogue also addressed chemical recycling concerns in the Governor's bill.

Lynne Bonnett, a New Haven resident, asked the group for updates on sustainability actions happening at the municipal level in New Haven while sharing her frustration with the city.

Julie DesChamps, Waste Free Greenwich, recommended other municipalities to work with CET.

Lori Martin, Executive Director Haven's Harvest, commented on the organization's work in New Haven and asked interested participants in food recovery to contact her.

V. Adjournment

The meeting closed with thanks from Co-Chairs Denise Raap and Matt Knickerbocker.

Meeting adjourned at 2:03 pm.

ATTACHMENT A

NAME	Organization
Chris Nelson	CT DEEP
James Albis	CT DEEP
Gabrielle Frigon	CT DEEP
Gabrielle Frigon	CT DEEP
Tom Metzner	CT DEEP
Jennifer Perry	CT DEEP
Sherill Baldwin#	CT DEEP
Brenna Toman	CT DEEP
Elly Moore	CT DEEP
Luciana Granstrand	CT DEEP
Emma MacDonald	CT DEEP
Tracy Babbidge	CT DEEP
Laura Pointek	CT DEEP
Katie Dyke	CT DEEP
Jennifer Weymouth	CT DEEP
Chelsey Hahn - she/ her/ hers	CT DEEP
CJ May	
Linda Orr	Torrington
Jennifer Baum	HRRRA (Jennifer Baum)
Christine O'Neill	NVCOG (Christine O'Neill)
David Simpson	Waterbury
Kevin Sullivan -	CT DEEP
Jen Heaton-Jones	HRRRA
Matt Knickerbocker	Wilton (Matt Knickerbocker)
Robyn Nichols	CRCOG
Matt Hart	CRCOG
Denise Raap (Denise Rapp)	First Selectperson - Litchfield
Mary Hogue	Sustainable Fairfield
David Aldridge	SCRRRA
Virginia Walton	Mansfield
Tony Manfre	South Windsor
Tammy Thornton	Wilton Go Green
FRANCIS BRADY	Madison Solid Waste Disposal Committee
Susan Schott	Wallingford
John Phillips	West Hartford
Diane Lauricella	Norwalk Zero Waste Coalition

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Pamela Roach	SCRCOG
Courtney Forrester	WasteZero
Kim O'Rourke	Middletown
Jean Speck (she/her)	Kent
Coryanne Mansell (Coryanne Mansell)
Jill Senior	Town of Stonington
Angus McDonald -	Town of Deep River
Drew Baklik	NVCOG
Joe DeRisi - Hamden	(Joe DeRisi)
Brian Bartram	Salisbury/Sharon TS (Brian Bartram)
Janice EhleMeyer	RiverCOG
Laura Francis	SCRCOG
Lori Vitagliano	Reg. Water Authority/HazWaste Central
R Stephen Lynch	ECRRA
Janice Plazia	Guilford
Mya Gray	NVCOG
Aaron Budris	NVCOG
Bob Bessel	Canton
Stacey Ohlmann Leitch -	Groton
Ben Florsheim	Middletown Mayor
Dwight Ryniewicz	Vernon
Julia Pemberton	Redding
Edith Pestana -	CT DEEP
Kaelah M Smith - OAG (Kaelah M Smith)	CTOAG
Brennan Georgianni	American Cleaning Institute
Donna Hamzy Carroccia	CCM
Donna Hamzy Carroccia	
Sam Cardwell	Conservation Law Foundation
Cyril May	Waterbury Public Works
Linda Orr - Torrington (Linda Orr)	City of Torrington
Jennifer Baum	HRRA
Christine O'Neill	Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments
Mike Manfre - Glastonbury (Mike Manfre)	Sanitation
Mike Stallings	EyeRecycle
Thomas Swarr	Hartford Energy Improvement District
David Simpson	City of Waterbury
Kevin Sullivan	CT DEEP
Abigail Wiktorowski	CT DEEP
Todd Rolland - Somers (Todd Rolland)	Town of Somers
Robyn Nichols	CRCOG

Lori Martin	Haven's Harvest
Mary Hogue - Sustainable Fairfield (Mary Hogue)	Sustainable Fairfield
David Aldridge	SCRRRA
Virginia Walton	Town of Mansfield
Julie Cammarata	CGA
David Bodendorf	MIRA
Lynne Bonnett	public
Roslyn Reeps	Killingworth Conservation Commission and Sustainable Killingworth
Lindsay Iten	Serlin Haley LLP
Tony Manfre	Town of South Windsor
Rick Mobley	ECO2LOGY LLC
Tammy Thornton	Wilton Go Green
Maureen Nicholson	Town of Pomfret
Maureen Nicholson - Pomfret (Maureen Nicholson)	
Patrick Grasso	UMI
FRANCIS BRADY	Solid Waste Disposal Committee
Lisa Fasulo - Essex (Lisa Fasulo)	Essex Health Dept
Christine Beling - EPA (Christine Beling)	USEPA
Susan Schott	Town of Wallingford
John Phillips	Town of West Hartford
Diane Lauricella	Norwalk Zero Waste Coalition
Pamela Roach	SCRCOG
Carolyn Bayne - Darien Advisory Committee on Sustainability (Carolyn Bayne)	Darien Advisory Committee on Sustainability
Mary Isaac	Town of Trumbull
Mary Isaac - Trumbull (Mary Isaac)	
Mallory Daley	Hughes & Cronin
T.J. Therriault	Barton & Loguidice
Tory McBrien	Waste Zero
Bill Watkins - Coventry (Bill Watkins)	Town of Coventry Public Works Department
Aaron goode	Greater New Haven Green Fund
Barbara Perkinson - Woodbury (Barbara Perkinson)	Town of Woodbury
Jean Speck	Town of Kent
Coryanne Mansell	Center for EcoTechnology
Raphaella Heath	Eunomia
robert isner	self
John Whetton	6076
Julie DesChamps	Waste Free Greenwich
kevin spinella	GBA
kboulette	Town of Enfield

Joseph Canino	Sullivan & LeShane Inc.
Tiffany Carlson	Town of Ridgefield
Drew Baklik	NVCOG
Mary Vihstadt	Jefferson Street Consulting LLC
paul.aresta Aresta	CEQ
Kristina Owren - Somers (Kristina Owren)	Somers Department of Public Works
Joe DeRisi	Town of Hamden
Brian Bartram	Salisbury/Sharon Transfer Station
Janice EhleMeyer	Lower CT River Valley Council of Governments
Bud McAllister	Partners in Healthy Communities
Karen Weeks	Rome, Smith, Lutz & Kowalski
Jackie Caceci	Tighe & Bond
Laura Francis	South Central Region Council of Governments
Mark Van Weelden	Covanta
Lori Vitagliano	Regional Water Authority/HazWaste Central
Robbie McLuckie	CHPA
LISA PYATT - Granby (LISA PYATT)	TOWN OF GRANBY
R Stephen Lynch - ECRRA (R Stephen Lynch)	Eastern Ct. Res. Rec. Auth.
Cassie George	Capitol Consulting
connie mendolia - CT DEEP (connie mendolia)	CTDEEP
Jessica Olander	CT River Valley Chamber of Commerce
Janice Plaziak	Town of Guilford
Tim O'Connor	Park City Compost Initiative
Mya Gray - NVCOG (Mya Gray)	Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments
Aaron Budris - NVCOG (Aaron Budris)	Naugatuck Valley COG
Cesar Zapata - East Hartford (Cesar Zapata)	Town of East Hartford
John Harkins	Rome, Smith, Lutz & Kowalski
Bob Bessel	Town of Canton
Mike Harder	Hebron Green Committee
Stacey Ohlmann Leitch - Groton (Stacey Ohlmann Leitch)	Groton Public Works
Dan McGowan	Mattress Recycling Council
Todd M Fontanella - Western Connecticut Council of Governments (Todd M Fontanella)	Western Connecticut Council of Governments
Frazier Blaylock	Covanta Energy
Ben Florsheim	City of Middletown
Michael Paine	Paine's Inc. / NWRA
Lidia Howard	Department of Energy and Environmental Protection -CT

Brian Popovich	USA
Bruce Wittchen - OPM (Bruce Wittchen)	CT OPM
Brian Card	SWANA - SNE Chapter
Gary Jones	PRINTING United Alliance
Nick Skeadas	Curbside Compost
Thomas Gaffey	Materials Innovation & Recycling Authority
Thomas Gaffey	
Jane Warren	McCarter & English, LLP
Dwight Ryniewicz	Town of Vernon
Doug Colter	City of West Haven
Thomas Roy	town of simsbury
george dews	DEEP
Jeff Martirano	HDR Engineering
Julia Pemberton - Redding (Julia Pemberton)	Town of Redding
Ian McDonald	CT Zero Waste Coalition
Edith Pestana	DEEP
Liz Sawyer	Southeastern CT Regional Resources Recovery Authority
Brent Madho	CT DEEP
Bethany McWade - CT DEEP (Bethany McWade)	DEEP
Annette Coste - CT DEEP (Annette Coste)	DEEP/MMCA
Susan Eastwood	Sierra Club CT
Susan Barney	Garden Club of Hartford
Hillary Glass	RSG
Scott Burns	PCCI
Tyler Bowne	Town of Branford
Anne Schmidt	Citizens' Climate Education
Matt Riiska	Town of Norfolk, Connecticut
Anne Marie Hunter	Sustainable Southbury
Samuel	Blue Earth Compost, Inc.
Courtney	EyeRecycle
Mary	Music for Youth, Inc
Kris	NatureWorks LLC
Carey	Town of Essex
Mara	Conservation Law Foundation
Pippa Bell	Sustainable Westport
Sean	Hughes & Cronin
Patty	Eastern Connecticut State University
Christopher	USA Waste and Recycling
Edward	attorney

Josh	Capitol Consulting
Michael	Town of Wethersfield
Nicholas	U.S. Tire Manufacturers Association
John	USTMA
Brian	City of New London
Lori	CT League of Conservation Voters
Justine	Mattress Recycling Council
Sam	Flexible Packaging Association
Darla	CDPHE
Ethan	Rome, Smith, Lutz & Kowalski
Joanna	State of CT
susan	sustainable essex
Zofia	University of Connecticut
Kristen	WasteZero
Kim	ACV Enviro/ Republic Services