

Connecticut Coalition for Sustainable Materials Management Meeting

Meeting Minutes

October 4, 2021 CCSMM Coalition Meeting via ZOOM

Present: See Attachment A
Next meeting: TBA
Prepared by: Elizabeth Moore, DEEP

I. Call to Order and Announcements

Meeting started at 2:02PM.

Co-chairs Katie Dykes, DEEP Commissioner, Laura Francis, First Selectman, Town of Durham and Matt Knickerbocker, First Selectman, Town of Bethel provided welcoming remarks. Commissioner Dykes noted a new DEEP [municipal newsletter](#) intended to foster better communication and relationships between municipal partners and the Department. The co-chairs also thanked municipal leaders for their participation in the meeting and extended welcome to members who recently joined the coalition.

II. Committee Reports

Jennifer Weymouth, Sustainable Materials Management, CT DEEP presented an overview of the recently-launched [Sustainable Materials Management Grant Program](#).

Brent Madho, Solid Waste Permitting, CT DEEP, Elizabeth Moore, Environmental Analyst, CT DEEP and Gabrielle Frigon, Assistant Director, Waste Engineering Enforcement Division, CT DEEP presented on a draft Appendix for the General Permit to Construct and Operate a Commercial Facility intended to authorize the management of food waste, including collection, transfer and limited processing/depackaging at facilities registered under the General Permit. For the purposes of the General Permit, food waste is defined as food scraps, food residue, soiled and unrecyclable paper that has been separated at the point or source of generation from nonorganic material.

Sherill Baldwin, Sustainable Materials Management, CT DEEP presented on the RecycleCT Lee Sawyer Community Waste Reduction and Recycling Grant Request for Proposals and the RecycleCT School Grant, as well as the newly launched RecycleCT App. Ms. Baldwin also described the “What’s In What’s Out” list review process and noted that everything will remain the same as the previous list and there are no changes to what can and cannot be recycled in the state.

Chris Nelson, Supervising Environmental Analyst, CT DEEP presented on updates related to Public Act 21-58, including sections that went into effect on October 1, 2021, such as the Reverse Vending Machine requirement for retailers as outlined in Section 7 of the Public Act and the five cent fee on the sale of each miniature (<50mL) beverage container sold in the state as outlined in Section 10 of the Public Act.

Jen Heaton Jones, Connecticut Stewardship Council presented updates and next steps for Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) in Connecticut and described the multi-strategy engagement process of the Product Stewardship Council and an overview for the next steps to develop EPR for packaging.

Kim O'Rourke, Recycling Coordinator, City of Middletown presented on Middletown's "Feed the Earth" program focused on restaurant food scrap recycling in the commercial sector.

Jen Heaton-Jones, Executive Director, Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority (HRRRA) presented on the HRRRA glass collection pilot program.

Doug Colter, West Haven provided updates on the food waste in leaf composting project in the City of West Haven and asked interested municipal representatives to reach out if their municipalities are interested in a regional co-op for sharing large windrow composting equipment, which can greatly improve operations and be towed between municipalities with municipal dump trucks.

Marilyn Cruz-Aponte, Assistant Director of Public Works, Town of East Hartford presented on the efforts of East Hartford to hire a Recycling Inspector and provided a description of duties associated with the new position to advance recycling efforts in the Town.

Dave Aldrich, Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resource Recovery Authority (SCRRA) presented on a pilot program at Stonington transfer station involving aerated static composting piles.

III. Roundtable

Members discussed the logistics of the Sustainable Materials Management grant program and opportunities to receive funding based on proposals for various projects. More information is located on the CT DEEP [website](#) and questions can be emailed to DEEP.RecyclingProgram@ct.gov.

Members discussed the Food Waste Appendix to the Commercial General Permit which has been drafted by the Department and will be going out for statewide public notice in the coming weeks. Members asked questions concerning the limited processing allowances and allotted time for material to stay on site. There was a discussion concerning tipping costs and management of market saturation in a geographic location. Questions were also asked concerning conditions for how odors are measured, curbside composting considerations, the environmental justice component in citing food waste facility locations and environmental concerns for stormwater runoff. A question concerning regulations for PFAS in compost was also discussed.

Members discussed the RecycleCT Lee Sawyer Community Waste Reduction and Recycling Grant as well as the RecycleCT School Grant. Questions were also asked concerning the differences between those grants and the timeline for applications. Members also asked whether specific materials such as black plastic should be placed in the recycling bin.

Members discussed updates related to Public Act 21-58, including the five cent fee on miniature beverage containers (<50mL) and the system through which municipalities receive funds. Members also noted that there is no reporting required for municipalities to identify how the money is spent, but the statutory intention is for these funds to be used solely for environmental measures to reduce the generation of solid waste or reduce the impact of litter. There was also a brief discussion of next steps for the development of the bottle redemption grant program outlined in June Special Session, Public Act 21-2.

Members briefly discussed the collection of commercial sector food waste in Middletown and next steps concerning how to reach staff and provide education as well as expanding the program to all restaurants in the city, including those outside the sanitation district.

Members discussed the HRRRA glass collection pilot, which is also currently focused on expanding public education and minimizing contamination issues. HRRRA has received requests from residents all around the state hoping to be part of the program and has suggested that these residents reach out to their respective municipal leaders.

At the end of the meeting, members briefly discussed possible legislative priorities for the 2022 legislative session. Various EPR programs were suggested as a primary focus area as well as regional technical resources and funding to match programs like the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection's Municipal Assistance Coordinators (MACs). In Massachusetts, MACs provide technical assistance for waste reduction and recycling efforts in geographically-based regional groups of towns and cities.

IV. Public Comment

Members of the public were asked to use the "chat" feature or the "raise hand" feature to indicate if they wanted to make a comment. No public comments were received.

V. Adjournment

The meeting closed with links to sign up for constant contact updates [here](#), participate in Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) meetings signup [here](#), contact sherill.baldwin@ct.gov to sign up for the CTRecyclers Listserv and the CT Municipal Recycling Coordinator Newsletter, and email chris.nelson@ct.gov to join the coalition.

Meeting adjourned at 4:14 P.M.

ATTACHMENT A

Attendee Report

User Name (Original Name)
Chris Nelson
Brent Madho - CT DEEP (BrentMadho)
Katie Dykes-DEEP (Katie Dykes)
TomMetzner
Ben Florsheim
StanleyHawthorne
StaceyLeitch
StaceyLeitch
Jenn Weymouth (she/hers) - CTDEEP (Jennifer Weymouth)
Jennifer Weymouth
JaniceEhle/Meyer
Ron McDaniel-Montville (Ron McDaniel)
Matt Knickerbocker
Matthew Daskal (Town of Plainville) (MatthewDaskal)
AshleyZane
JulieDesChamps
CarenHarder
PamelaRoach
Gabrielle Frigon CTDEEP (Gabrielle Frigon)
Becky Bunnell Fairfield (BeckyBunnell)
JohnPhetteplace
Robert Isner CT DEEP (Robert Isner)
Laura Francis-Durham (Laura Francis)
conniemendolia
Catherinelino
Sherill Baldwin
Betsey Wingfield - DEEP (Betsey Wingfield)
CherylPoirier
TraceyHanson
Jennifer Perry_CT DEEP (Jennifer Perry)
jeanspeck
Christine O'Neill (NVCOG) (ChristineO'Neill)
CyrilMay
Brian Sear City of New London (BrianSear)
JoeDerisi
JoeDerisi

DavidAldridge
EdMone
TerriChristenson
Elly Moore - CT DEEP (Elly Moore)
DanColleluori
Kim O'Rourke - Middletown (KimO'Rourke)
Abigail Ellert - CT DEEP (AbigailEllert)
Donald Stein - Town of Barkhamsted (DonaldStein)
chrislippke
Harry Nantz
Doug Colter-City of West Haven (DougColter)
MarilynnCruz-Aponte
Jen Heaton-Jones
KatherineBruns
James Albis - CT DEEP (James Albis)
James Albis
ThomasDunn
Peggy Diaz
Brent Madho
John Jolls
David Capacchione
Donna Hamzy
Amanda Nicholson
Tom Metzner
Louis Rosado Burch
Michael Bzdyra
Michael Bzdyra
Nicole Tomassetti
Nicole Tomassetti
Julie Cammarata
Julie Cammarata
Lori Vitagliano
Andrew Droney
Andrew Droney
Stanley Hawthorne
Brad Weeks
Stacey Leitch
Stacey Leitch
Gary Drucker
josh hughes
Ray Drew

Ray Drew
lynne bonnett
Kaelah Smith
Janice Ehle/Meyer
Lori Spielman
Matthew Daskal
Mike Noel
Lori Martin
Paul aresta
Paul aresta
Paul aresta
Paul aresta
Paul aresta
Ashley Zane
Peter Brunelli
Julie DesChamps
Julie DesChamps
Caren Harder
Rick Mobley
Marcia Kinter
Mary Beth Maluccio
Mary Beth Maluccio
Pamela Roach
Pamela Roach
Sean Hughes
Jeff Martirano
Becky Bunnell
Rod McNeil
John Phetteplace
Meghan Portfolio
Jay Aronson
connie mendolia
Karen Weeks
Catherine lino
Matt Hoey
Aaron Budris
Suzette DeBeatham-Brown
Suzette DeBeatham-Brown
Abigail Sztein
Gary Jones
Cheryl Poirier

Tracey Hanson
Tyeisha Cole
Tyeisha
Tyeisha Cole
Mary Vihstadt
April Regan
james Stewart
Kanako MacLennan
Kanako MacLennan
David Bodendorf
Reagan Kenney
jean speck
Paul Catino
Christine O'Neill
Cyril May
Carolyn Bayne
Brian Sear
Joe Derisi
Joe Derisi
Daniel McGowan
David Aldridge
Ed Mone
William Holsworth
Terri Christenson
Shari Cantor
Shari Cantor
Jackie Caceci
deb denfeld
Dan Colleluori
Kim O'Rourke
Abigail Ellert
kevin spinella
Donald Stein
chris lippke
Sam King
Ashley Muspratt
Alice Kosowsky
Jennifer Baum
Linda Kowalski
Linda Kowalski
Linda Kowalski

Doug Colter
Doug Colter
Joe Canino
Marilynn Cruz-Aponte
Eric Fredericksen
Peter Egan
Katherine Bruns
john sheerin
Kelsey Wentling
Nicholas Quicquaro
Thomas Dunn
James Woulfe
Julia Pemberton
Hillary Glass
Janice Plaziak
Bob Bessel
Lisa Marotta
Mary Isaac
Christine
Mary
Sarah
Evan
edward
Justin
Patrick
Betsy
Kelly
Pippa Bell
Courtney
Ali
Kevin
Liz