

Connecticut Coalition for Sustainable Materials Management Meeting

Meeting Minutes

January 14, 2025 | 1:00pm via ZOOM

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

I. Call to Order and Announcements

The meeting started at 1:04PM.

Mike Looney, Senior Advisor to the Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), provided welcoming remarks, housekeeping, and an overview of the agenda's meeting.

II. Committee Reports

Chris Nelson, Supervising Environmental Analyst, CT DEEP provided a brief presentation on the origins of the CCSMM, the work completed by the group, its current structure, and the goals for establish a CCSMM Steering Committee in 2025, along with opportunities for additional leadership.

Chelsey Hahn, Environmental Analyst, presented an overview of the Commercial Organics Recycling Law (CGS Sec. 22a-226e) and most recent updates.

Ben Florsheim, Middletown's Mayor, shared the City's experiences with the Sanitation District's Sustainable Materials Management Program and emphasized the importance of having municipal officials support during the implementation of waste reduction and diversion initiatives.

Richard Coates, Chairman of Woodbury's Ad-hoc Waste Advisory Committee, provided an overview of Woodbury's Transfer Station Sustainable Materials Management Program, along with remarks from the permanent portion of their program.

Scott Atkin, Environmental Services Manager, Town of Manchester, presented on the Town's Food Scrap Drop-Off Pilot Program, which is located at the Municipal Transfer Station and at four satellite metroSTOR collection units distributed throughout the City, which are designated for collecting food scraps.

Katie Dykes, Commissioner of the DEEP, joined the meeting and praised municipal leaders on their efforts to reduce and divert waste in the State. Additionally, Commissioner Dykes announced that a

second round of Sustainable Materials Management funding will be available in 2025 to support municipalities in their innovative waste reduction and diversion initiatives.

Jennifer Heaton-Jones, Executive Director Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority (HRRA), summarized the regional entity's waste initiatives to enhance organics collection and composting infrastructure in the region. Additionally, Ms. Heaton-Jones provided an update on Kent, Newtown, and Bethel's Sustainable Materials Management Pilot Programs.

Robyn Nichols, Principal Program Manager at Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG), noted that many communities in the region are implementing organics and food waste collection programs, and that CRCOG is working to determine the most effective type of programs for each community.

Christine O'Neil, Environmental Planner, Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments (NVCOG), shared a brief update on NVCOG's Regional Waste Authority (RWA) Grant and the ongoing study that has been performed to identify current infrastructure and opportunities in the region.

Chris Nelson presented data regarding the fees on Miniature Alcohol Bottles and an overview on the usage of the payments received by municipalities.

Mike Looney provided a brief update on the Materials Management Infrastructure (MMI) Grant program, the second round of the Sustainable Materials Management Grant program, and the RWA Grant program. Finally, Mr. Looney asked town officials and attendees to share with DEEP staff future topics of interest to be covered at upcoming CCSMM meetings.

III. Roundtable

Following presentations, attendees shared comments and questions.

Questions were asked about the mandatory report form outlined in the Organics Commercial Law.

Attendees expressed particular interest in [Public Act 24-45](#), Section 6, which added schools to the Commercial Organics Recycling Law (CGS Section 22a-226e). Participants sought clarification on whether schools would be assessed individually or by their respective school districts. They also inquired about the appropriate calculator for determining annual food scrap generation for schools, potential funding opportunities, and whether the state would consider issuing a Request for Proposals (RFP) for food waste containers. Additionally, there were questions about whether out-of-state food waste composting facilities and anaerobic digesters would be included in the DEEP's Geographic Information System (GIS) map.

Questions were asked about Middletown and Woodbury's Sustainable Materials Management program, including its educational and outreach strategy, the type of properties covered, program compliance, contamination rate, and results.

Questions were asked about outreach and logistics of Manchester's Food Scrap Drop-Off Pilot program.

Topics of interest to be covered in future CCSMM meetings are as follows: hard-to-recycle materials, construction and demolition materials, reuse centers, packaging Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR),

glass recycling, waste reduction education, Household Hazardous Waste collection for municipalities versus of Household Hazardous Waste EPR, battery EPR, and solar panels.

IV. Public Comments

Brian Bartram, Transfer Station Manager, Salisbury/ Sharon Transfer Station, complimented the Center for EcoTechnology (CET) for all the support provided regarding food waste diversion and reduction initiatives. Mr. Bartram also shared successful results from their voluntary food scraps program.

John Philips, Public Works Director, West Hartford, shared his appreciation for CET's help in implementing food scraps diversion at West Hartford public schools.

Julie Deschamps, Waste Free Greenwich, asked if DEEP has plans to do another Waste Characterization Study.

V. Adjournment

Mike Looney closed the meeting.

Meeting ended at 3:10PM.

Attachment A.

Sherill	Baldwin	CT DEEP
Samuel	King	Blue Earth Compost
Janice	Plaziak	Town of Guilford
Daniel	Pestrichello	USA Waste and Recycling
Emily	Bigl	
Todd	Rolland	Town of Somers
Dan	Malo	Town of Woodstock
Laura	Francis	SCRCOG
Christine	O'Neill	Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments
Denise	Raap	Town of Litchfield
Abigail	Sztein	American Forest & Paper Association
Jennifer	Weymouth	CTDEEP
Matt	Riiska	Town of Norfolk
Paul	Aresta	CEQ
Kevin	Clements	CT DEEP
carl	fortuna	Town of Old Saybrook
Thomas	Szabo	City of Norwalk
Brennan	Georgianni	
Robert	Carlson	Town of North Stonington
Kaelah	Smith	CT OAG

David	Simpson	City of Waterbury Public Works
Cesar	Zapata	Town of East Hartford
Chris	Antonacci	
Becky	Bunnell	Sustainable Fairfield
Linda	Orr	City of Torrington
Mike	Manfre	Sanitation
Matt	Knickerbocker	Town of Wilton
Sean	Hughes	Hughes and Cronin
Kevin	Spinella	
Maureen	Nicholson	Town of Pomfret
Chadwick	Schroeder	Sustainability Office-City of Bridgeport
Mary	Hogue	Sustainable Fairfield
Brenna	Giannetti	CT DEEP
Sam	Saunders	Ellington Public Works
Pippa Bell	Ader	Sustainable Westport
Tony	Manfre	South Windsor
Megan	Siegel	Town of South Windsor
Marc	Gonzalez	Conservation Law Foundation
Tiffany	Carlson	Town of Ridgefield
Barry	ONell	
Katherine	Brunns	Town of West Hartford
Bill	Watkins	Public Works
Joe	Derisi	Town of hamden
Summer	Mitchell	Sustainable CT
Robert	Phillips	Northwest Hills Council of Governments
Laura	Pointek	DEEP
Edith	Pestana	CT DEEP
Callyn	Priebe	
Dan	McGowan	Mattress Recycling Council
Susan	Eastwood	Sierra Club
john	sheerin	USTMA
Greg	Lesco	DPW
Lisa	Marotta	Town of Rocky Hill
Nicholas	Skeadas	Curbside Compost
Becky	Kessler	Connecticut Coalition for Economic and Environmental Justice
chris	lippke	TOWN OF CANTERBURY
Brendon	Dukett	SCRCOG
Victoria	Cammarata	Cammarata Government Affairs
Jennifer	Baum	HRRA

Robert	Brinton	Town of Orange
Fiona	Pearson	Town Council - Cheshire
Marjorie	Chapman	FOBK
Liz	Mucciaro	Capitol Consulting LLC
Hap	Jordan	Friends of Boulder Knoll
Emma	Cimino	
Chelsey	Hahn	
Michael	Looney	CT DEEP
Jennifer	Perry	CT DEEP
Tom	Metzner	CT DEEP
Greg	McCarron	
ShayLea	Daniels	State of CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
james	desantos	CT Green Bank
Bruce	Wittchen	CT OPM
Brian	Card	
Mike	Manfre	Sanitation
Julie	DesChamps	Waste Free Greenwich
Shari	Cantor	Town of West Hartford
Jeff	Caggiano	City Of Bristol
Peggy	Lyons	Town of Madison
frank	gagliardo	CT DEEP
Gary	Jones	Printing United Alliance
Katie	Dykes	
Edward	Reagan	SSRRA
Lindsay	Crum	
Kristin	Clancy	Changes compost
Tim	O'Connor	Park City Compost Initiative
David	Aldridge	SCRRRA
Caleb	Rick	EcoGlobal LLC
Wojciech	Krach	Kaman Corporation
Tom	DeVivo	Town of Windham
Brian	Sullivan	
Jerry	GEci	
Drew	Roseman	Fuss & O'Neill
Amelia	Chucholowski	U.S. Tire Manufacturers Association
Ronald	McDaniel	Town of Montville

austin	tanner	town of brooklyn
casey	flanagan	Town of Sharon
Virginia	Walton	Town of Mansfield
Christine	Beling	USEPA
Warren	Connors	Town of Woodbridge
Luciana	Granstrand	CT DEEP
John	Culbertson	MidAtlantic Solid Waste Consultants (MSW Consultants)
Vlada	Ragonese	Town of Wethersfield
Tory	McBrien	Waste Zero
Kevin	Sullivan	CT DEEP
Chadwick	Schroeder	Sustainability Office-City of Bridgeport
Barbara	Perkinson	Town of Woodbury
Francis	Pickering	Western Connecticut Council of Governments
Kristina	Owren	
Lynn	Sadosky	Town of North Haven, Public Works
Janice	EhleMeyer	Lower CT River Valley Council of Governments
David	McKeegan	DEEP
Jane	Hall	Town of Cornwall
Todd	Fontanella	Western Connecticut Council of Governments
Stephen	Sordi	Town of Bethlehem
wayne	pesce	
Joe	Lentini	municipality
Marcos	Gonzalez	RiverCOG
Cyril	May	Waterbury Public Works
Jaclyn	Reelick	WestCOG
Tyler	Bowne	Town of Branford
Brooks	Parker	RED Technologies LLC
Tracey	Hanson	Voluntown Sterling Transfer Station, Town of Voluntown
Karen	Evans	Sustainable Essex
Aaron	Goode	
Gary	Goeschel	Town of East Lyme
Garrett	Daigle	Town of Farmington
Chris	Edge	Town of Berlin
Rose	Richi	City of New Haven
Debra	Darby	Tetra Tech
Stratton	Kirton	Liberty Tire Recycling
Julie	DesChamps	Waste Free Greenwich
Lori	Martin	Haven's Harvest
Hannah	Reichle	

Haley	Schulman	Food Rescue US
Lindsay	Naughton	
Jeremy	Grant	
Sara	Draper	CET
Dorothy	Piszczek	Sustainable CT
Randy	Eblacker	Tetra Tech
Deborah	Greig	New Haven Ecology Project/Common Ground
Brian	Bartram	Salisbury/Sharon Transfer Station
Jackson	Somers	University of Connecticut
Russell	Asklof	Economic Development agency
Matthew	Lizon	Town of Wethersfield
Laura	Hoydick	Town of Stratford
Madison	Spremulli	Connecticut Coalition of Economic and Environmental Justice
Arthur	Henderson	Table2Ground
David	Porter	Town of Marlborough
Stacey Ohlmann	Leitch	Town of Groton Public Works
Karen	Saggese	Food Rescue US - Fairfield County
Michael	Freda	Town of North Haven
Julianna	Larue	Sierra Club
Dr Bud	McAllister	Partners in Healthy Communities
Raymond	Drew	City of Torrington
Dan	Colleluori	City of Stamford
Brian	Sear	City of New London
Liz	Chuff	SCRRRA
Lisa	Liesener	City of Middletown
Martha	Shoemaker	Town of Old Lyme
Susan	Hochreiter	Town of Woodbury Public Works
Jared	Picco	Senate Republican Office
Tony	Hwang	CGA
Robin	Comey	CT General Assembly
Terri	Christenson	Town of Harwinton
Rosalie	Filippone	
Sara	Osorio	Printing United Alliance
Kristen	Brown	WasteZero
Jack	DeOliveira	
Diane	Lauricella	Norwalkm Zero Waste Coalition
Nick	Menapace	CGA
Mitch	Bolinsky	CGA / House of Representatives
Jennifer	Leeper	CGA

Robyn	Nichols	CRCOG
Jennifer	Heaton-Jones	HRRA
allison	allen	
Ben	Florsheim	City of Middletown
Karen	Reddington-Hughes	State Representative
Julia	Cammarata	Cammarata Government Affairs
Jose	Cruz	Town of Trumbull
Scott	Atkin	Town of Manchester
Richard	Coates	Town of Woodbury CT
Daniela	Larsson	
Mark	Dancy	WasteZero
Laura	Honis	paintcare
Marcus	Yancoskie	Rome Smith Kowalski
Vincent	Stetson	Town of South Windsor
Ryan	Carboni	Council on Environmental Quality
Theodore	Gross	Gaffney, Bennett & Associates
Caroline	Baranello	Sullivan & LeShane
connie	mendolia	CT DEEP
Stephanie	Weaver	Litchfield Waste Reduction Committee
Fred	Behringer	OL Waste and Recycling Committee
Ceci	Maher	CT General Assembly
Alan	Ladd	
Reddington-Hughes	Karen	State Representative
Paul	Catino	City of Bridgeport Dept of Public Facilities
Gabrielle	Frigon	CT DEEP
Brent	Madho	CT DEEP
John	Phillips	Public Works
Emily	Socha	
Luciana	Granstrand	CT DEEP