

Connecticut Coalition for Sustainable Materials Management (CCSMM) Overview for SWAC

January 26, 2021



CCSMM

CCSMM Background

- CCSMM is a coalition of ~75 towns and DEEP looking to the future to find preferred ways to reduce and manage the amount of waste produced in Connecticut that provide system reliability, environmental sustainability, and fiscal predictability.
- CCSMM Tri-chairs:
 - Katie Dykes, DEEP Commissioner
 - Laura Francis, Durham First Selectman
 - Matt Knickerbocker, Bethel First Selectman
- Four CCSMM Working Groups:
 - EPR
 - Increase Recycling
 - Organics
 - Unit-based pricing

CCSMM Background

- Full Coalition met on Monday, January 11 to approve Menu of Options that includes:
 - Legislative proposals
 - DEEP actions
 - Municipal actions
- Menu of Options and other information available on the CCSMM website:
 - <https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP-CCSMM>

CCSMM Legislative Proposals: Funding

- The Solid Waste Assessment (SWA) assesses a fee of \$1.50 on each ton of waste processed at a Waste-to-Energy facility, with the proceeds deposited in the state's General Fund.
- **Legislative option:** Expand the SWA to apply to apply the \$1.50/ton fee equitably to all solid waste transferred for disposal (Waste to Energy, landfill and Incineration). This would generate between \$1.5 and \$2 million in additional revenue. Some or all of this revenue could be allocated to DEEP and municipalities to fund sustainable materials management efforts.

CCSMM Legislative Proposals: EPR Working Group

- EPR for gas cylinders
 - Difficult to manage component of municipal waste stream
 - Present a danger to haulers and MRF operators
 - EPR would create a safe recycling path
- EPR for tires
 - Would virtually eliminate illegal dumping by removing financial incentive to dump
 - Would promote higher end recycling over burning of tires
 - Would relieve municipal cost burdens for collecting and managing tires

CCSMM Legislative Proposals: Increase Recycling Working Group

- Bottle Bill modernization
 - Different options considered by CCSMM
 - Increase deposit from \$0.05 to \$0.10
 - Expand covered beverages
 - Increase handling fee
 - Long term – Oregon model
- Ban food serviceware that contains PFAS
 - PFAS are a class of chemicals that can accumulate in the human body through food and food packaging
 - NY passed legislation in 2020

CCSMM Legislative Proposals: Increase Recycling Working Group

- Right to Repair
 - The goal of right-to-repair is to require companies to make their parts, tools and information available to consumers and repair shops in order to extend the use of these items
 - This approach also seeks to get away from the culture of planned obsolescence — the idea that products are designed to be short-lived in order to encourage people to continually purchase goods
- Recycled content standards
 - Creates markets for recycled materials like fiber/paper, glass, metal and plastic products that move with the supply and demand for recyclables

CCSMM Legislative Proposals: Organics Working Group

- Strengthening commercial generator requirements for diverting organics
 - Enact a schedule for future compliance-triggering volume threshold of generated food manufacturing waste, or food scraps, requiring diversion from disposal
 - Include additional generators of triggering-volumes of food waste, such as hospitals, colleges, correctional facilities, and entertainment venues
- Authorize DEEP to procure renewable natural gas from AD facilities
 - Long-term fixed price contracts for electricity or renewable natural gas produced by anaerobic digesters can help support the financing and development of these facilities

CCSMM Legislative Proposals: Unit-based Pricing Working Group

- Statewide unit-based pricing (UBP) mandate
 - Different ways to accomplish
 - Require a specific administrative structure (individually, regionally, in collaboration with WTEs)
 - Require municipalities to implement UBP
 - Authorize municipalities or other administrative bodies to implement UBP and require haulers' support/participation
 - Require WTE facility owners/operators to implement UBP programs to qualify for Class II RECs
 - Establish a per capita waste generation performance measure with a future phase-in date
 - Require haulers to weigh each customer and charge individual customers by weight

CCSMM Future Steps

- Municipalities may still sign on to the CCSMM initiative – email Chris.Nelson@ct.gov
- Final CCSMM Document to be available online by January 31, 2021
- Full CCSMM Meetings on a Quarterly basis
 - Next Full CCSMM meeting March/April 2021
 - Opportunity for updates on legislative, other actions
 - Continued focus on equity and environmental justice