

# Connecticut Business Recycling Assistance Update

January 26, 2023



# Free Waste Assistance for Connecticut Businesses

CET is under contract with the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) to provide business recycling assistance

## Updates:

- Website enhancements  
Sustainable Partners Web Page
- New Materials  
Kneads Bakery Spotlight  
Textiles Document  
CT Newsletters



At Work

At Home

On Site

Hire CET

EcoBuilding Bargains



CET provides waste reduction solutions for Connecticut businesses.

**Save Money | Make Your Business More Sustainable | Receive Free Personalized Support**

CET provides comprehensive recycling assistance to Connecticut businesses.

Find resources specific to wasted food [here](#).

**Easy, Practical Solutions**

Consult with an expert at no cost to you



Greenwich Food Matters Challenge | A Collaboration  
Between Waste Free Greenwich and CET.

Center for EcoTechnology



English



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At Work At Home On Site Hire CET EcoBuilding Bargains

## Sustainable Partners | Connecticut Recycling Assistance

### NEW: Sustainable Partners Web Page:

Connecticut businesses face significant challenges in managing waste. The cost of waste disposal is increasing more expensive and costs continue to increase for waste disposal. Every year CET provides free support to over 100 Connecticut businesses to reduce, reuse, and recycle. We are an environmental non-profit working with the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection and want to offer our grant-funded services to your network.

### Sustainable Partners | Connecticut Recycling Assistance - Center for EcoTechnology

LEARN MORE ABOUT CET'S CONNECTICUT RECYCLING ASSISTANCE

[www.centerforecotechnology.com/ctsustainablepartners/](http://www.centerforecotechnology.com/ctsustainablepartners/)

### Newsletter or Website Content

Are you looking for ways to save money, improve employee job satisfaction, and integrate sustainable practices into your business? The Center for EcoTechnology (CET) is here to help! With support from Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, CET offers easy, practical solutions to businesses and institutions across Connecticut at no-cost. With this support, a CET waste reduction expert will meet with you and provide custom recommendations to help you identify more





## Shareable Graphics (save to your device)



Success Stories and Resources to Share

# NEW: Business Spotlight – Kneads Bakery



- Case study document
- Video

# Helpful Connecticut Resources



## Food Waste Reduction Made Easy in CT

This food waste reduction guidance document is part of a series aimed at helping commercial food service providers in Connecticut – e.g., restaurants, hotels, corporate cafeterias, and institutions – reduce the volume of organic waste they send to waste facilities. In Connecticut, the Commercial Organic Recycling Law requires covered businesses that generate 20 tons or more per year of organic material to register with DEPA (including food scraps and spoiled food), and are located within 20 miles from an authorized composting or anaerobic digester facility, to recycle their organics. Guidance within this document can support these entities with establishing an organics recycling program.

Source reduction (prevention) is the top strategy on the US EPA's Food Recovery Hierarchy. This guidance document provides practical tips and best management practices for implementing reduction strategies in commercial and institutional kitchens. Businesses can optimize their wasted food management by practicing strategies across the Hierarchy. See CT's corresponding guidance documents on food donation and separating food scraps for animal feed, anaerobic digestion, and composting.



## Food Waste Separation Made Easy in CT

This food waste separation guidance document is part of a series aimed at helping commercial food service providers – e.g., restaurants, hotels, corporate cafeterias, and institutions – reduce the volume of organic waste they send to waste facilities. In Connecticut, the Commercial Organic Recycling Law requires covered businesses that generate 20 tons or more per year of organic material to register with DEPA (including food scraps and spoiled food), and are located within 20 miles from an authorized composting or anaerobic digester facility, to recycle their organics. Guidance within this document can support these entities with establishing an organics recycling program.

There are a number of options for diverting food waste from disposal. All of these strategies are more effective when generators have systems in place for separating out organic material from other waste.

Prevention should always be the top priority but the most successful diversion programs employ strategies across the hierarchy. See the other tip sheets in this series for guidance on food waste reduction and food donation.



## Connecticut Food Donation Made Easy

This food rescue guidance document is part of a series aimed at helping commercial food service providers – e.g., restaurants, hotels, corporate cafeterias, and supermarkets – reduce the volume of organic waste they dispose.

The US EPA Food Recovery Hierarchy series feeding hungry people rises the top of its priorities as a strategy to reduce wasted food. Businesses and institutions should consider how each strategy on the EPA Hierarchy can contribute to a comprehensive food waste reduction plan.

This document is intended to provide guidance to organizations interested in establishing food donation programs by offering a broad overview of how successful food donation programs should be structured. In order to have a successful food donation program there are four key steps that should be taken:

1. Identify the types and amounts of food to be donated.
2. Identify partner organizations in your area with which to work.
3. Determine packaging, storage, and labeling requirements to ensure food safety.
4. Determine how food will be transported as well as pick-up frequency and quantities.



## [www.centerforecotchnology.org/ctwasteassistance/](http://www.centerforecotchnology.org/ctwasteassistance/)

Made Easy in CT

Made Easy in CT

Made Easy in CT

### Latest resource publication: Textile Recycling

[CT-Business-Assistance-Textiles.pdf \(centerforecotchnology.org\)](http://www.ctbusinesstextiles.pdf)

REDUCING WASTE FROM  
RESTAURANT TAKEOUT  
AND DELIVERY MEALS  
IN CONNECTICUT



## CT Guidance for Businesses Contracting for Trash, Recycling, and Food Waste Services

This document provides guidelines to businesses and institutions for establishing or modifying contracts for trash, recyclables, and/or organics hauling. The guidance is organized into four topic areas:

- Knowing Your Waste
- Creating and Adjusting Contracts
- Complying with Recycling Laws and Other Regulations
- Communicating Effectively



[centerforecotchnology.org/ctwasteassistance/](http://centerforecotchnology.org/ctwasteassistance/)

CT Guidance for Contracting

Waste Services

## DECONSTRUCTING DECONSTRUCTION: Dismantling Buildings for Reuse in Connecticut

A resource for building professionals, property managers, and building owners

### Understanding Deconstruction

Did you know that up to 90% of home building materials can be recycled, and up to 25% can be reused? (Data from DEPA) This leaves only 5-10% of an entire home that is not reusable or recyclable, however on average more than 75% is sent to landfill and incinerators during typical demolition (E2B).

Dismantling buildings for materials reuse may seem intimidating, but a variety of strategies can be employed to reuse building materials. While full deconstruction involves carefully dismantling a building piece by piece to reclaim reusable cabinets, fixtures, doors, windows, flooring, and other building materials, there are a variety of methods that are less likely to implement. Contractors may choose to deconstruct portions of a building, focus on salvaging certain materials, or start by conducting a clean out of spaces prior to demolition.

### Benefits of Deconstruction

**Cost:** While costs can be high, deconstruction provides an opportunity to save on disposal costs and increase associated tax deductions when donating to qualified nonprofits, potentially offsetting any additional labor costs.

**Marketing:** Deconstruction projects are small and large are a great way to leverage brand recognition and can highlight your commitment to the community.

**Job Development:** Reusing and recycling construction and demolition (CD) materials creates jobs. In fact, deconstruction creates 10 times more jobs than demolition.

**Environmental:** Deconstruction reduces greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and landfilled wastes, and preserves natural resources.



Reducing your restaurant's single-use packaging can save money, reduce waste, and show commitment to sustainable practices. Prevent unnecessary waste and prioritize reusable materials to reap the most financial and environmental benefits.

Provide clear guidance to customers on what to do with the materials you give them. Remember that recyclables must be free of food and liquid residue.

Reducing Waste from



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## Connecticut Business Recycling Assistance Newsletter | 2023



### The Complexities and Opportunities of Film Plastics Recycling Across Industries

Certain types of plastic film are generated in large quantities by specific industries. For example, agricultural film, boat shrink wrap, dry cleaning, plastic bags from retailers, and pallet wrap. This type of plastic (plastic film) is a low density polyethylene

# CT Business Recycling Newsletter



# Thank You

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888-410-3827

