

## CONNECTICUT RECYCLES

### **What is Connecticut's recycling goal?**

By state statute there is a 40% recycling/source reduction goal. However, the updated Connecticut State Solid Waste Management Plan (Dec 2006) calls for municipalities and the state to strive to achieve a 58% reduction in MSW through recycling, reuse, and source reduction by FY2024.

### **What is the State's current recycling rate?**

The estimated municipal solid waste (MSW) recycling rate for Connecticut is somewhere between 24% and 30%.

### **What is the status of waste generation in the State?**

Most of Connecticut's MSW is burned at Connecticut Resource Recovery Facilities (RRF's) and is not buried in landfills. There are six RRF's in the state, and the Connecticut State Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) projects they will continue operating through the period covered by the Plan (i.e. through FY2024) – with the possible exception of the Wallingford RRF (which may or may not close before that).

However, as Connecticut MSW generation and disposal rates continue to increase – the in-state disposal capacity shortfall for MSW will continue to climb. *The SWMP projects that if Connecticut does not increase its recycling rate, the current 327,000 tons in-state MSW disposal capacity shortfall will increase to 1.5 million tons by FY2024.*

There are only two MSW landfills left in Connecticut--The CRRA Hartford Landfill (scheduled to close in December 2008) and the Windsor Bloomfield Landfill (scheduled to close in 2009). Most of the bulky waste landfills are small municipal landfills that will close in the near future (by FY2009). The exceptions are the MSW landfills listed above which take a small amount of bulky waste as well as MSW; the Glastonbury municipal bulky waste landfill which has capacity for the Town of Glastonbury for many years to come; and the Manchester Landfill (regional) that will close in 2022. Most of Connecticut's C&D waste is disposed in out-of-state landfills.

### **What is mandated for recycling in Connecticut?**

There are eleven items mandated for recycling:

- Glass food & beverage containers
- Metal food & beverage containers
- Scrap metal
- High grade white office paper (non-residential)
- Ni-Cd rechargeable batteries
- Old corrugated cardboard
- Old newspapers
- Waste oil
- Leaves
- Lead-acid storage batteries
- Grass clippings

Municipalities are:

- Required to adopt a recycling ordinance.
- Given statutory authority to establish fines for violation of a recycling ordinance.
- Required to designate a recycling contact.
- Required to submit an annual recycling report to DEP.

Haulers and Connecticut disposal facilities are required to assist municipalities with enforcing recycling requirements.

**Recycling assistance is provided by the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (CT DEP) and other entities in the State. Internet resources include:**

- [Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection website](#)
- [Recycling reminder on CT DEP website](#)
- [CT DEP municipal recycling information](#)
- [CT DEP school recycling information](#)
- [CT DEP business recycling information](#)
- [The CT Hospital Environmental Roundtable \(CHER\)](#)
- [Connecticut Resource Recovery Association \(CRRA\)](#)
- [Bristol Resource Recovery Facility & Tunxis Recycling Operating Committee \(TROC\) website](#)
- [Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority website](#)
- SCRRRA Recycling Education Center: 741 Flanders Rd., Mystic 06355. (860) 887-6368

**The Source Reduction and Recycling Message from CT DEP:**

Connecticut's in-state solid waste disposal capacity is currently fully utilized—we are already handling more MSW and C&D waste than our system can accommodate. Source reduction and recycling not only reduce the need for additional disposal capacity, but are environmentally preferable ways to manage our solid waste—they allow us to act locally and think globally—conserving natural resources, reducing pollution, using less energy, and reducing green house gas emissions. They are first steps toward a more sustainable world and, in Connecticut, the law requires everyone—residents, schools, hospitals, businesses, and government offices--to recycle.

## RECYCLING IN THE TOWNS OF SHARON AND SALISBURY

### **What are the recycling services in the Towns?**

There are approximately three private haulers that provide recycling services to businesses and schools: Bill's Refuse, Richard Ralph and Son, and Welsh.

### **Small businesses and schools are allowed to use the Salisbury-Sharon Transfer Station**

309 Sharon Road (Route 41, just south of Route 112)

Phone Number: 435-5178

Hours of Operation: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday  
8:00am – 4:00 pm. Sunday 9:00am – 1:00pm

All Transfer Station users are charged an annual fee of \$60 per year for a sticker for the first vehicle; \$40 for a second vehicle.

There is no additional charge for recycling. Businesses and schools can bring mixed paper, cardboard, and beverage containers to the Transfer Station for recycling at no cost.

### **What other recycling services are provided to businesses and schools?**

The Transfer Station also provides collection batteries, cell phones, scrap metal, computers, and used motor oil. Paint and stains are accepted for a small fee. Televisions are also accepted for a fee.

### **What's the Source Reduction and Recycling message for Towns?**

Businesses can save money when they recycle, since there is no additional charge at the Transfer Station for recycling. And, it saves the towns money—less money has to be spent for disposal of solid waste.

The message of the Salisbury-Sharon Transfer Station Advisory Committee is "Lose 74 pounds in a year!" By diverting 3 ounces of recyclable material a day out of the municipal solid waste stream, each person will be able to divert 74 pounds in a year. This for our community—of about 7000 people—would amount to about 259 tons per year or a reduction in solid waste by more than 6 percent!