

# Organics Recycling in CT

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Connecticut Department of  
**ENERGY &  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION**

DEEP has spent decades and millions of dollars dealing with solid waste. One of the largest component of the solid waste stream is still thrown away today – **Food Waste**

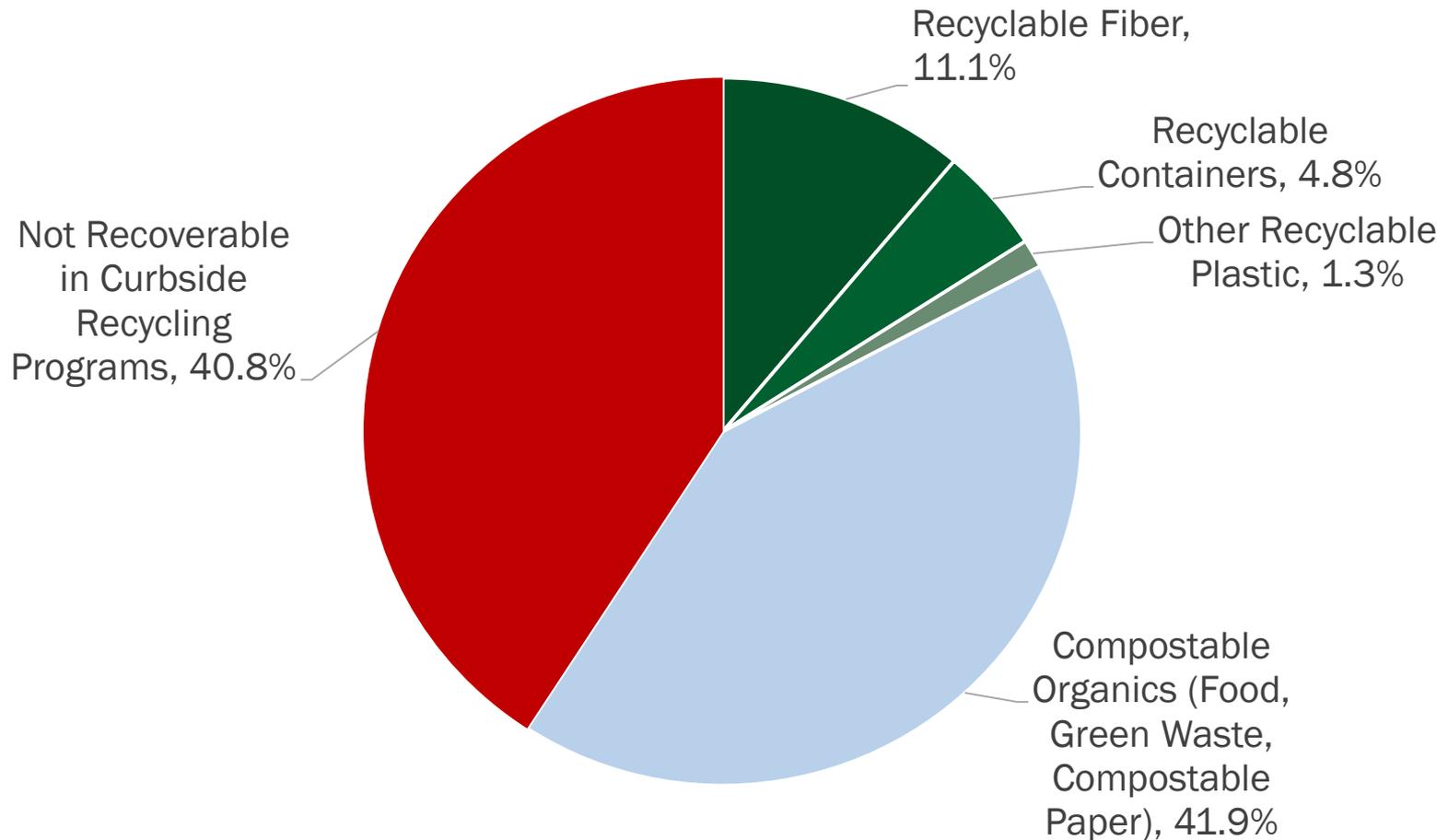


# Average Food Waste Nation Wide by Source

## LEVELS OF WASTE IN THE FOOD SYSTEM



# What's in Connecticut's Trash





# Food Recovery Hierarchy

[www.epa.gov/foodscraps](http://www.epa.gov/foodscraps)

## Source Reduction

Reduce the volume of surplus food generated

## Feed Hungry People

Donate extra food to food banks, soup kitchens and shelters

## Feed Animals

Divert food scraps to animal feed

## Industrial Uses

Provide waste oils for rendering and fuel conversion and food scraps for digestion to recover energy

## Composting

Create a nutrient-rich soil amendment

## Landfill/ Incineration

Last resort to disposal



# Source Reduction

## Prevent Wasting Food at Businesses



# Preventing Food Waste

- Food Waste Reduction & Recovery (CT DEEP)  
[http://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?a=2714&q=531602&deepNav\\_GID=1645](http://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?a=2714&q=531602&deepNav_GID=1645)
- Restaurant Food Waste Diversion Guide  
<https://recyclingworksma.com/food-waste-estimation-guide>

# FOOD DONATION

Federal and State “Good Samaritan” laws encourage the donation of food by limiting liability



450 Woodland Ave  
Bloomfield

**CONNECTICUT**  
**FOOD BANK** MEMBER OF **FEEDING AMERICA**

2 Research Pkwy  
Wallingford

DEEP Web page – Food Waste Reduction and Recovery

[http://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?a=2714&q=531602&deepNav\\_GID=1645](http://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?a=2714&q=531602&deepNav_GID=1645)



## **Fact Sheets**

**[Connecticut Food Donation: Date Labeling Laws](#)**

**[Connecticut Food Donation: Liability Protections](#)**

**[Connecticut Food Donation: Tax Incentives for Businesses](#)**

**[Connecticut Food Donation: Feeding Food Scraps to Animals](#)**

**Available on the DEEP Website**

# Case Study – lobster waste sent for animal feed



# Organics Recycling Law (CGS 22a-226e)

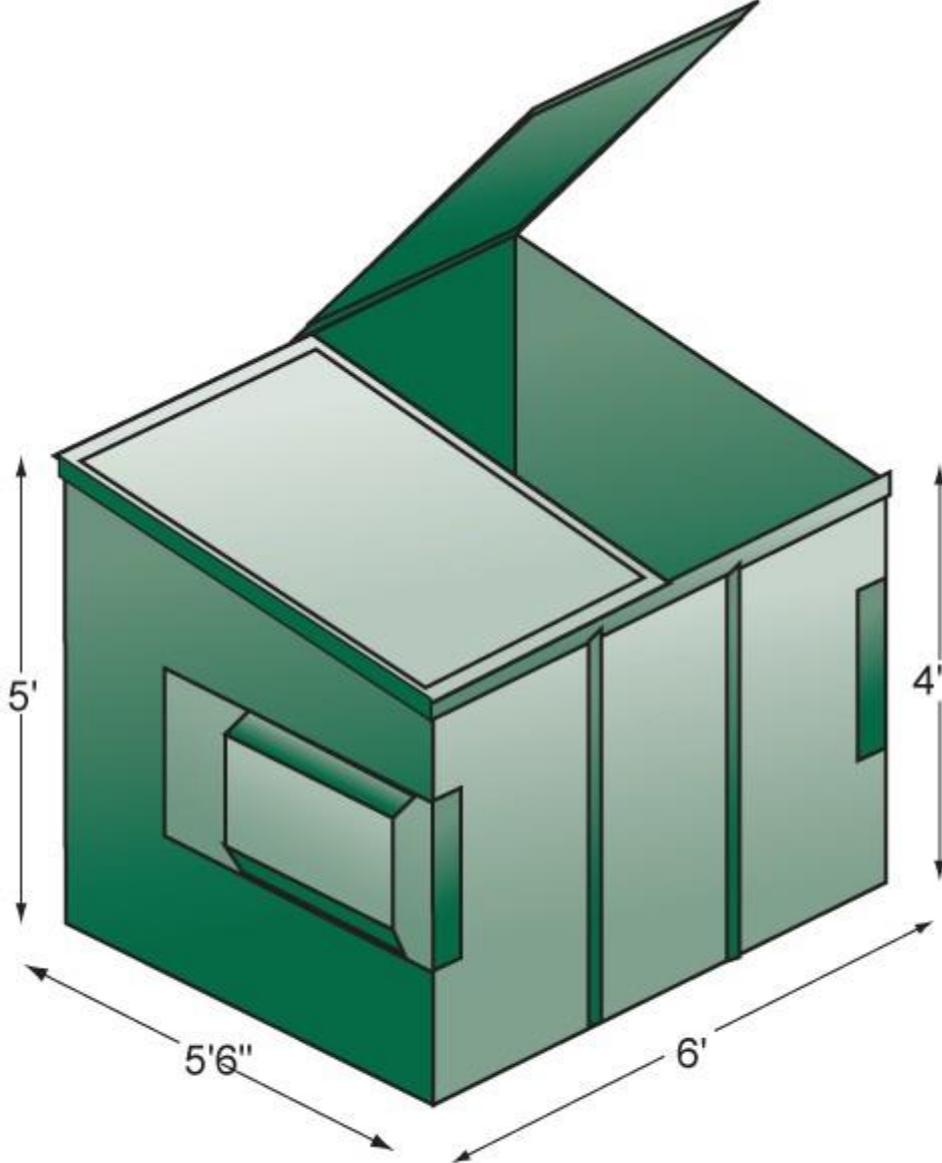
- 2011 – Legislation passed – CT was the first state to adopt a program.
- 2014 – Start date
- Applies to **food wholesalers, distributors, manufacturers, processors, supermarkets, resorts & conference centers** that:
  - Generate **104 tons/yr (2 tons per week)** of source separated organics, and are
  - **Within 20 miles** of a permitted food waste processing facility.



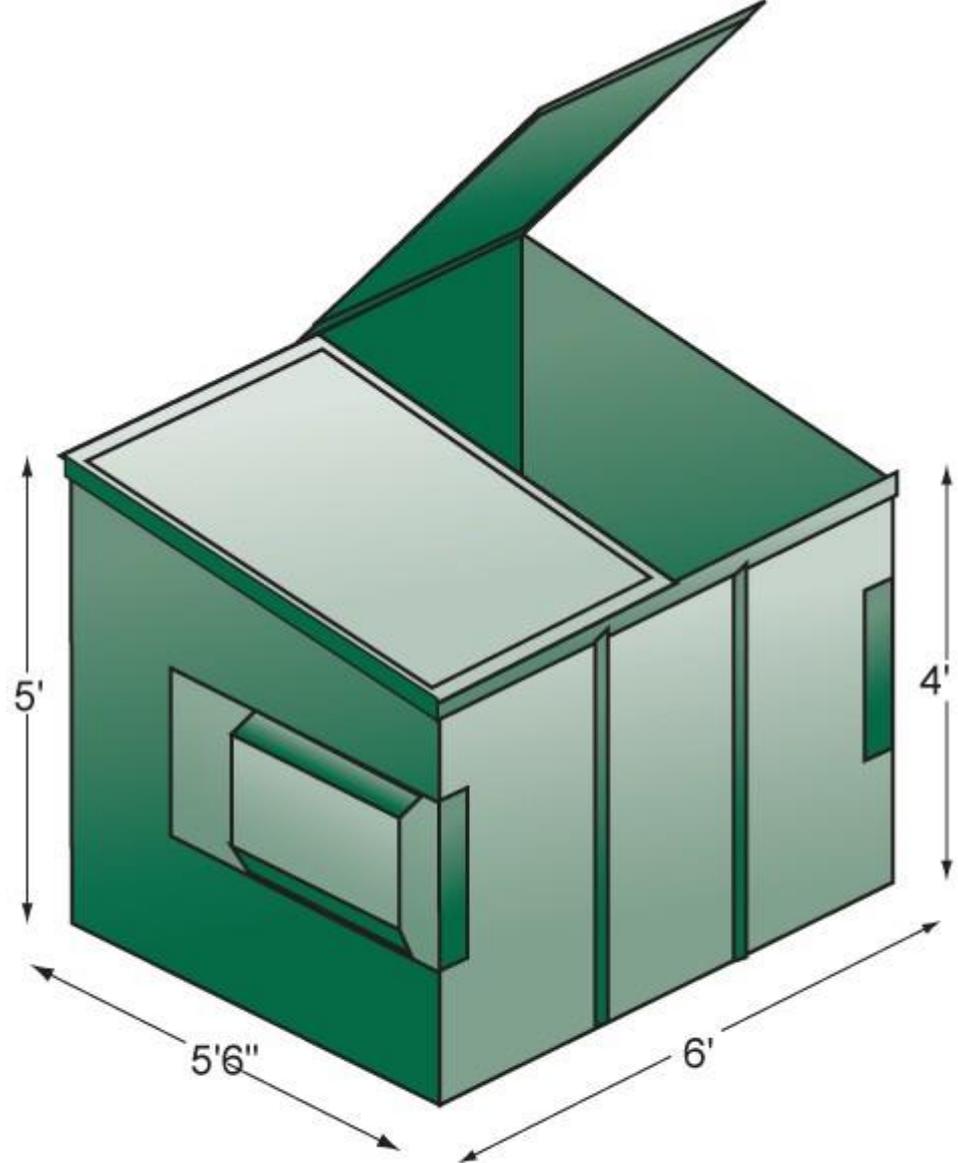
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- Generation volume reduces to **52 tons/yr in 2020 (1 ton per week)**
- Smaller generators will benefit due to creation of more options to recycle food waste
- DEEP Organics Law (22a-226e):  
[http://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?a=2718&q=552676&deepNav\\_GID=1645](http://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?a=2718&q=552676&deepNav_GID=1645)





**4-Yard Bin**

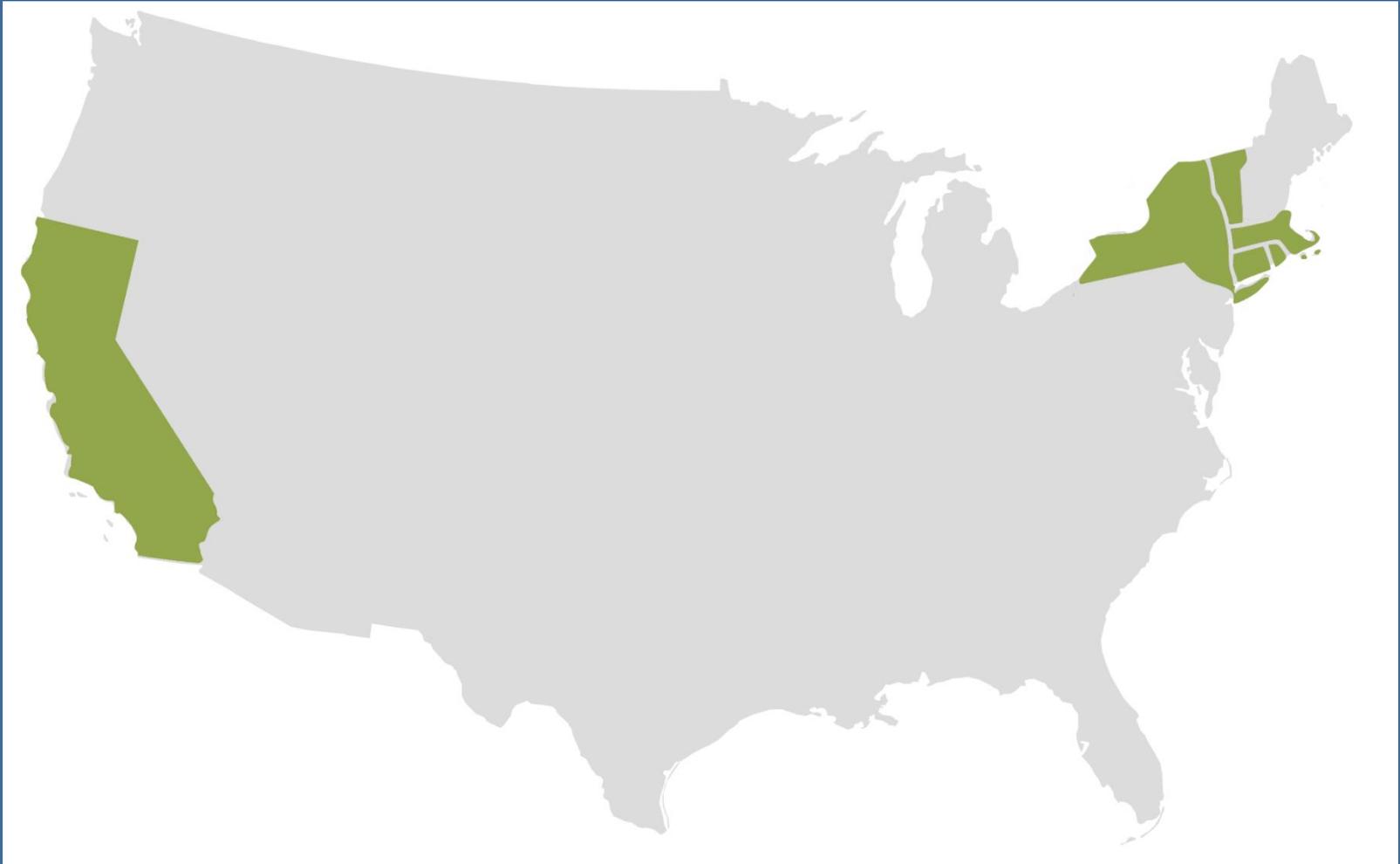


**4-Yard Bin**

# Permitted Volume Reduction, Anaerobic Digestion and Food Waste Composting Facilities

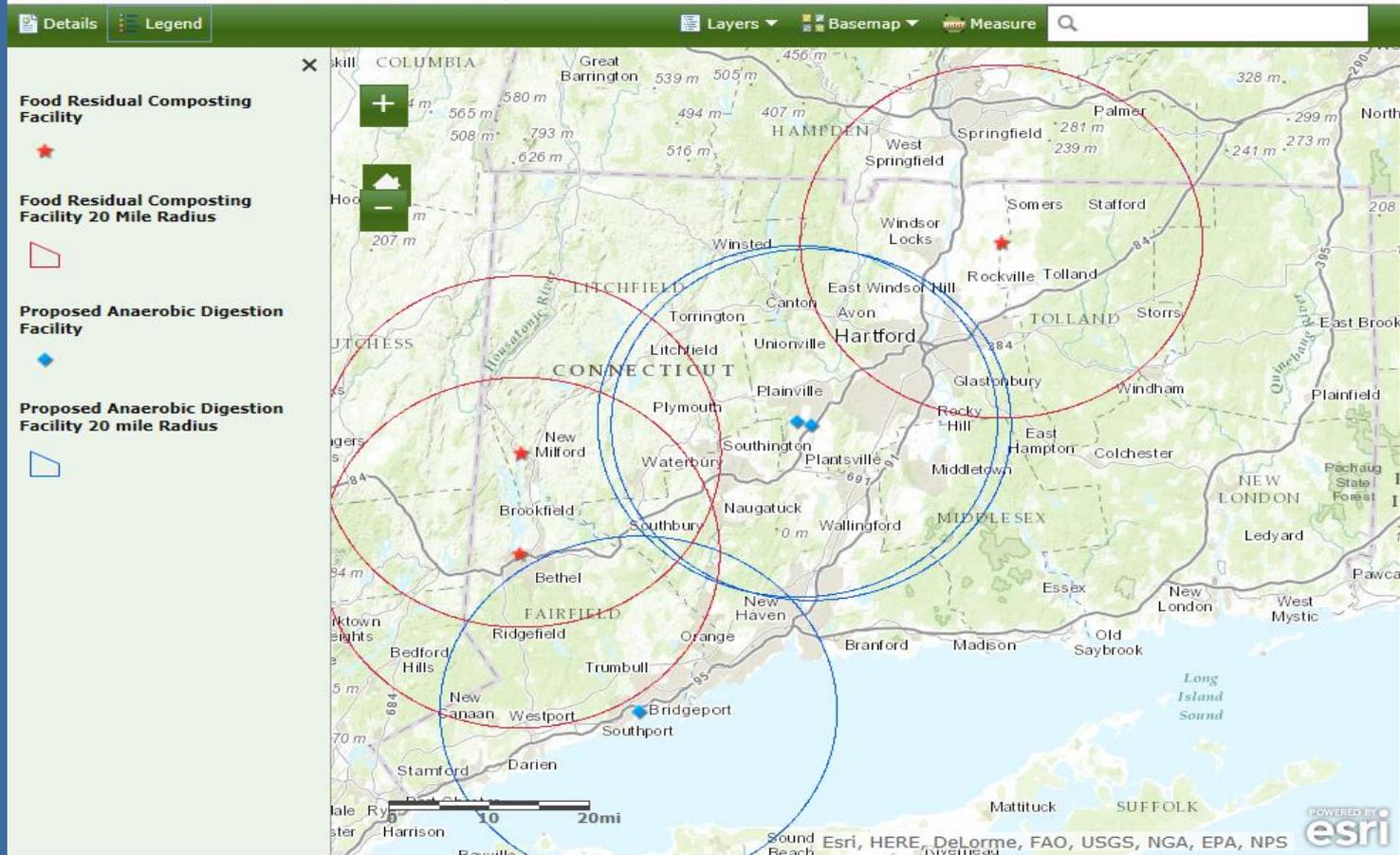
<b>Facility Name</b>	<b>Type of Facility</b>
<b>Bridgeport Bioenergy, Bridgeport</b>	Anaerobic Digester (Not constructed to date)
<b>Harvest New England, Ellington</b>	Composting - Outdoor Turned Windrow (Operational)
<b>New Milford Farms, New Milford</b>	Composting - Indoor Turned Windrow (Operational)
<b>Turning Earth, Southington</b>	Anaerobic Digester (Under Construction)
<b>Supreme Energy and Recycling (Quantum Biopower) Southington</b>	Anaerobic Digester (Operational)

# States With Food Waste Disposal Bans



# Interactive GIS Map

## Food Residual Recycling



Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection



How much of your food and money are you literally throwing away? [The Food Recovery Challenge](#) asks businesses and organizations to reduce as much of their food waste as possible – saving money, helping communities, and protecting the environment.

# Technical Assistance

- Letter to potential generators informing them about the law
- Second letter to several restaurants and hotels
- Field visits – focus on generators within 20 miles of the permitted facilities.



# Case Study – Food Waste Being Diverted from the Sheraton Hotel





# Documentary on Food Waste: “Just Eat It”





The Center for EcoTechnology helps people and businesses in New England save energy and reduce waste.

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we make green make sense<sup>SM</sup>

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