

To: CT Municipal Chief Elected Officials and Connecticut Municipal and Regional Recycling Coordinators
From: CT DEP Recycling Office
Date: Ongoing
Subject: Connecticut's Best Municipal Recycling Programs

Recycling has been mandatory in Connecticut since 1991, and for years many Connecticut cities and towns have been operating successful and innovative recycling programs. The efforts of these towns have resulted in innumerable environmental benefits both locally and globally. However, in spite of these impressive achievements, the towns were not receiving formal recognition for their ongoing efforts. Therefore, starting in 2002 as part of the celebration of America Recycles Day (ARD), the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection recycling office has selected CT towns and cities to be formally recognized for their outstanding recycling/source reduction programs. The 15 CT cities and towns thus far recognized make up Connecticut's current [Municipal Recycling Honor Roll \(MRHR\)](#).

However, the MRHR is not just a static list, and once again, as part of ARD - which has been expanded to promote recycling throughout the year and not just on November 15th - the state wants to honor those additional CT municipalities with outstanding recycling programs and add their names to the MRHR, but that is easier said than done. There are 169 CT municipalities - and although the Department hears about some of the excellent recycling programs, we don't get the opportunity to see or hear about all the exceptional municipal programs in the state. Therefore, in order not to overlook any towns, we are asking that (1) if you feel that your town has an outstanding recycling program or (2) you know of another Connecticut municipality with a first-rate municipal recycling program, that you please complete the enclosed one page (both sides) "Connecticut's Best Municipal Recycling Programs-Nomination Form" (for either your town or another CT town) and submit it to the DEP Recycling Office. We will be accepting applications throughout the year. If you would like to provide a more detailed description of the nominated program, please do not hesitate to attach additional pages. This year, for the first time, we will allow other entities, such as solid waste haulers and solid waste recycling facilities to nominate towns they think are doing a great job; however the nomination form will still need to be completed and signed by the town.

Winning towns will be chosen based on the information provided in the (1) the "Connecticut's Best Municipal Recycling Programs Nomination Form", (2) the town's annual municipal recycling reports, and (3) visits to the towns by DEP Recycling staff. Not only will such towns be recognized, but they will serve as models - so other CT cities and towns can replicate their recycling successes.

We look forward to sharing your recycling successes with all of Connecticut (and beyond)- so get those nomination forms in and: KEEP ON REDUCING, REUSING, and RECYCLING.

Please Return Completed Forms to:
CT DEP Recycling Office; 79 Elm Street - 4th Floor; Hartford, CT 06106-5127
Attn: Judy Belaval
Or Fax to (860) 424-4081 Attn: Judy Belaval
Or E-mail to judy.belaval@po.state.ct.us



Connecticut's Best Municipal Recycling Programs FY_____ – Nomination Form

Town Submitting Form: _____ There are Very Few or No Businesses in Town True

Nomination is for: Own Town *or* The Nomination is for Town of _____

Name & Title of Person Completing Form: _____; Phone _____
Name Title

Fax _____ Address _____ e-mail Address _____

ALL QUESTIONS PERTAIN TO THE NOMINATED MUNICIPALITY For FY200_/FY200_- Do not hesitate to attach additional program descriptions

◇ % of Households Participating in Recycling State & Municipal Mandated Recyclables <20% 21%-40% 41%-60% >60%

◇ How Would You Rate Recycling at Your Town's Multi-Family Buildings? Poor Good Excellent

◇ % of Business Participating In Recycling State & Municipal Mandated Recyclables <20% 21%-40% 41%-60% >60%

◇ How Would You Rate Recycling Programs at Municipal Offices, Municipal Parks Poor Good Excellent

◇ Schools in town with Recycling Programs: None Some Schools Most All Schools
In Schools which Have Programs, the Programs Are: Ineffective Somewhat Effective Very Effective

◇ Resident Recycling in the "Away from Home" Setting (within town) i.e. Stores, Malls, Fairs, etc. Poor Good Excellent

◇ Municipal Recycling Outreach and Technical Assistance to Business Poor Good Excellent

2-3 Sentence Description of Outreach Programs:

◇ Municipal Recycling Enforcement at Businesses Poor Good Excellent

2-3 Sentence Description of Enforcement Program and Accomplishments:

◇ Municipal Recycling Outreach and Technical Assistance to Residents Poor Good Excellent
Please include copies of FY2004 mailings, advertisements, special event listing etc.)

2-3 Sentence Description of Outreach Programs:

◇ Municipal Recycling Enforcement for Residents Poor Good Excellent

2-3 Sentence Description of Enforcement Programs and Accomplishments:

◇Municipality Has a Local Ordinance Requiring Haulers to Report to the Town Tonnage & Destination of Solid Waste & Recyclables Hauled from within the Borders of the Town *Yes No ***If Yes – Please Attach Copy of Relevant Section of Ordinance**

*If Yes, that Ordinance is Actively Enforced Yes No

◇Municipality Promotes Backyard Composting & Grasscycling *Yes No

***If Yes, Please Provide a 2-3 Sentence Description of How the Town Promotes Backyard Composting & Grasscycling:**

◇Municipality Has Implemented Successful Innovative Recycling Programs * Yes No

***If Yes, Please Provide a 4-5 Sentence Description of Such Programs (use additional sheets of paper if necessary):**

◇In Addition to Mandated State Recyclables, Municipality Has Implemented Programs to Recycle Other Items: *Yes No

***If yes, please list additional items and how collected (Please attach additional pages if necessary):**

ADDITIONAL ITEMS	HOW COLLECTED

◇Municipality Has Implemented a Pay-As-You-Throw (PAYT) or Unit Based Pricing Program (i.e. the More Trash a Resident Disposes, the More They Pay) *Yes No Unfamiliar with PAYT Concept

*** If Yes, >70% of Households Have PAYT** Yes No

◇Other noteworthy aspects of your town's recycling program (Please limit to 4-5 sentences –Attach additional sheets of paper if necessary)

Municipality Has Implemented a Program to Purchase Recycled Content Products *Yes No

***If Yes, Please Provide a 3-4 Sentence Description of the Program Including a List of the Recycled Content Products Currently Purchased:**