



# Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection



Connecticut Department of  
**ENERGY &  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION**

# Legal Requirements for Recycling at Multi-Family Residences & Commercial Office Buildings

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Solid Waste Advisory Committee

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Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

CT designated recyclable items are required to be recycled – they cannot be collected, transported, or processed in a way that will render them unrecyclable.



# Provide for Separation of Designated Recyclable Items (CGS Sec 22a-241b)

Any entity (residential or non-residential) generating designated recyclable items must separate or cause the separation of those items from other solid waste by using one or more separate collection containers for those items. (i.e. **cannot collect designated recyclable items and trash in the same container**).



# Keeping Designated Recyclable Items Separate from Trash (cont'd)

- CGS 22a-241b(e): No one shall combine previously segregated designated recyclable items with trash.
- CGS Sec 22a-220a(f): Any collector who knowingly mixes other solid waste with items designated for recycling shall be liable for a civil penalty of up to \$2,500 for each violation and up to \$10,000 for a subsequent violation



# Equitable Collection of Recyclables from Residences by a Collector (CGS 22a-241j)

- **Each collector offering trash collection to residences shall:**

**Offer the same type of collection of designated recyclable items.**

**By July 1, 2011**

- Collector can adjust fees, but must include the charge for recyclables in the charge for trash collection.



# Equitable Collection of Recyclables from Businesses (CGS 22a-241f)

- **Each contract between a collector and a business for the collection of solid waste shall make provision for collection of designated recyclable items (by July 1, 2012 )**

Either by the same collector – or by identification\* of a different collector contracted by the business to collect its designated recyclable items .

(\*sample form available).

**Each collector shall provide each business customer with written or pictorial instructions on how to separate designated recyclable items**



# Equitable Collection of Recyclables from Businesses (CGS 22a-241f)

- If a property owner declines collection of recyclables from their solid waste collector, that collector should require the customer to provide identification that a contract with a different hauler to collect recyclables exists.
- A sample [“Documentation of Existing Recycling Contract” form](#) can be found on DEEP’s website.



# Zoning Regulations (CGS Sec 8-2(a))

- No zoning regulations shall prohibit the use of recycling receptacles for designated recyclable items.
- No zoning regulations shall require that recycling receptacles comply with certain area provisions.
- No zoning regulations shall restrict access to or the size of recycling receptacles for businesses.
- Okay to require aesthetic screening or buffering.



# Requirements for Collectors (CGS Sec.22a-220c (a))

- Each municipality shall notify haulers of recycling requirements. After such notice, collectors are required to notify the municipal recycling contact about any customer believed to be discarding designated recyclables with solid waste.
  - Upon request of the municipality, a hauler shall provide a warning notice to customers suspected of violating separation requirements.
  - Haulers shall also assist the municipality in identifying persons responsible for creating solid waste loads containing significant amounts of recyclables which were detected by the receiving resource recovery or solid waste facility.



# List of Designated Recyclables

- Glass food containers; metal food containers
- Scrap metal
- High grade white office paper (non-residential)
- Old corrugated cardboard
- Old newspapers
- Waste oil
- Leaves
- Lead-acid storage batteries
- Ni-Cd rechargeable batteries
- Grass
- Covered electronic devices
- PET (#1 plastic) and HDPE (#2 plastic) containers
- Boxboard (e.g. cereal boxes)
- Magazines
- Residential High Grade White Paper
- High Grade Colored Paper (Colored Ledger )

