



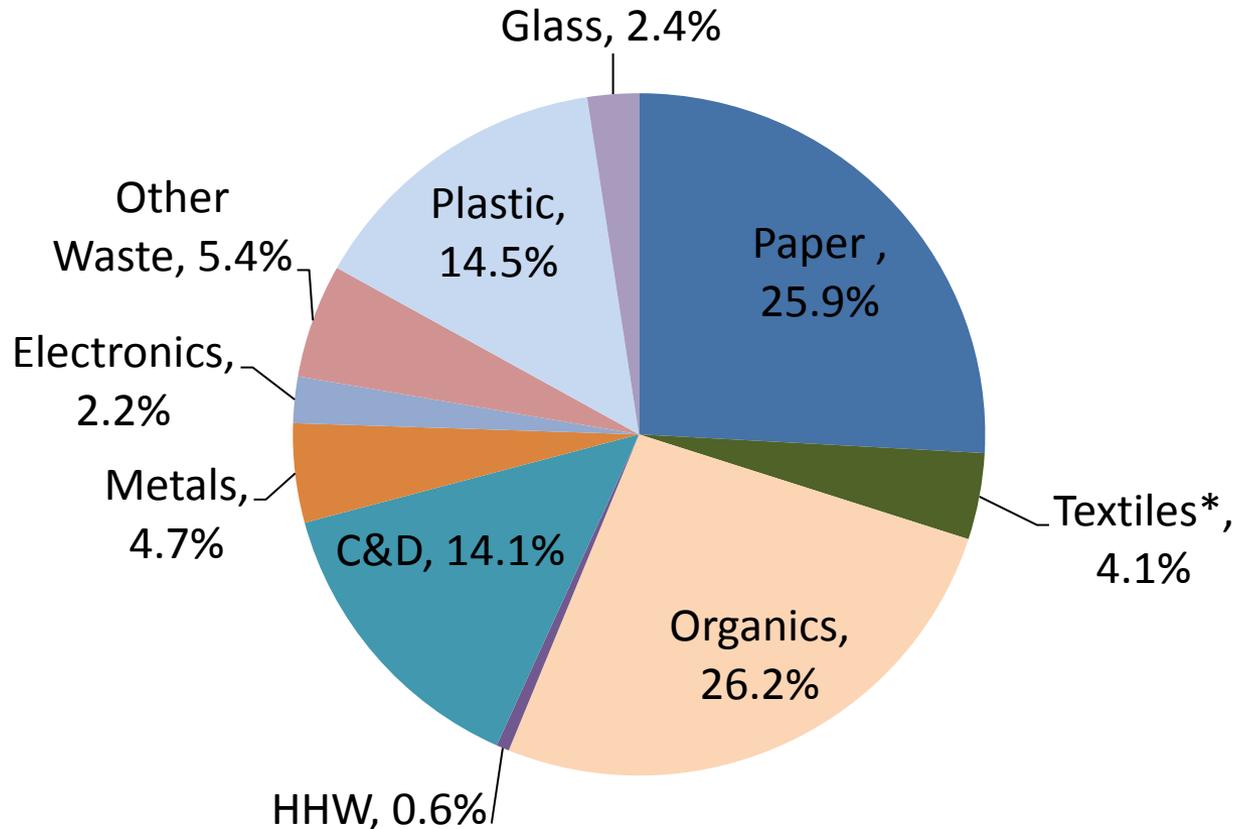
Current state of textiles reuse & recycling in Connecticut

June 2013



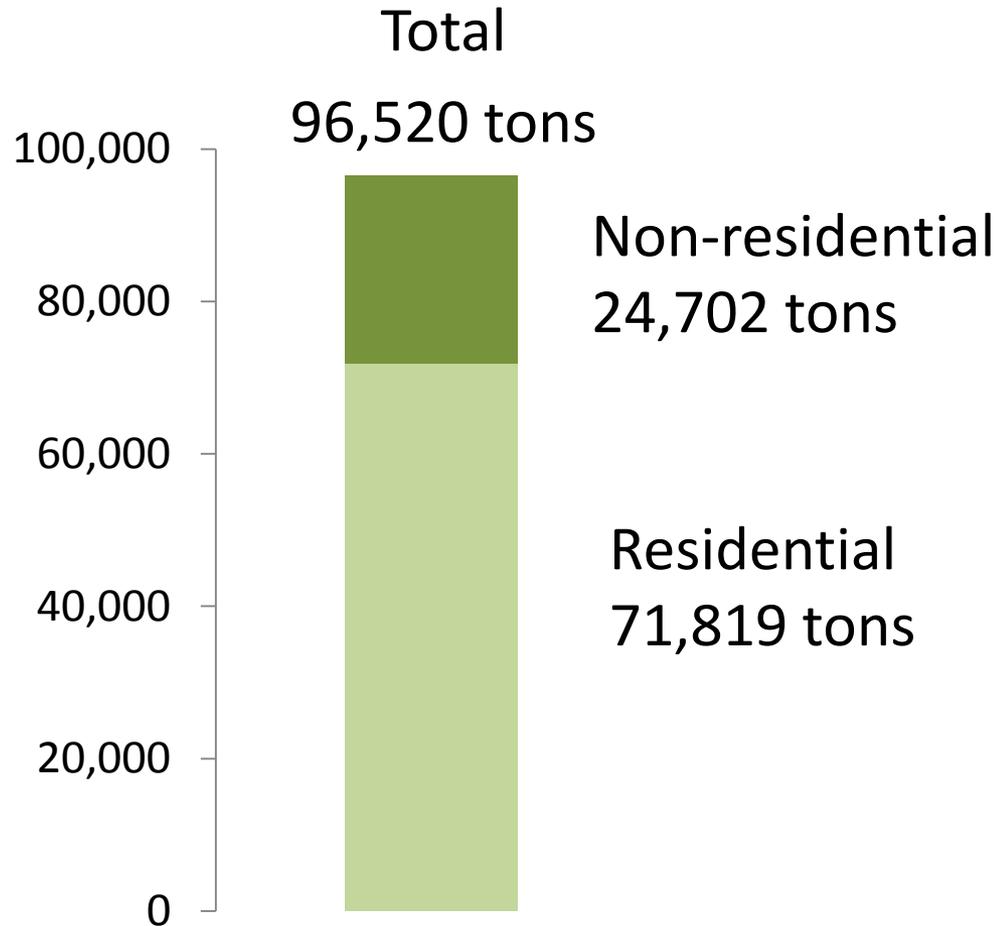
Valuable materials in the trash

Overall composition of MSW disposed in CT, 2009

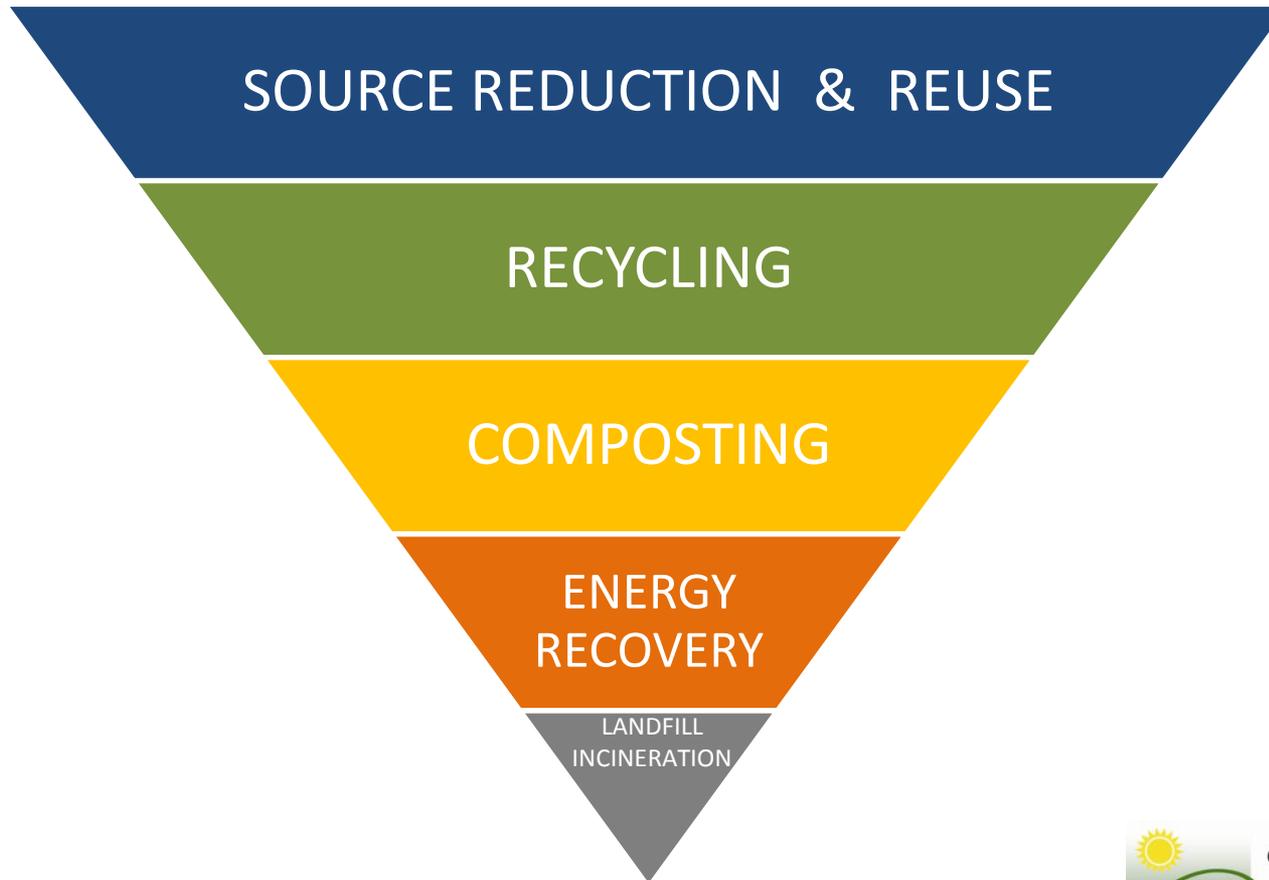


*Textiles category does not include carpet

Estimated textiles in CT waste stream



Source reduction and reuse should be the priority for managing textiles



Types of textile recyclers

- Charities or non-profits
 - Revenues from donated textiles further mission of charity
 - Some charities provide textiles directly to clients in need
- For-profit companies
 - Companies which collect textiles and sell for-profit
- Hybrids
 - Textiles donated to charity, for-profit company buys donated textiles from charity (i.e., charity lends name to collection)
 - For-profit company sells donated textiles at retail stores for profit
- Collection methods include donation centers, thrift/consignment stores, donation boxes, curbside collection, event fundraisers, etc.

Economic and environmental impact of textiles reuse and recycling

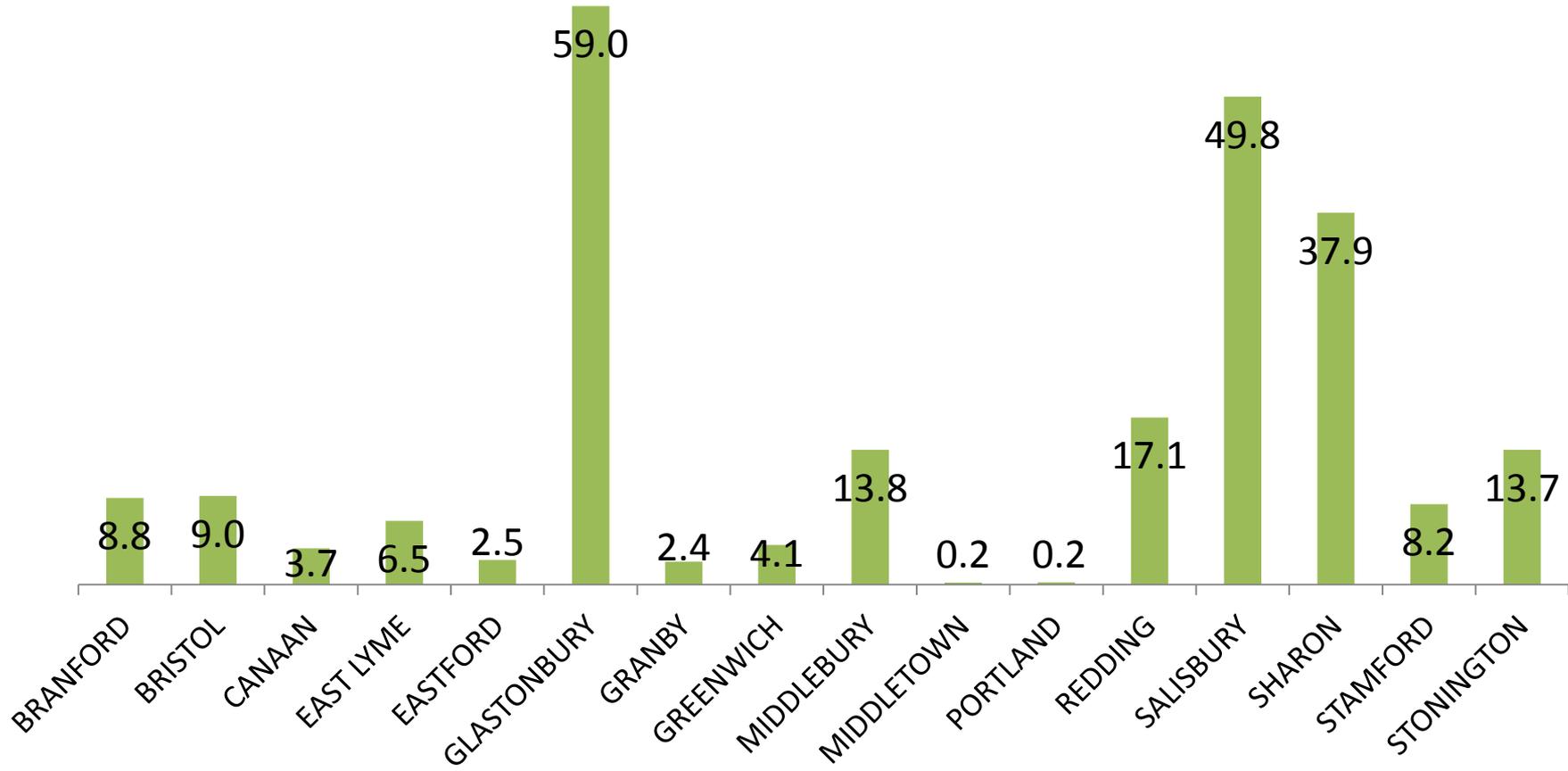
- Potential for statewide savings of \$5.7 million from avoided disposal costs*
- 10,000 tons of reclaimed textiles creates 85 jobs (ILSR, 1997)
- For every 2 million tons of textiles recovered, 5.1 million MTCO₂E is avoided, equivalent to 1 million cars taken off the road per year (EPA, 2011)

*Used average tip fee of \$60



Municipalities tracking textiles diversion

Textiles Reported Collected in 2011 (Tons)



More than 236 tons of textiles reported removed from 2011 waste stream



Moving forward

- State Solid Waste Management Plan – 58% diversion by 2024, includes textiles
- Facilitate statewide textiles dialogue
- Assist in promotion of textiles reuse and recycling message

Consistent message for increased diversion

- Collect or donate ALL textiles (clothing, shoes, linens, sheets, etc.) except if wet, mildewed or saturated with petroleum products
 - Not just “gently used” textiles
 - Regardless of how the textiles are collected
- Textiles that are not reused are *recycled*. Only about 5% of collected textiles are discarded

Some resources

- United Way of CT 2-1-1 [Clothing Donation Programs](#)
- Department of Consumer Protection, [E-License Look-up](#)
- [Charity Navigator](#)

Textiles Reuse and Recycling Panel Discussion

- Today's Textiles Reuse & Recycling Industry Sectors
Larry Groipen, President, ERC Wiping Products, Inc. and
Past President, Secondary Materials & Textiles Recycling Association
- CT's Donation Bin Law & Compliance
John Neumon, Frauds Division Director, Department of Consumer Protection
- For-Profit Textile Collection Perspective
Paul Curry, CEO, Bay State Textiles
- Non-Profit Textile Collection Perspective
James Maynard, Donated Goods & Facility Manager, Easter Seals Goodwill
- Different Paths for Diverted Textiles
Eric Stubin, President & CEO, Trans-Americas Textile Recycling, Inc.