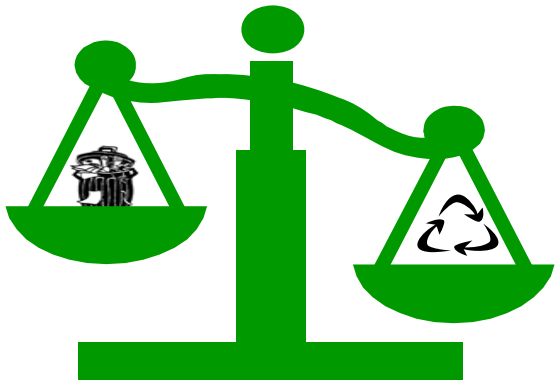
# STATE OF CONNECTICUT
# State Solid Waste Management Plan
# Amended December 2006



**Changing the Balance**

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# Outline

- Vision Statement
- Goals
- Projections
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  - Strategies
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# Vision Statement

- Transform our system into one based on resource management through shared responsibility
- Shift away from a *throwaway society* toward a system that treats wastes as valuable raw materials and energy sources
- Manage waste through a more holistic and comprehensive approach, resulting in the conservation of natural resources and the creation of less waste and less pollution

# Goals of the Plan

- Significantly reduce the amount and toxicity of Connecticut generated solid waste requiring disposal
- Manage the solid waste that requires disposal in an efficient, equitable and environmentally protective manner, consistent with the statutory solid waste hierarchy
- Adopt stable, long-term funding mechanisms that provide sufficient revenue while providing incentives for increased waste reduction and diversion

# Projection of Connecticut MSW Generated in FY2005

- 3,805,000 tons generated
- 30% recycled (24% from reported #'s, 6% estimated);
- 57% burned at six regional Resource Recovery Facilities (RRFs)
  - 551,000 tons ash residue generated
- 9% disposed out of state; and
- 4% disposed at in-state landfills.

# Projection of CT C&D Waste/oversized MSW for FY2005

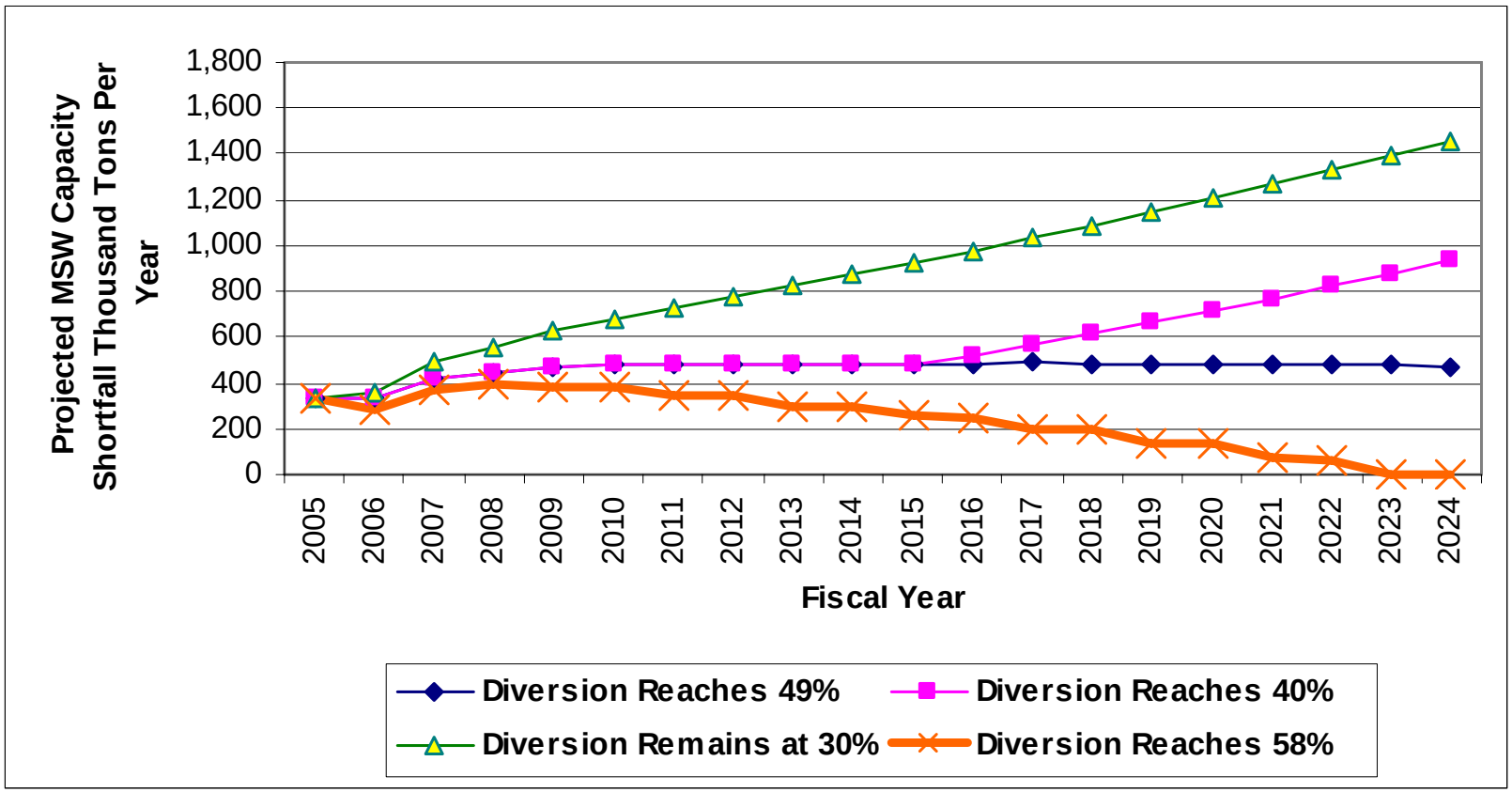
Approximately 1,145,000 tons of C&D/oversized waste passed through permitted CT solid waste facilities. Of that amount:

- 82% (940,000 tons) was disposed of out-of-state
- 11% (126,000 tons) was disposed in-state
- 7 % (79,000 tons) was recycled (not including clean fill)

# RRF Ash Residue

- Six MSW RRFs in-state generate ~551,000 tons/year of ash residue (based on amount generated FY2000-FY2004)
- Two landfills in-state are permitted to accept and dispose of RRF ash residue
  - CRRA ash landfill in Hartford is estimated to reach capacity and close in October 2008
  - Wheelabrator ash landfill in Putnam is estimated to reach capacity and close by the end of FY2018

# Projections of In-State MSW Disposal Capacity Shortfall Under Various Waste Diversion Assumptions for the Period FY2005 through FY2024



# Plan Objectives

- Source Reduction
- Recycling and Composting
- Management of Solid Waste Requiring Disposal
- Management of Special Waste and Other Types of Waste
- Education and Outreach
- Program Planning, Evaluation, and Measurement
- Permitting and Enforcement
- Funding

# Target for Reducing CT MSW Generation & Disposal

- Reduce our MSW per capita disposal rate from our current 0.8 tons/ person/year to 0.6 tons/person/year by FY2024
  - This would result in a zero in-state disposal capacity shortfall projected for FY2024
- It will require at least a 58% MSW disposal diversion rate by FY 2024

# Selected Strategies for MSW Recycling/Composting

- Develop programs & infrastructure for composting from commercial and institutional sectors
- Additional mandatory recyclables: plastic bottles 1 & 2; magazines
- Expansion of the bottle bill and increase in deposit from 5 cents to 10 cents
- Develop an effective infrastructure for recycling from small businesses and multi-family housing

# Selected Strategies for MSW Recycling/Composting (cont'd)

- Designate a state recycling coordinator
- Identify funding for municipal, regional, state, programs
- Increase recycling enforcement
- Create incentives for increased diversion from disposal – including PAYT

# Selected Strategies for Disposal

- Minimize need for new disposal capacity through increased diversion from disposal
- Monitor solid waste generation and capacity
- Require C&D waste to be processed to the greatest extent practicable prior to disposal
- Monitor new technologic opportunities
- Enhance local public participation in the state permit process for new capacity

# Selected Strategies for Managing C&D Waste/Oversized MSW

- Revise categories and definitions of solid waste
- Provide incentives for decreasing the amount of C&D waste/oversized MSW disposed – including the adoption of building and demolition techniques that produce less waste
- Promote markets and recycling for C&D waste – including separation at site of generation
- Promote C&D VRF's that dispose less and are more effective at recycling and recovering waste
- Prohibit the disposal of unprocessed C&D waste at any expansion of an existing landfill or from any new landfill built in CT; evaluate the continued operation of existing unlined LF's to determine if restrictions are appropriate.

# Selected Strategies for Special Wastes

- Enact legislation that requires recycling of electronic wastes based on a producer responsibility model
- Increase the recycling, composting and beneficial use of land clearing debris
- Develop appropriate beneficial use programs for contaminated soils and other special wastes

# Selected Strategies for Program Planning, Evaluation & Measurement

- Establish an Agency Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee
- Conduct a waste disposal characterization study
- Reduce municipal and solid waste facility reporting burden, while still collecting critical solid waste data
- Update State Solid Waste Plan more frequently
- Update solid waste statutes and regulations
- Provide a mechanism for municipalities and regions to share recycling and solid waste information

# Selected Strategies for Permitting and Enforcement

- Permitting of beneficial use activities is high priority
  - Formation of a DEP Recycling/Beneficial Use permitting team
  - Streamline the permitting process, especially for beneficial use proposals
- Develop model permits, fact sheets, outreach
- Establish streamlined method of regulating waste haulers
- Compliance assistance and outreach
- Targeted enforcement
- Encourage enforcement by municipalities
- Civil penalty regulations

# Potential funding sources identified in the Plan

- Capture some or all of the unclaimed bottle deposits;
- Expand the Solid Waste Assessment to all disposed solid waste, including all MSW, C&D debris, and oversized MSW, both in-state or out-of-state;
- Increase the Solid Waste Assessment beyond the present $1.50 per ton;
- Direct enforcement penalties to a special account for distribution to municipalities and regional authorities aimed at recycling; and
- Use Bond funds for needed infrastructure to support demonstration projects and/or development of publicly controlled recycling facilities.

# Implementation costs

- Estimate $28 million over a five-year period
- Focus to start with:
  - Enhance/improve existing municipal recycling programs
  - Target electronics, mixed paper, commercial C&D, commercial food waste
  - Promote PAYT
  - Conduct a waste characterization study
  - Improve reporting
  - Improve permitting and enforcement activities

# Solid Waste Issue: Public vs. Private Control of In-state Disposal Capacity

- Bonds that financed the construction of the RRFs will be paid off over the next 2 to 14 years
- Contracts for disposal at the RRFs will expire over that same time.
- Post-closure of CRRA ash landfill, remaining in-state disposal capacity for RRF ash residue will be privately held.

# Short-term Next Steps

- Establish an Agency Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee
- Develop a work plan for implementation
- Work with the General Assembly to pursue
  - Electronics legislation
  - Funding options
- Increase awareness of solid waste issues
- Conduct a waste characterization study
- Improve permitting and enforcement activities
- Add items to recycling mandate, such as plastic bottles #1 and #2 and magazines

# Summary Statement

- The Plan provides the foundation for the work that must be done to best manage our solid waste in a social, economic and environmentally responsible manner.
- All citizens of CT need to be involved