Building State-Wide Capacity for Food Scrap Recycling

CT’s Food Scrap Recycling Infrastructure Gap

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Tons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Food Scrap Disposed Annually in CT</td>
<td>324.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permitted Capacity at Facilities That Can Accept Food Scrap</td>
<td>107.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food Scrap Recycled Annually in CT</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What is Still in Connecticut’s Trash?

- Food Waste, Yard Waste, and Compostable Paper, 31.5%
- Plastic, 14.5%
- Construction and Demolition, 14.1%
- Electronics, 2.2%
- Other Waste, 9.5%
- Metals, 4.7%
- Glass, 2.4%
- Hazardous Waste, 0.6%
- Paper (not incl. Compostable Paper), 17.7%
### Compostable Materials By Weight

**Overall Statewide Disposed**

Source: CT Statewide Solid Waste Composition and Characterization Study Final Report 2009 – Table 6

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Material</th>
<th>Est. Percent</th>
<th>Est. Tons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Food Waste</td>
<td>13.5%</td>
<td>321,481</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compostable Paper</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
<td>195,185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leaves &amp; Grass</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
<td>172,408</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prunings &amp; Trimmings</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
<td>51,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Branches &amp; Stumps</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
<td>10,149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>31.5%</strong></td>
<td><strong>750,773</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Recycling of source-separated organic materials.

- (a)(1) On and after January 1, 2014, each commercial food wholesaler or distributor, industrial food manufacturer or processor, supermarket, resort or conference center that is located not more than twenty miles from an authorized source-separated organic material composting facility and that generates an average projected volume of not less than one hundred four tons per year of source-separated organic materials shall: (A) Separate such source-separated organic materials from other solid waste; and (B) ensure that such source-separated organic materials are recycled at any authorized source-separated organic material composting facility that has available capacity and that will accept such source-separated organic material.
• (a)(2) On and after January 1, 2020, each commercial food wholesaler or distributor, industrial food manufacturer or processor, supermarket, resort or conference center that is located not more than twenty miles from an authorized source-separated organic material composting facility and that generates an average projected volume of not less than fifty-two tons per year of source-separated organic materials shall: (A) Separate such source-separated organic materials from other solid waste; and (B) ensure that such source-separated organic materials are recycled at any authorized source-separated organic material composting facility that has available capacity and that will accept such source-separated organic material.
b) Any such wholesaler, distributor, manufacturer, processor, supermarket, resort or conference center that performs composting of source-separated organic materials on site or treats source-separated organic materials via on-site organic treatment equipment permitted pursuant to the general statutes or federal law shall be deemed in compliance with the provisions of this section.

(c) Any permitted source-separated organic material composting facility that receives such source-separated organic materials shall report to the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, as part of such facility’s reporting obligations, a summary of fees charged for receipt of such source-separated organic materials.
Purpose of CGS 22a-226e

The purpose of the law is to incentivize companies to establish facilities in Connecticut so that everyone will have the option to reduce the costs of disposal by recycling food waste rather than disposing of it.

The law is intended to **get a valuable resource** out of our trash and **into local commerce** and made into valuable products such as compost and clean energy.

Goals:

- **Save businesses money** through *avoided disposal cost savings*.
- **Promote clean energy investments** because it provides certainty of feedstock to clean energy businesses.
- **Encourage economic development by encouraging businesses** to locate in Connecticut.
- **Move up the waste management hierarchy** to higher value use.
Meanwhile, up in MA...

- **Commercial Organics Waste Ban Regulations** are scheduled to be published on 01/31/14. The effective date for the commercial organics ban will be **10/01/14**.
- Statewide goal to divert an additional 350,000 tons of organic material from solid waste disposal on an annual basis by 2020
- Goal shared between MA [Solid Waste Master Plan](#) and [Clean Energy Results Program](#)
- Commercial Organics Ban is part of a broader [Organics Action Plan](#) to help achieve MA 2020 goal
- Final regulations will be published on January 31, 2014 (Note these are regulations, not legislation)
- **Ban will apply to businesses and institutions that dispose of one ton or more of commercial organic material/week**
- Estimate about 1,700 businesses and institutions may need to comply (though many of these are diverting food waste already.)
- MassDEP’s [RecyclingWorks in Massachusetts](#) program provides help to businesses and institutions to comply
Back in CT, Infrastructure Being Developed...

- **Three composting facilities** in the state currently permitted to take food scrap - Harvest New England (Ellington), New Milford Farms (New Milford), New England Compost (Danbury)
- Permit application just received for another composting facility in South Windsor (Nutmeg Road Composting)
- Permit application in house for an anaerobic digestion (AD) facility in Southington (Supreme/Quantum)
- Permit application for another AD facility in central CT expected soon (Turning Earth/Covanta partnership)
- Other AD facilities discussed for Ansonia, Bridgeport and SE CT
- Bridgewater, CT launching a pilot program for curbside collection of food scrap
- Other businesses providing services for food scrap collection & delivery to permitted facilities (e.g., Blue Earth Compost, USA, Global Env’t)