

Single Stream Collection of Recyclables



CT DEP

Solid Waste Management
Advisory Committee

September 23, 2008

DEP Recycling Goal

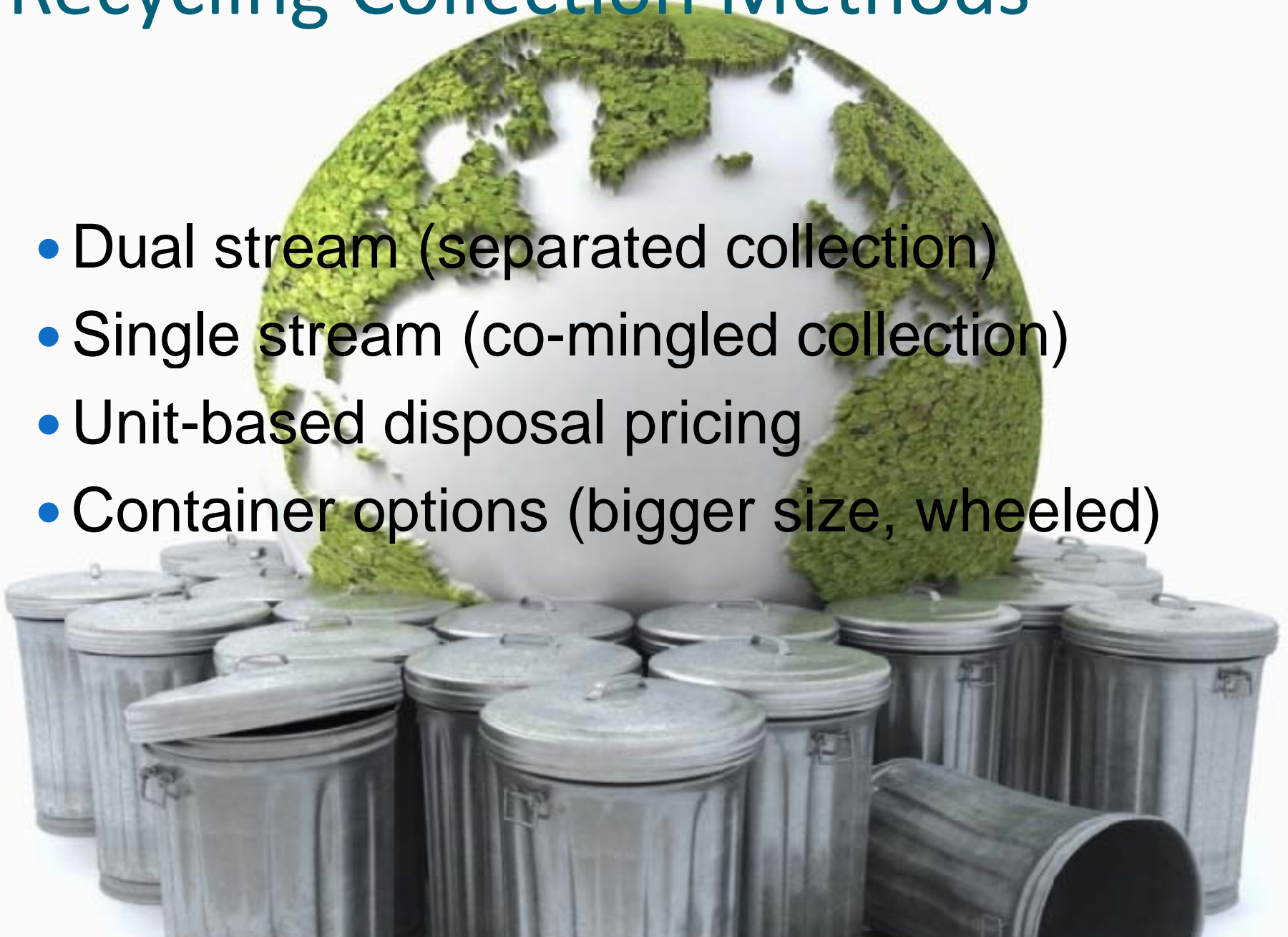


Achieve 58% diversion
by the year 2024

- Good = anything that
 - Increases amount diverted from the solid waste stream
 - Increases participation in recycling programs

Recycling Collection Methods

- Dual stream (separated collection)
- Single stream (co-mingled collection)
- Unit-based disposal pricing
- Container options (bigger size, wheeled)



Single Stream Collection

➤ **Shifts logistics and costs of separation**
from residents and haulers

➔ ➔ *to* IPCs and end markets

➤ Prompts towns' **investment** in larger containers

➤ Requires **investment** in different type of processing capability at the Intermediate Processing Center (IPC) recycling facility

➤ IPC can still receive either separated [dual stream] or co-mingled [single stream] recyclables

Merits of Single Stream



- Boosts recycling **rates and participation**
- Makes recycling *simple* for **residents**
- For **haulers**, typically combined with switch to automated collection, so *savings* in reduced collection costs

Challenges of Single Stream

- **Towns'** capital outlay for automated equipment & larger recycling bins
- Retrofitting **recycling facilities** = big investment
- If material quality declines, **end markets** may:
 - Pay more for increased residual disposal
 - Realize equipment damage –upgrade equipment
 - Pay towns less for recyclables to recover above costs
 - Reflect decreased consumer confidence in recycled content products



What DEP is doing

- ✓ Processed facility modification request for IPC to accommodate receipt of either single-stream or dual-stream collected recyclables
- Conducting a survey with all CT towns to help towns see costs of disposal and recycling options more clearly
- With EPA, working with Bridgeport and area towns to consider unit-based pricing approach

Simplicity
and
Education
are
Key

