Opportunity for diversion

Overall composition of MSW disposed in CT, 2009

- Paper, 25.9%
- Organics, 26.2%
- C&D, 14.1%
- Plastic, 14.5%
- Other Waste, 5.4%
- Electronics, 2.2%
- Metals, 4.7%
- HHW, 0.6%
- Textiles*, 4.1%
- Glass, 2.4%

*Textiles category does not include carpet

CT Solid Waste Characterization, 2009
Valuable materials in CT’s trash

Total: 96,520 tons

- 26% Non-residential (24,702 tons)
- 74% Residential (71,819 tons)

• Potential for statewide savings of $5.7 million from avoided disposal costs*
• Potential revenue

*Used average tip fee of $60
Understand current landscape and build awareness

- Identified stakeholders in CT/region
- Held statewide dialogue in June 2013
  - Learned the basics of how textiles are collected, sorted, and processed
  - Learned about CT specific laws
- Developed [CT DEEP Textiles Reuse and Recycling webpage](#)
- Publicized via DEEP newsletters and social media
Consistent message for increased diversion

- Collect or donate ALL textiles (clothing, shoes, linens, sheets, etc.) except if wet, mildewed or saturated with petroleum products

- Textiles that are not reused are recycled - only 5% of collected textiles are discarded
More municipalities reporting collecting textiles

More than 611 tons of textiles reported collected in 2013 from municipally owned property.
Creating buzz about textiles in CT

- 9 towns participating in a regional master contract for textiles collection
- Salisbury School clothing and textile reuse
- CRC tour of Goodwill Facility
Path to increasing diversion

• Statewide or regional textiles campaign
  – Agree on consistent message
  – Change behavior – ok to donate damaged materials because of end use

• Clean up the single stream bin – RecycleCT

• Attract facilities which sort, grade, and market post-consumer textiles

• Ensure easily accessible collection points