



THERE'S A NEW WAY TO RECYCLE RIGHT

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CT DEEP Source Reduction & Recycling
RecycleCT



Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

Items Designated (Mandated) for Recycling

Recycling Laws and Regulations

- Glass & Metal Food & Beverage Containers
- Plastic Containers (PET or PETE #1)
- Plastic Containers (HDPE #2)
- Scrap Metal, including appliances
- Ni-Cd Rechargeable Batteries (from consumer products)
- Waste Oil (crankcase oil from internal combustion engines)
- Leaves (must be composted)
- Lead Acid Battery or Motor Vehicle Batteries
- Commercially Generated Source Separated Organic Materials (Only applies to those businesses compelled to do so per [CGS Section 22a-226e](#))
- Corrugated Cardboard
- Boxboard
- Newspaper
- Magazines
- White & Colored Office Paper (residences and businesses)

- RecycleCT
- Harmonization
- What's In, What's Out
 - RecycleCT's New Website
 - RecycleCT Wizard search tool
 - Resources and tools, including templates
 - RecycleCT Wizard Metrics – who's using?
 - Next Steps for campaign



- **RecycleCT Foundation, Inc.**
 - Created in 2014 through Public Act 14-94
 - “target and promote the coordination and support of research and education activities and public information programs aimed at increasing the rate of recycling and reuse in the state;
 - Receive, disburse and administer gifts, grants, endowments or other funds that supports research and education activities”

[CGS Sec. 22a-228a](#)



- 501(c)3
- Board of Directors

Frank M. Antonacci, Manager
Murphy Road Recycling

Robert J. Klee, Commissioner
CT DEEP

Craig Connolly, Director of Marketing
CT Green Bank

Kim O'Rourke, Recycling Coordinator
City of Middletown

Thomas DeVivo, Vice President
Willimantic Waste Paper Co.

Brian Paganini, Vice President & Managing
Director, Quantum Biopower

Jennifer Heaton-Jones, Executive Director
Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority



RecycleCT Foundation, Inc.

- FE3: Facilitator Training for Trainers/Non-traditional environmental educators
- School Grant Program
 - 2016 – 2018 over \$41,000 to 33 schools
- Innovation Grant Program
 - 2017 – 2018 over \$170,000 to 24 projects and programs (NGOs, Municipalities, collaborations)
- **What's IN, What's OUT campaign**
 - **Phase 1: \$210,000; Phase 2: \$183,000 (now)**





So Why Now?

- 2015 Solid Waste Characterization Study
 - “Single Stream” recycling - 14-19% contamination (incl. bags of recyclables and bags of trash)

[State-wide Solid Waste Composition and Characterization Studies \(CT DEEP\)](#)

- Different rules, guidelines, guidance, lists



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What's IN, What's OUT

- **GOAL: Increase participation and decrease contamination**

Objective: Make it easier for residents understand “What's IN and What's OUT” of the mixed recycling cart, bin or barrel.





Harmonization

In partnership with USA Hauling, Willimantic Waste, Winters Brothers, City Carting and MIRA ... developed “Universal List” of acceptable materials.

- Survey (Recycling Partnership/Mass DEP)
- In-person meetings, phone calls, updates
- Review & approval of final list; 1 year check-in





- **What is Detrimental?**

- Item, material or product that:

- could be harmful to employees or safety concern
- can shut down or harm equipment
- reduces the value of commodities

**Glass, while being detrimental to many facilities, is a category that was put in the “parking lot” to be discussed more deeply in the future.*



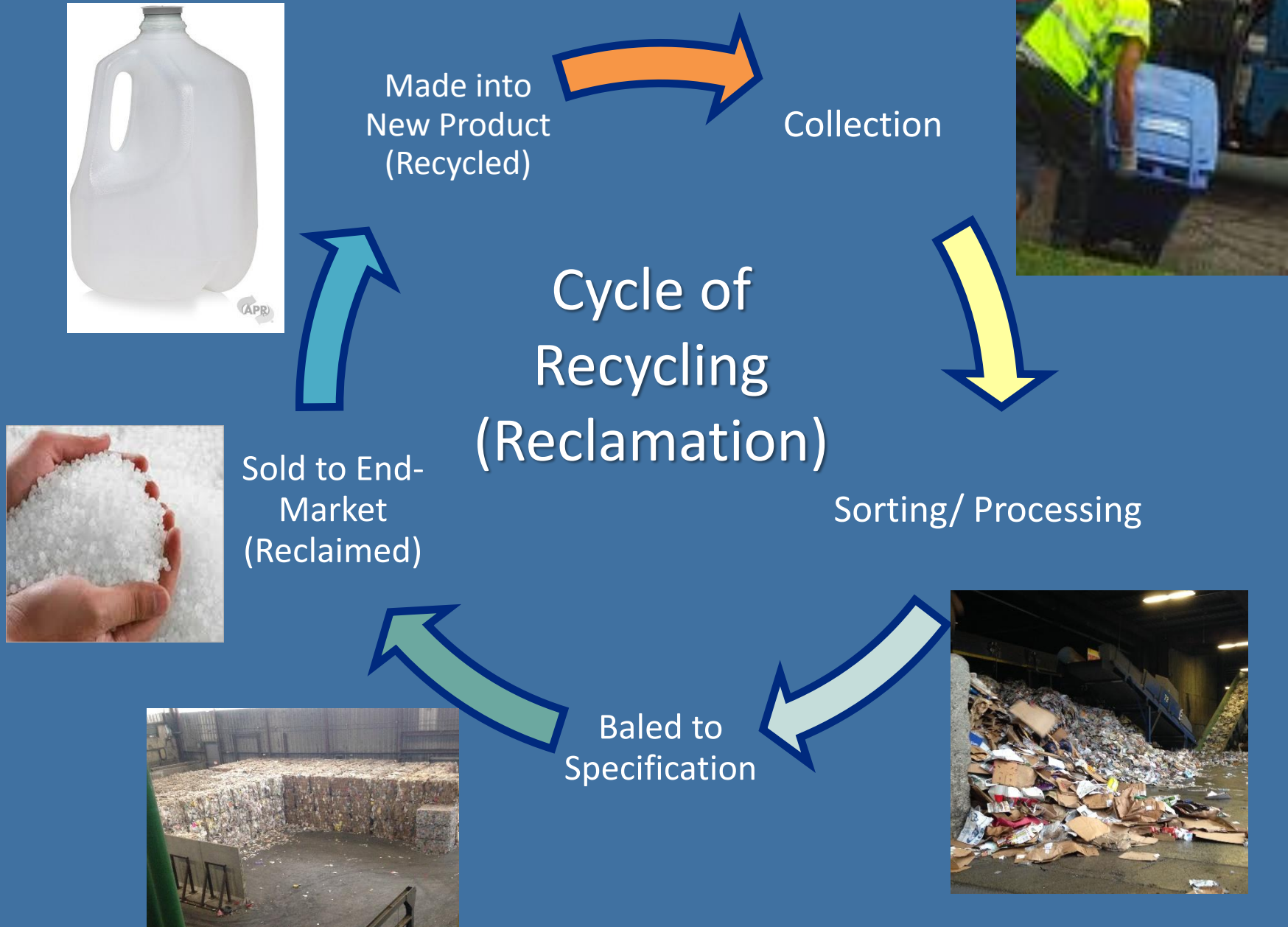


- **Also identified**

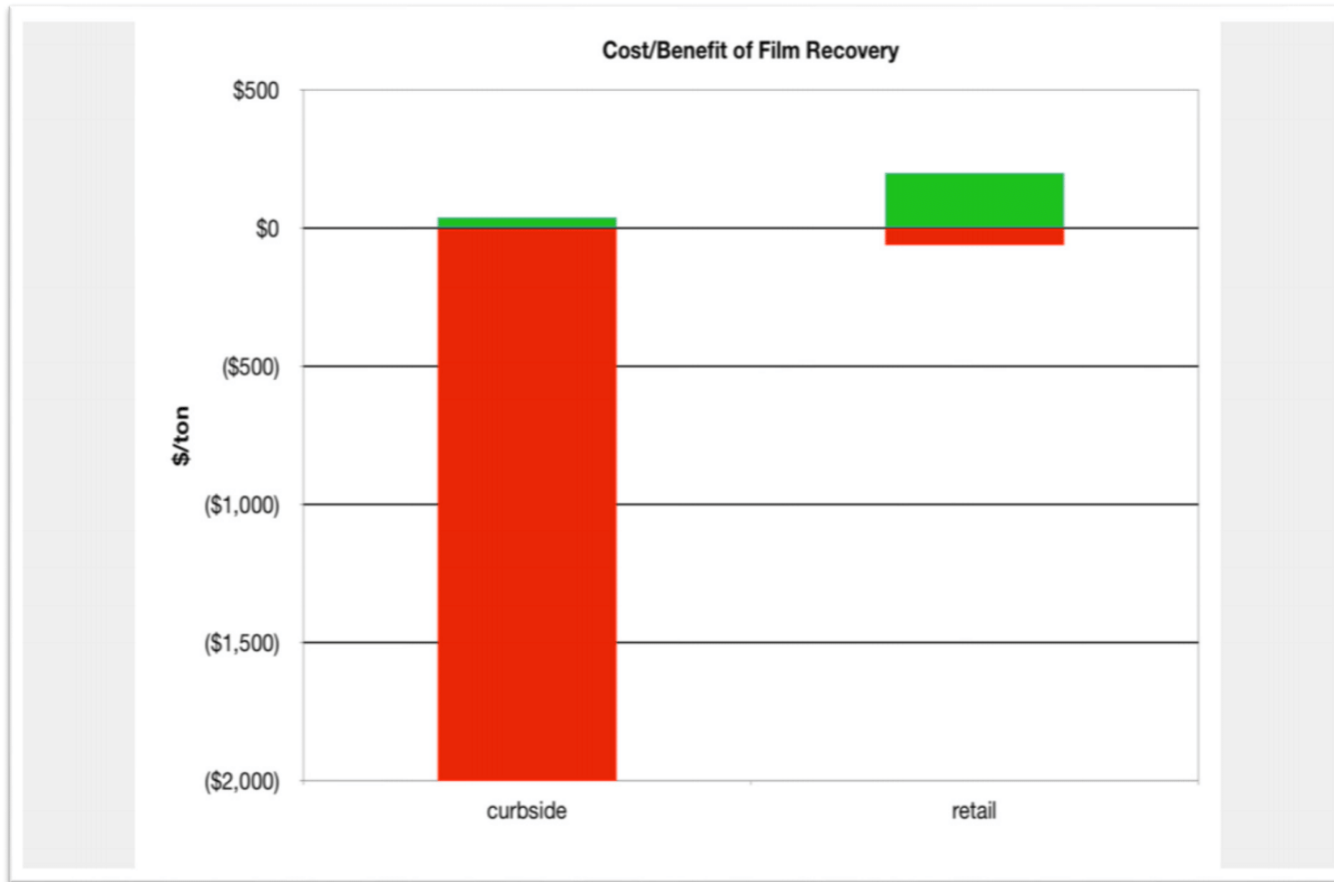
- When material has market, but not when it is mixed with other curbside recyclables (led us to identify it as “out”; ex. Plastic film)
- If municipal contract requires it, even though detrimental (some facilities identified they are required to accept polystyrene (Styrofoam) or plastic bags)



Why Does Quality Matter?



FILM CURBSIDE VERSUS RETAIL COSTS



Source: More Recycling



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Plastic Bags & Other Film at CT MRFs



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Plastic Bags & Other Film at CT MRFs



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Glass Recovered at CT MRFs




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Glass Recovered at CT MRFs



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Linked with national efforts to standardize
language

The Recycling Partnership

Vermont, Massachusetts

American Chemistry Council/More
Recycling (formerly Moore Recycling)



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- Terms – importance of word choice
 - Mixed Recycling; mixed recyclables
 - Ex. Plastic Containers (less reliance on #'s)
 - Tubs & Lids
 - Food Storage Containers
 - Cups
 - Deli Containers
 - Take out food containers
 - Berry/cherry tomato containers





- Plastic Terms

- Bulky Rigid Plastics

- Laundry Basket
 - Milk crate/crates
 - Plastic boxes/crates/bins
 - Little Tyke/children's slides, outdoor toys
 - Broken plastic lawn furniture, chairs

- May reference #'s, but will not rely on them





CLEAN, NO FOOD



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Some Changes

- IN: Pizza boxes (clean, no food) for all
- IN: Black plastic containers, nursery pots/planter pots
- OUT: No loose bottle caps
- OUT: No shredded paper
- OUT: No plastic bags, plastic wrap/film
- OUT: No expanded polystyrene (Styrofoam)





What's IN? What's OUT?

AIMED AT

RESIDENTS

(not businesses)



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PAPER: WHAT's IN

Newsprint	Remove plastic bag/film
Magazines, Newspaper inserts	
Boxboard, Cereal/Pasta/Cracker boxes	Remove plastic bag/sleeve
Office paper, discarded mail	FAQ – staples and plastic windows are OK
Kraft paper/paper bags	
Gable top cartons	Rinsed, no caps, no straws
Asceptic packaging	Rinsed, no caps, no straws
Phone books	
Pizza Boxes (occ/boxboard both ok)	Clean. No food, no liners.
Molded pulp paper	
Frozen food containers	
Hardcover/soft cover books	

PAPER: WHAT's OUT

Shredded paper	Not with mixed recyclables*
Gift wrapping paper, gift bags, tissue paper	Not with mixed recyclables*
Ice cream containers	Trash
Paper cups (hot or cold)	Trash
Take-out food containers	Trash
Tissue paper	Trash

GLASS: WHAT's IN

Food and Beverage bottles & Jars

Rinsed; metal caps ok
Plastic caps on bottles only (no
loose bottle caps)

GLASS: WHAT's OUT

Windshields, glass from automobiles

Not with mixed recyclables*

Ceramics, such as plates, bowls, mugs

Not with mixed recyclables*
Trash

Drinking glasses

Not with mixed recyclables*
Trash

Window pane glass; plate glass windows

Not with mixed recyclables*
Trash

AL/STEEL: WHAT'S IN

Cans and bottles	Rinsed
Foil containers (pie pans)	Rinsed
Metal lids from cans	Rinsed
Metal lids from glass jars	Rinsed
Reusable Metal Water Bottles	No caps
Food grade aerosol cans	Empty; no paint, pesticide or other container with previously flammable product
Aluminum foil	Clean, no food, nothing hazardous

AL/STEEL: WHAT's OUT

Foil lid peeled off yoghurt container	Trash
Propane Tanks	Not with mixed recyclables*
Spiral wound containers, foil liner	Trash
Small scrap metal (that could fit in cart)	Not with mixed recyclables*
Empty paint cans	Not with mixed recyclables*
Pots and Pans	Not with mixed recyclables*

PLASTIC: WHAT's IN

Plastic bottles and jugs	Clean. Bottle caps on bottles and jugs only (no loose bottle caps)
Non-bottle containers: deli containers, yoghurt cups, yoghurt containers, cookie trays	Clean
Plastic disposable, one-use cups	Clean. No Lids, No Straws. Plastic cups only. No polystyrene/ Styrofoam Cups. No Paper cups.
Black plastic containers	Clean (no food or soil)
Flower pots, nursery pots	Clean, no soil
Trays, bowls – from catering services	CLEAN

PLASTIC: WHAT's OUT

Loose Bottle caps	Bottle caps on plastic glass bottles, gable top cartons or aseptic packaging only. Loose bottles caps go in trash.
Bulky Rigids (buckets/crates)	Not with mixed recycling*
Expanded polystyrene (EPS) (Styrofoam)	Not with mixed recycling* NO Blocks, No Shapes, No Meat Trays, No Peanuts, No Food take-out containers, No polystyrene plates, cups
Plastic bags, film, tarps, plastic sheets	Not with mixed recycling*
PET Foam Insulation (food insulation sheets)	Trash
Prescription pill bottles	Trash
Containers which previously had pesticides, oil, paint, pool chemicals, gas or other hazardous materials	Trash; HHW Collection*
Single use plastic utensils, plastic bowls & plates	Trash

GENERAL: WHAT's OUT/FAQs/WDIDW – Search Tool

Appliances	Should be put with scrap metal at TS or ask recycling coordinator (RC)
Electronics	TVs, tablets, phones, computers etc. refer to muni electronics recycling program
VCR tapes, reels to reel tapes	Trash, unless muni has special collection program at transfer station/library; VCR tapes in good condition to Goodwill/charity
Empty Gasoline cans – plastic or metal	Trash – FAQ for old gasoline
Pens, pencils	If in good condition, Goodwill/charity or if not reusable, trash
Clothing Hangers – plastic, wood or metal	Goodwill, scrap metal, bulky plastic
No car parts, bumpers etc. – plastic or metal	If metal, scrap metal
No Keurig/single use coffee cups, travel shampoo, toothbrushes, razors	Trash
No water filters – whether used in faucets or plastic pitchers	Trash

Webpage

Tools available to CT municipalities, haulers with residential recycling clients, facilities that process residential recyclables (and others that agree to use CT's new universal list).

- Recycle Wizard Search tool
- Social media graphics/images
- Videos
- Templates (ie collateral)

Paid Media (Pandora, Facebook, online video)

Personal replies: email, facebook comments



Popular Materials – Top Ten

1. Styrofoam – *1461 hits*
2. Plastic bag – *1374 hits*
3. Shredded paper – *1321 hits*
4. Pizza box - *1205 hits*
5. Battery (non-rechargeable) – *1040 hits*
6. Aluminum foil – *961 hits*
7. Plastic take-out container – *868 hits*
8. Plastic “clam shell” container – *868 hits*
9. Milk, juice carton – *831 hits*
10. Egg carton (Styrofoam) – *768 hits*

As of 5/23/18



Suggested Items – Top Ten

1. Binder – 3 searches
2. Insulation – 3 searches
3. PVC pipe – 3 searches
4. Toaster oven – 3 searches
5. Rags – 3 searches
6. Cork – 3 searches
7. Greeting cards – 3 searches
8. Wheel barrel – 2 searches
9. Lawn mower – 2 searches
10. Dog food bags – 2 searches

As of May 23, 2018



What's IN, What's OUT



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