



Sustainable Fairfield Task Force
FOOD and WASTE subcommittee meeting
Minutes: February 3, 2023

1. **Recycling and Waste Actions:**

- a. Glass Recycling pilot. – No updated data on volumes yet. Request into the town
- b. Food waste program - Exploring possible secondary locations; Congress fire station and CT Audubon. Would need to bear proof and lock containers. Cost is \$325 month for up to 4 bins at each secondary location. Dan is interested in setting up a Stratfield village site. What is involved regarding permitting? Discussion about Big Belly test at one of these locations. Possibility of a sustainable CT grant, that could be bundled with other recycling initiatives. Discussion about looking into costs of Ridgefield's Aerobic static pile for Haydu farm possible location and possibly bringing Andrew from Park City composting in Bridgeport to support Fairfield efforts.
- c. OOPS stickers - Still waiting for a start date from DPW on this.
- d. Mattress recycling event for spring – Looking at a May date. Discussion about whether scout troops might be interested in helping residents get mattresses to the site. Meghan will forward Bob the contact details of Wendy Carroll, the Girl scout troop leader.
- e. Seminars on recycling and composting - We will explore 2 composting and Food waste recycling seminars this coming spring; ideally one at each of the town libraries.
- f. School recycling initiatives / Green team - At this point 2 schools are doing Composting; Riverside which is going well and Holland Hill which is still getting up to speed. There will be funds to add 1 – 2 schools next year. Fairfield Ludlow High school is starting up a compost bin program. The big win would be to find a way to collect all of the school trays – which are all BPI compostable and thus recyclable but they need to be brought up to Quantum Biopower in Southington which is expensive. But trays are up to 80% of the lunch waste. Dwight has started a milk carton recycling program and the end goal is to get all the schools to collect these and haul up to Kelly Green products in Danbury which makes them into a kind of dry wall. At this point there are no funds for hauling but the schools are still working to get kids to collect and recycle. Finally A few schools are starting a project of Blue bins in classrooms to separate out paper.



- g. Discount composter program - this would have to be funded from the Sustainable CT grant. The logistics are harder now that Amazon will not let you order in bulk.
- h. Lee Sawyer grant updates - We are looking into option to do another 50 bins free around earth day. John is confirming costs to update the transfer station site.
- i. Fix it shop or take it or leave it drop off - No discussion – we need to find someone who can take this exploration on.

2. Food Actions:

- a. Farmers market and sustainable food options outreach – will start to pull together the updated list of CSAs and farmers markets.