

Middletown Recycling Coordinator's Report

July 22, 2024

Grants

DEEP SMM Grant – Co-Collection, Unit Based Pricing Program –

Currently happening:

- The Sanitation Commission met on June 25 and voted to move the program forward with certain modifications. These are outlined in the draft resolution included with the agenda.
- The Public Works Commission voted to move the discussion onto the Council.
- The Common Council will be considering the resolution at its meeting on August 5.
- A formal request was made to DEEP for additional funding to continue the program.
- Ongoing: bag assistance and deliveries, collect payments, bag sales, reporting, assisting with inquiries & outreach.

Administration

RRAC – Minutes are completed and have been filed with the Town Clerk. Recordings have been uploaded to the City Granicus website.

Complaints/Issues Handled –

- Trash in food scrap cart on Randolph Road
- Wesleyan pillows
- Wesleyan Consolidation
- 1 Cart on the curb violation
- 1 FOIA request regarding scrap metal
- 2 complaints on business recycling
- 5 business assists
- 0 waste audits; 1 training with I. Guy
- Noise complaint re: trash trucks
- Numerous resident calls and emails;

Hauler Ordinance and Recycling Center Policy updates - The City has issued 2363 resident passes and 49 commercial hauler licenses in FY 2024.

The residential recycling passes were extended to Dec. 31, 2024. Information was included in the tax bill and has increased the amount of residents requesting passes. The commercial haulers and contractors registration and licensing forms for FY 2025 were sent out and posted on the website.

Contracts/Purchases

- Tire Disposal Contract - executed
- Mixed Bulk Waste Bid – executed
- Leaf Composting Amendment extension

- MSW/Sorting of MSW and Food Scraps
- Roll off covers at Transfer Station
- Sanitation District : carts and dumpsters – purchased
- Cleaning Sanitation District carts – 68 carts were cleaned for reuse on July 18, 2024
- Lead Acid Battery RFQ
- Sanitation District APP Contract Amendment – executed
- Kuhn Litter Clean Up at Recycling Center PO
- RiverCog Household Hazardous Waste PO
- Hats, Water Bottle and giveaways

Conversations–

- Woodbury resident – Sneaker Recycling
- Amherst MA – Shredded paper
- Big Y Employee Volunteer projects
- Webinar with [Diversion Strategies](#) on bagged co-collection.

Materials

Tonnages (see end of report)

Bulk Waste Costs – Compile tonnages for past 4 years and research costs in other towns. With the new contract, disposal costs have increased by \$17/ton. Considering increases to charges at the recycling center and curbside pick up.

Track tonnages for past four years for scrap metal, bulk waste, msw, food scraps, and single stream recycling.

Other Projects

Swap Shack – Please continue signing up for shifts through the Chair.

Sustainability –

- Analyzing potential to apply for Climate Leader Designation
- Review draft Government Guide – thank you to Wesleyan Sustainability for all the work on this
- Meet with Mayor to draft flow chart of decision making in Middletown
- Coordinate with other towns to learn about Sustainable CT Gold status and Climate Leader Designation
- Meet with Sustainable CT interns to discuss organics collection
- Add training manual to Stormwater webpage
- HeatSmart Activities:
 - Regular meetings with Eversource
 - Social Media Post
 - Design for water bottles
- Prepare for Open Air Market:
 - EcoSmart be joining us at the Open Air Market to promote the Heat Smart program

Other Miscellaneous projects:

- Litter cleanups – coordinate collection of material on River Road
- Circus camp food scrap collection
- Publicize paving projects
- Create holiday schedule for Sanitation District
- Assistant Transition: Tucker Resor ended: Kate Gendrich started.

Outreach and Public Education events:

- Social Media, Website updates, Civic Send, Newsflashes, calendar postings & press releases
- CT River Conservancy STEAM Camp
- [Recycling Center Tour Video](#)

Upcoming Events –

- Middletown Farmers Market
- July 31 – Camp Crystal – Worms needed!
- August 16 – Back to School Fair
- August 25, 9 – 4pm Open Air Market, Wadsworth Mansion
- September 21, 9 – 12 noon, Ewaste Collection at Wesleyan
- November 13, 12-1, Lunch and Learn at City Hall

Meetings & Webinars

- SWAC
- Internal meeting at Recycling Center
- Middletown & Wesleyan Sustainability meetings
- Meetings with Sustainable CT Interns
- HeatSmart meetings with Eversource
- CT Recycling Coalition Board Meeting
- SMM Grant meetings with DEEP and Waste Zero
- Sanitation Commission regular and special meetings
- Public Works Commission regular meeting
- CCSMM School Recycling subcommittee
- Meet your Greens, Mister Fix This

What I'm reading:

[Waste 360 Article on Virginia Landfill Closing; Waste Heading out of State](#)

[West Hartford Unit Based Pricing Program](#)

[Resource Recycling Article on CT Redemptions Increasing](#)

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim O'Rourke, Middletown Recycling Coordinator

Materials

Recycling Tonnages –

Food Waste (Restaurants and drop offs only) -

Month	FY 21	FY 22	FY23	FY 24
Month	lbs	lbs	tons	tons
July		7956	11.86	16.2
Aug		9933	12.15	15
Sept		25165	11.56	14.5
Oct		22101	14.07	14.86
Nov		27945	11.8	12.8
Dec		30005	12.8	14.5
Jan		26558	15.14	15.45
Feb		26618	15.15	13.33
Mar		35860	15.75	14.62
Apr		29945	16.32	15.69
May	795	39005	15.17	14.89
Jun	5330	33545	16.1	13.15
Total	6125	314636	167.87	174.99

Cardboard (Current cost \$0/ton)

Cardboard - Tonnage					
Month	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
July	34.86	34.45	32.51	24.02	16.68
August	30.92	33.57	30.5	30.09	20.56
Sept	26.39	30.39	25.33	39.55	16.18
Oct	35.22	31.27	33.44	28.78	1.93
Nov	38.62	28.27	38.24	28.95	17.17
Dec	39.87	27.62	31.26	29.44	13.08
Jan	33.74	33.58	18.51	35.48	42.25
Feb	25.33	26.9	27.8	21.17	29.48
Mar	28.65	30.06	29.42	26.7	31.43
April	15.03	34.3	28.36	30.48	29.98
May	31.27	28.16	32.58	32.67	35.07
June	28.96	32.77	21.24	29.13	31.85
Total	368.86	371.34	349.19	356.46	285.66

Single Stream Recycling

Mixed Recycling Tonnage					
Month	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
July	56.35	78.63	68.02	51.08	51.07
Aug	66.19	53.48	61.15	46.78	60.8
Sept	57.46	53.82	57.9	64.26	46.2
Oct	70.77	54.47	63.42	63.63	49.04
Nov	60.93	56.12	61.95	53.18	48.15
Dec	60.31	67.63	68.67	61.58	52.85
Jan	59.13	54.31	56.34	61.56	57.65
Feb	59.41	60.3	52.09	42.89	41.26
Mar	88.82	71.71	66.85	51.76	50.69
Apr	46.46	103.4	65	54.31	50.65
May	54.26	146.58	56	65.51	58.54
June	57.14	62.21	60.29	52.08	52.45
Total	737.23	862.66	737.68	668.62	619.35

Costs of Single Stream Recycling

Recycling Payment/Reimbursement - Mixed Recycling per ton					
Month	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
July	\$62.75	\$82.76	\$15.20	\$41.18	\$95.08
Aug	\$66.30	\$81.68	\$2.11	\$68.15	\$98.65
Sept	\$65.40	\$77.41	\$6.85	\$88.70	\$91.28
Oct	\$64.03	\$72.73	\$5.25	\$99.98	\$86.26
Nov	\$63.10	\$69.44	\$5.65	\$98.13	\$81.00
Dec	\$61.94	\$65.65	\$22.60	\$97.41	\$76.71
Jan	\$86.52	\$64.38	\$41.70	\$100.54	\$75.74
Feb	\$88.53	\$61.95	\$39.28	\$98.90	\$70.21
Mar	\$90.06	\$59.15	\$31.95	\$93.99	\$65.81
Apr	\$84.54	\$51.64	\$28.78	\$89.15	\$65.04
May	\$74.67	\$48.90	\$27.44	\$84.90	\$60.91
June	\$79.28	\$42.00	\$31.22	\$84.90	\$61.31