

February 24, 2011

Media inquiries: Paul Nonnenmacher
860-757-7771

pnonnenmacher@crra.org

CRRA to Pay Towns Over \$400,000 for Recycling; Middlebury, W. Hartford, Sharon, Salisbury, E. Granby, Torrington Stand Out

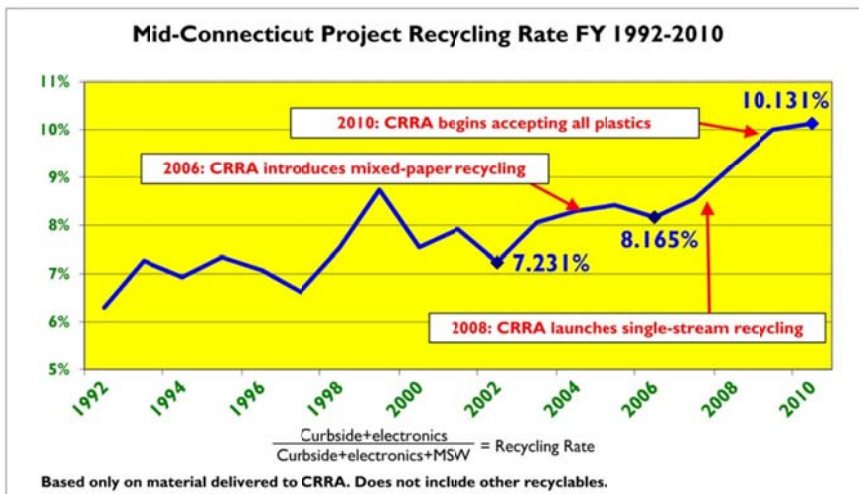
CRRA's Efforts Lead to Best Recycling Year Ever; Towns Save Additional \$5.3 Million

HARTFORD, Conn. – For years, the [Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority](#) has been reminding people that it pays to recycle. Soon, 64 cities and towns will get checks to prove it.

In fact, they'll be collecting a total of more than \$400,000 – \$5 for every qualifying ton of recyclables they delivered to CRRA during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2010. The [CRRA Board of Directors](#) today voted to authorize the rebates.

The \$5-a-ton rebate is just one of a number of CRRA initiatives to increase recycling:

- In 2008, CRRA introduced to Connecticut [single-stream recycling](#), the next generation of recycling.
- In 2009, CRRA supported the introduction of single-stream recycling with a public awareness campaign that featured radio advertisements, printed materials and press interviews.
- In 2010, CRRA began [accepting plastics #3 through #7](#) from Mid-Connecticut Project cities and towns.
- Its [award-winning education programs](#), offered through the [CRRA Trash Museum](#) in Hartford and [CRRA Garbage Museum in Stratford](#), attracted 56,499 participants in 2010, their third-highest participation total on record and fifth straight year totaling more than 50,000.



As a result of these efforts, residents of [Mid-Connecticut Project](#) towns recycled 83,856 tons of material in fiscal 2010. Add in 526 tons of electronics (not part of the rebate program) collected at [CRRA electronics recycling](#) events, and those towns recycled 84,382 tons of waste, which, for the fourth year in a row, set an all-time Project record.

And when compared to trash deliveries of 722,642 tons during the same period, Project towns recycled 10.13 percent of their solid waste, another Project record. Percentages are based on the ratio of recyclables to trash delivered to Mid-Connecticut Project facilities from Project towns.

“Reducing trash and increasing recycling are the best ways to manage the state’s solid waste problem, and we’re delighted that our initiatives are making that happen,” said Thomas D. Kirk, CRRA president.

Some noteworthy accomplishments:

- For the third straight year, West Hartford led the Project by recycling 6002.99 tons.
- Per person, for the third straight year the towns of Sharon and Salisbury, were the best recyclers. Through their shared transfer station they recycled 969.07 tons, or 276.29 pounds per resident.
- Middlebury had the best recycling rate at 25.85 percent.
- East Granby recycled 474.73 tons, an increase of more than 89 percent over its FY 2009 total, the largest tonnage increase in the Project.
- Torrington, meanwhile, had the best increase in its recycling rate (the ratio of recyclables to garbage delivered to the Mid-Connecticut Project) by more than 51 percent.

Money for the rebates comes from revenues CRRA receives from the sale of recycled commodities. But the rebates aren’t the only financial incentive for towns to recycle. By not sending that waste to the [Mid-Connecticut Project trash-to-energy plant](#), those towns saved more than \$5.7 million in disposal fees.

Since CRRA began issuing [recycling rebates after FY 2008](#), it has paid out more than \$1.6 million. Those towns saved an additional \$16 million by recycling instead of paying for trash disposal at \$69 per ton.

Recycling figures do not include electronics (recycled through CRRA, manufacturers or retailers) and do not include other forms of recycling, such as deposit container redemption, composting of grass clippings, yard waste and food, and recycling of other commodities including scrap metal, waste oil, lead-acid batteries. After taking all these other materials into consideration, the [Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection](#) estimates that Connecticut recycles about 30 percent of its solid waste.

The Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority is a quasi-public agency whose mission is to work for – and in – the best interests of the municipalities of the state of Connecticut. CRRA’s [board of directors](#) and [management team](#) develop and implement environmentally sound solutions and best practices for solid waste disposal and recycling management on behalf of municipalities. CRRA serves 96 Connecticut cities and towns. CRRA also runs [award-winning sustainability education](#) programs through the [CRRA Trash Museum](#) in Hartford and [CRRA Garbage Museum](#) in Stratford. For more information about CRRA and its activities, visit <http://www.crra.org>. Computer users can also discuss CRRA at its blog, <http://crra-blog.blogspot.com>.

(EDITORS AND NEWS DIRECTORS: A complete list of towns and the rebates they are to receive is attached.)

Mid-Connecticut Project Recycling Rebates for FY 2010

City/Town	Population*	Recycling (tons)	Rebate (@ \$5/ton)	City/Town	Population*	Recycling (tons)	Rebate (@ \$5/ton)
Avon	17,357	2,309.01	\$11,545.05	Madison	18,824	1,420.91	\$7,104.55
Beacon Falls	5,866	298.65	\$1,493.25	Manchester	56,388	5,006.07	\$25,030.35
Bethlehem	3,577	330.31	\$1,651.55	Marlborough	6,359	528.97	\$2,644.85
Bloomfield	20,696	1,384.86	\$6,924.30	Middlebury	7,394	837.68	\$4,188.40
Bolton	5,155	506.65	\$2,533.25	Naugatuck	32,019	1,476.70	\$7,383.50
Canton	10,125	881.10	\$4,405.50	Newington	29,818	2,181.83	\$10,909.15
Chester	3,832	325.37	\$1,626.85	Norfolk	1,658	165.78	\$828.90
Clinton	13,609	794.32	\$3,971.60	North Branford	14,387	878.64	\$4,393.20
Colebrook	1,532	151.73	\$758.65	North Canaan	3,366	240.78	\$1,203.90
Cornwall	1,488	158.92	\$794.60	Old Saybrook	10,545	1,015.34	\$5,076.70
Coventry	12,307	1,209.74	\$6,048.70	Oxford	12,890	776.29	\$3,881.45
Cromwell	13,669	1,048.90	\$5,244.50	Portland	9,577	555.74	\$2,778.70
Deep River	4,683	281.46	\$1,407.30	Rocky Hill	18,827	1,421.12	\$7,105.60
East Granby	5,210	474.73	\$2,373.65	Roxbury	2,320	198.54	\$992.70
East Hampton	12,766	1,102.21	\$5,511.05	RRDD#1 ⁽¹⁾	21,234	1,926.51	\$9,632.55
East Hartford	48,634	1,936.29	\$9,681.45	Sharon/Salisbury	7,015	969.07	\$4,845.35
East Windsor	11,041	876.00	\$4,380.00	Simsbury	23,648	2,527.15	\$12,635.75
Ellington	14,829	1,451.85	\$7,259.25	South Windsor	26,258	2,725.38	\$13,626.90
Enfield	45,259	2,995.11	\$14,975.55	Southbury	19,706	1,574.28	\$7,871.40
Essex	6,810	767.09	\$3,835.45	Suffield	15,163	1,395.64	\$6,978.20
Farmington	25,144	2,314.04	\$11,570.20	Thomaston	7,801	465.28	\$2,326.40
Glastonbury	33,353	3,699.10	\$18,495.50	Torrington	35,408	2,957.83	\$14,789.15
Goshen	3,244	293.40	\$1,467.00	Vernon	30,182	1,925.74	\$9,628.70
Granby	11,220	1,502.96	\$7,514.80	Waterbury	107,143	2,961.21	\$14,806.05
Guilford	22,469	1,646.22	\$8,231.10	Watertown	22,217	1,238.03	\$6,190.15
Haddam	7,954	492.02	\$2,460.10	West Hartford	60,852	6,002.99	\$30,014.95
Hartford	124,060	4,282.40	\$21,412.00	Westbrook	6,685	414.08	\$2,070.40
Harwinton	5,596	478.24	\$2,391.20	Wethersfield	25,767	2,073.92	\$10,369.60
Hebron	9,304	859.76	\$4,298.80	Windsor Locks	12,517	1,095.40	\$5,477.00
Killingworth	6,522	630.90	\$3,154.50	Woodbury	9,700	757.14	\$3,785.70
Litchfield	8,686	658.97	\$3,294.85	TOTALS	1,208,813	83,856.35	\$419,281.75

* Source: [Connecticut Department of Public Health 2009 population estimate](#)

(1) – [Regional Refuse Disposal District No. 1](#) includes Barkhamsted, New Hartford and Winchester.