

**Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority**

# **Wipe Out Waste!**

## **GUIDE BOOK**

[www.hrra.org](http://www.hrra.org)

**re.**

**think**

**RECYCLING**

**Everything you need to know  
to re-imagine the future.**



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## Who Can I Call?

Visit HRRA's web site [www.hrра.org](http://www.hrра.org), or email [info@hrра.org](mailto:info@hrра.org)

HRRA	203.775.4539
Jen Iannucci, Director	
Cheryl Reedy, Asst. Director	

## Municipal Recycling Contacts

Town of Bethel - Mike Flanagan	203.778.7436
Town of Bridgewater - Brian Sullivan	860.354.2441
Town of Brookfield - Tom Tibolla	203.775.5232
City of Danbury - Susan McClain	203.797.4637
Town of Kent - Joyce Kearns	860.927.4627
Town of New Fairfield - Chris Loudon	203.312.5677
Town of New Milford - Mike Zarba	860.355.6040
Town of Newtown - Arlene Miles	203.270.4300
Town of Redding - Larry Kulowiec	203.938.3026
Town of Ridgefield - Ellen Rossini	203.431.2748
Town of Sherman - Ruth Byrnes	860.355.1139



# HRRA



Members of the HRRA left to right: Joel Urice (Danbury), Herb Rosenthal (Newtown), First Selectman Matt Knickerbocker (Bethel), Tom Tibolla (Brookfield), First Selectman Rudy Marconi (Ridgefield), Selectman Mike Gill (New Fairfield), Brian Sullivan (Bridgewater), First Selectman Susan Chapman (New Fairfield), Larry Kulowiec (Redding) and Suzanne Von Holt (New Milford),. Missing from photo, Kent and Sherman.



## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

*Dear Resident of the HRRA Region,*

*On behalf of the members of the HRRA, I am pleased to present this Wipe Out Waste Guidebook to help answer frequently asked questions about how to recycle and properly dispose of waste in our region.*

*We hope you will find lots of useful information in these pages as together we work to reduce, reuse, rethink and recycle. Thanks for your help in meeting our recycling goals!*

Michael T. Gill  
HRRA Chairman

## WHAT IS THE HRRA?

Created in 1989, The Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority, also known as HRRA and pronounced as “Hurrah”, is the regional municipal solid waste (MSW) and recycling management organization for the Housatonic Valley municipalities of Bethel, Bridgewater, Brookfield, Danbury, Kent, New Fairfield, New Milford, Newtown, Redding, Ridgefield, and Sherman.

The Authority is made up of one representative and one alternate from each municipality for a total of 22 members. The Chief Elected Official of each municipality either serves as his/her community’s representative to HRRA or appoints another representative as well as an alternate. The HRRA has a staff of two. All meetings of the HRRA are open to the public .



# haulers

## how to choose



### How To Choose A Hauler

For residents new to the area, garbage and recycling collection in the region is provided by private subscription service with a solid waste hauler chosen by the resident. So how do you go about choosing a hauler? Below are some tips that other residents have found useful.

- Choose a hauler from the chart on the next page who is registered to collect in the municipality where you live. Registered haulers are legally able to collect in the community and maintain the appropriate insurances, licenses and vehicle registrations.
- Consider a hauler who offers unit-based pricing to insure that you only pay for the waste that you produce.
- Call several registered haulers and check their prices. Be sure to ask about unit-based pricing.
- Be sure and tell potential haulers about any special circumstances you have or services you want such as garage pick up rather than curbside or steep driveway or senior citizen, etc.
- Ask potential haulers about pricing for occasional oversize items you may want to leave out for pick up.
- Ask potential haulers if they will provide you with containers, bins, toters, etc. for trash and recycling.
- Ask your neighbors who they use and if they're happy with their hauler.



# haulers

registered in your town

Offers Unit Based Pricing	Hauling Company Name	Mailing Address	Town	State	Phone	# of Permitted Vehicles	Bethel	Bridgewater	Brookfield	Danbury	Kent	New Fairfield	New Milford	Newtown	Redding	Ridgefield	Sherman
	ABS	PO Box 217	Hawleyville	CT	(203) 270-1638	1				✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
✓	All American Waste	182 Danbury Road	New Milford	CT	(860) 354-2213	19	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
✓	Associated Refuse Haulers	PO Box 551	Sandy Hook	CT	(203) 426-8870	16	✓		✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	
✓	Belardinelli Services	21 Roberts Drive	Bethel	CT	(203) 744-3048	3	✓		✓	✓							
	Best Roll-Off Services, LLC	36 Southend Plaza	New Milford	CT	(860) 350-2378	1		✓				✓					
	Bull Enterprises dba 1800GOTJUNK?	456 Seymour Street	Stratford	CT	(203) 992-7526	5	✓		✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	
	Cole Refuse	14 Parkwood Terr Dr	Danbury	CT	(203) 748-5555	1	✓			✓		✓					
	Country Disposal	54 Danbury Rd	Ridgefield	CT	(203) 438-9500	16	✓			✓				✓	✓	✓	
	County Waste Management, Inc	PO Box 548	Harrison	NY	(914) 241-2200	3									✓	✓	
	CWPM, LLC	PO Box 415	Plainville	CT	(860) 747-1335	4	✓		✓	✓						✓	
	Danco Roll-Off Dumpster Service, LLC	46 Old State Rd	New Milford	CT	(860) 355-2123	3		✓		✓		✓				✓	✓
	DaSilva Sons, Inc.	288 Main Street	Danbury	CT	(203) 748-9112	2				✓							
	Domain's Refuse Service, Inc.	PO Box 714	Brookfield	CT	(203) 947-6604	2	✓		✓	✓		✓		✓			
	Junkluggers, LLC	555 8th Ave, Ste 1709	New York	NY	(800) 584-5865 x116	5				✓							✓
	Latella Rubbish Removal LLC	PO Box 26185	West Haven	CT	(203) 934-5599	3	✓			✓			✓				
✓	LoStocco Refuse Service, LLC	PO Box 4964	Danbury	CT	(203) 743-9940	17	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓			✓
	MJ Refuse	52 Federal Rd Suite 1H	Danbury	CT	(203)743-0357	1	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓				✓
	Mr. Scott's Sanitation, LLC	PO Box 3322	Danbury	CT	(860) 355-5591	2		✓	✓	✓			✓				
	Ness Industries	PO Box 95	Newtown	CT	(203) 739-5004	2								✓	✓	✓	
	New Milford Farms, LLC	60 Boardman Rd	New Milford	CT	(860) 210-0250	1				✓				✓			
✓	Newtown Garbage Removal	PO Box 326	Newtown	CT	(203) 426-3687	3								✓			
✓	Newtown Recycling Service, LLC	PO Box 126	Hawleyville	CT	(203) 270-9816	2	✓		✓	✓				✓			
	Phil Lo Presti & Sons Carting Co, Inc.	86 Turkey Plain Rd	Bethel	CT	(203) 798-8993	12	✓		✓	✓		✓		✓	✓		
	Redding Sanitation/Simple Waste	PO Box 694	Redding	CT	(203) 938-3391	4	✓			✓					✓	✓	
	RRR Maintenance, Inc.	PO Box 137	Roxbury	CT	(860) 354-4621	4		✓			✓			✓			✓
	Sabene Carting Service, LLC	33 King Street	Danbury	CT	(203) 470-1783	2	✓			✓		✓					
	Thomas N. & Kelli A. Powell	41 Park Lane East	New Milford	CT	(860) 354-8860	1							✓				✓
	Tom Mead Refuse	PO Box 318	Southbury	CT	(203) 270-9874	2	✓		✓					✓			
	TM Carting	79 Knollwood Drive	Bethel	CT	(203) 798-2332	3	✓		✓	✓					✓		
✓	Winters Bros. Waste Systems of CT, LLC	307 White Street	Danbury	CT	(203) 743-0405	37	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	7 - North Sanitation Services LLC	P.O. Box 1193	New Milford	CT	(860) 799-7017	2		✓	✓				✓				✓

Visit [www.hrra.org](http://www.hrra.org) for the most up to date list of registered haulers in your town.





# recycling

## where does it go?

### Where Does Our Recycling Go?

Most recycling collected within the HRR region goes first to the regional recycling center at 307 White Street in Danbury, CT. From there it is loaded onto tractor trailers and taken to the Winters Bros., state of the art, Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) located in Shelton, CT. At the MRF single stream recycling is separated by various types of equipment into its constituent parts such as newspaper, cardboard, PET bottles, aluminum cans, etc. then baled for sale into the commodities market where it is eventually used as raw material to make new products. The Winters Bros. MRF can process 250 T per day of single stream recycling for sale to the markets.



### Recycling Myths

**Q1). My hauler picks up my recycling and my trash in the same truck and mixes them both together.**

*Most haulers who pick up recycling and trash in the same truck have a split body truck. It appears that both containers are being tipped into the same part of the truck, but in fact, they're not. Since recycling costs haulers \$10/T to tip and trash costs more than \$85/T to tip, haulers have a vested, financial interest in making sure that recycling stays separate from trash.*

**Q2). Single stream recycling can't be separated into its component parts. It is all eventually disposed of as trash.**

*See the video on HRR's homepage at [www.hrra.org](http://www.hrra.org) of a single stream MRF in operation in Connecticut. This MRF is a little older than the state-of-the-art facility where the recyclables from the HRR region are separated into products for sale into the commodities markets.*



# trash

where does it go?



Wheelabrator Bridgeport, L.P. waste-to-energy facility

## Where Does Our Trash Go?

Trash disposed of within the HRRRA region goes first to one of three transfer stations in the region, located in Danbury, Newtown and Ridgefield. From the transfer station the trash is loaded into large tractor trailer trucks and shipped to the Wheelabrator waste-to-energy plant in Bridgeport, CT.

The Wheelabrator Bridgeport, L.P. waste-to-energy facility provides dependable, environmentally safe disposal of municipal solid waste for more than two dozen towns and cities in the Greater Bridgeport area, while generating clean, renewable electricity for sale to the local utility. Designed, constructed, and operated by Wheelabrator, Wheelabrator Bridgeport processes up to 2,250 tons per day of municipal solid waste. Wheelabrator Bridgeport has an electric generating capacity of 67,000 kilowatts; the equivalent of supplying the electrical needs of 83,000 Connecticut homes.







# recycle•it!

## Single Stream Recycling

Place **ALL** of these items in one bin!



Paper Milk, Juice & Egg Cartons  
Cereal & Cracker Boxes



Steel, Tin and  
Aluminum Cans



Phone Books & Paperback Books



Cardboard and  
Paper Bags

Newspapers, Inserts,  
Junk Mail



Office Paper, Folders,  
Greeting Cards



Glass Bottles  
& Jars



#1-5 & 7 Plastic Bottles,  
Jugs, Jars, Tubs



It's easy and convenient...**NO MORE SORTING!**

**NO  
PLASTIC  
BAGS!**

All plastic bags must be kept  
out of the single stream recycling.  
More information on page 21.





# recycle•it!

## Residential Recycling Collection

## Recycle It! and Curb It!

### Recycling Collection

Most haulers provide residential recycling collection for residents on the same day as garbage. To find your collection day, call your hauler. (See page 5 for phone numbers)

### How to Recycle It!

1. Prepare recyclables for collection:
  - Rinse or wipe out food/liquid residue from containers.
  - Leave on bottle caps.
  - Place all recyclables in your recycling rollout cart, or bin.
2. Place the container at the curb or road side.

Please Note: Ask your hauler what type of recycling container you should use.

### City of Danbury Recycle Truck

Monday: War Memorial in Rogers Park  
Tuesday: Richter Park Aunt Hack Road  
Wednesday: PAL Building 35 Hayestown Road  
Thursday: King Street Volunteer Firehouse S. King Street  
Friday: Mill Plain Green In front of 65 Mill Plain Road  
*Each location runs 10am- 2pm with an attendant available.*



### What Can Be Recycled

- Aerosol cans
- Aluminum cans, foil & pie pans
- Cardboard
- Glass bottles & jars
- Juice boxes
- Milk and juice cartons
- Paper, junk mail & newspaper
- Plastics # 1-5 & 7
- Plastic bottles & jugs
- Wide mouth plastic containers
- Rigid plastics
- Spiral paper cans
- Metal food cans
- Cereal & food boxes
- Magazines & phonebooks
- Paperback & hardback books
- Plastic flower pots
- Pots & pans
- Small plastic toys
- Shredded paper
- Wire & plastic hangers

### What Can NOT Be Recycled

- Appliances
- Automobile Parts
- Batteries
- Ceramics
- Clothing\*\*
- Garbage
- Household Hazardous Waste\*
- Lightbulbs
- Paper plates/napkins
- Pizza boxes, soiled
- Plastics # 6
- Plastic bags
- Dishes & glasses
- Pyrex glass
- Yard waste
- Styrofoam
- Water hoses
- Mirrors

\* Items are accepted at the annual HHW collections. (See page 17).

\*\* Items accepted by non-profit organizations (See page 28.)

### More Information

To learn more about the recycling program, visit [www.hrra.org](http://www.hrra.org)



# re•think

## Multi-family Household Recycling

### Apartments, Townhouses and Condominiums

Many apartment and condo complexes offer recycling and provide large bins for you to deposit your recyclables. When you are ready to drop them off at the designated recycling station at your complex, simply place the materials into the container labeled recycling.

If you have any questions about recycling at your apartment or condominium, please call your property manager or Condo Board. You can also contact HRRRA for recycling education flyers to distribute to all residents.



### What Can Be Recycled

- Aerosol cans
- Aluminum cans, foil & pie pans
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- Glass bottles & jars
- Juice boxes
- Milk and juice cartons
- Paper, junk mail & newspaper
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- Wide mouth plastic containers
- Rigid plastics
- Spiral paper cans
- Metal food cans
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### What Can NOT Be Recycled

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- Mirrors

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\*\* Items accepted by non-profit organizations (See page 28.)





# re•think

## Business / Commercial Recycling

### Business Recycling In The HRRR Region

Whether you are looking to learn how to set up a recycling program at your business because you want to do the right thing or because it's the law – recycling is easier than you think!

State recycling requirements apply to everyone in Connecticut, including small business owners. If all of the 74,264 small businesses did their part by recycling – we would burn less waste, reduce pollutants in our environment, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and conserve natural resources. Do your part and take responsibility for your business' waste!

If you want to start or improve the recycling program at your business, start by contacting your waste hauler or HRRR to conduct a waste audit and make recommendations for ways to start or improve your recycling program that will provide the biggest bang with the least cost.

For businesses that want to move beyond the minimum requirements of the law, consider becoming a WasteWise partner, a voluntary EPA program that helps businesses reduce their solid waste to benefit their bottom line and the environment. For more information on the WasteWise program check it out online at [www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov).

### New England Compost

New England Compost was founded in 2001 in Danbury, Connecticut. They are a natural and organic mulch and soils manufacturing facility. They are members of the U.S. Composting Council and the Connecticut Chapter of the Northeast Organic Farming Association (NOFA).

New England Compost provides organic compost, soils and mulch to wholesalers and landscape professionals throughout Connecticut, New York and Massachusetts.

[www.NECompostCT.com](http://www.NECompostCT.com)  
57 Great Plain Road  
Danbury, CT 06810  
203.748.6516



### HRRR Business Recycling Ambassador Program

It is important to publicly recognize businesses that make an effort to reduce their waste. Studies show that consumers would like to patronize businesses that recycle or offer recycled products. The HRRR Business Recycling Ambassador Program has two goals. First, it is HRRR's initiative to identify, reward and publicly recognize these businesses. Second, it is an opportunity for business to share their ideas and programs with other businesses by becoming a mentor.

**For additional information call HRRR at 203-775-4539.**



### New Milford Farms - Food Waste Composting

All organic waste, tree trimmings, leaves, grass clippings, discarded plants, and land clearing debris should not be burned or land filled, but reprocessed into organic soils and mulches and placed back into the earth. Products such as compost not only enrich our soils, but also can be used to control and reduce water runoff as well as prevent erosion. New Milford Farms is committed to being an important resource to Litchfield County, and the New Milford, Connecticut area. Not only do they produce Black Satin®, Moo-Nure®, Nature's Helper®, and KidsKarpet®, which are considered to be some of the best organic soils and mulches in the country, they also make a great community partner. Ask about their biodegradable (ASTM D-6400) compostable bags and food serviceware, recycling, wastewater, and all other aspects of sustainability. Contact New Milford Farms at 860.210.0250 or [aggroup@garick.com](mailto:aggroup@garick.com) or [www.newmilfordfarms.com](http://www.newmilfordfarms.com)



# re•think

## HRRA School Recycling

### School Recycling

All schools in Connecticut are required by state law to recycle. If your school isn't recycling, there are resources available to help develop, improve and publicize a school recycling program and to comply with the law. Single stream recycling has created many new opportunities to recycle and divert large quantities from our waste stream. School recycling materials include both white and colored office and student paper, newspapers, cardboard, boxboard, empty milk/juice cartons, clean yogurt containers, tin food cans, plastic water bottles, aluminum cans, etc.

Keys to a successful school recycling program include identifying the material in the waste stream that can be recycled, appointing a recycling program organizer, communicating with the custodial staff to make sure the work of separating recyclables is not undone at the end of the day, obtaining recycling containers, promoting the program to students and staff, and contracting with a hauler to pick up the recyclables.

On average, each of us produces 4.4 pounds of trash each day. That adds up to almost a ton of trash per person per year. In a state with over 3 million residents this means we generate close to 3,000,000 tons of trash each year. Teaching, by example, the value of the 3 Rs - reduce, reuse, recycle, is an important lesson for all students. As the Dr. Seuss Lorax said, "Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better, it's not."



H•R•R•A  
www.hrra.org

For a recycling presentation for your school, classroom or staff, please contact HRRA at 203-775-4539



# re•think

## HRRA Annual Contests



### Annual HRRA Recycling POSTER Contest



WIN \$75, \$50 or \$25 - Regional Winner \$150

Winner's participating Teacher/Organization will win \$1000

Theme is announced in December  
Submit artwork to local coordinator or drop it off at your town hall.

Go to [www.hrra.org](http://www.hrra.org) for more information.

Artwork is due the end of February.

Annual award ceremony during Earthweek in April.

### Annual HRRA Recycling VIDEO Contest

**New theme announced each year in June.**

It's easy to enter! Grab your friends, a video camera and your creative spirit and make a video. You could win up to \$500 each. Check out the contest rules at [www.hrra.org](http://www.hrra.org)  
Video's due mid October. Annual award ceremony takes place the week of America Recycles Day in November.



#### JUDGING

All entries will be judged  
on creativity, relevance and  
overall quality



#### 3 MINUTES

Your video must not  
exceed 3 minutes



#### STAY SAFE

Stay Safe out there.  
Representing unsafe acts  
in your video will result in  
disqualification.



#### RULES

Make sure your read  
the full rules at  
[www.hrra.org](http://www.hrra.org)



#### GRADE

Contest is open  
to students in  
grades 6-12



**Regional  
Recycling  
Task  
Force**

Housatonic Resources  
Recovery Authority

Old Town Hall  
162 Whisconier Road  
Brookfield CT 06804  
203-775-4539  
[jeniannucci@hrra.org](mailto:jeniannucci@hrra.org)



#### PERMISSION

Get written consent from  
anyone who may appear in  
your video



#### ORIGINAL

Create your own photography,  
music and video.



#### DO NOT USE COPYRIGHT MATERIAL

Get written consent from anyone  
who may appear in your video





# re•think

## Recycling Drop-off Centers

**Recycling Drop-off Centers** are conveniently located in each HRRRA municipality except for Brookfield and Sherman. Residents of Brookfield and Sherman can use the New Milford Recycling Center. The Drop-off Centers, what they accept and who may use them are described below.

### Who Can Use the Drop-off Centers

Local Recycling Drop-off Centers are open only to residents of the town in which they are located except for the New Milford Recycling Center, which is open to residents of Brookfield and Sherman, and the City of Danbury/Winters Bros. Mom & Pop Recycling Center, which is open to both Danbury and non-Danbury residents. Non-residents must buy a \$15 annual permit, which is free to Danbury residents. Permits are needed to use any Drop-off Center in the region, except for Bridgewater, which requires no permit. Check with your local Drop-off Center about how to obtain a permit and its cost.

#### **Items Accepted**

- Household garbage (all but Bridgewater)
- Single stream recycling (See p. 8 for list of items)
- Electronics - free drop-off
- Yard waste
- Scrap metal
- Tires
- Appliances
- Lead acid car batteries
- Motor oil (all but Ridgefield - most accept antifreeze as well)
- Mattresses (all but Bridgewater)
- Bulky waste (all but Bridgewater)
- Ni-cd rechargeable batteries
- Cooking oil (Bethel and Redding only)
- CFL lightbulbs (See page 19)
- Textiles, (most locations)

#### **Items Not Accepted**

- Paint - latex and oil-based (See page 20)
- Household hazardous waste (See page 17)
- Grass clippings (See page 24)



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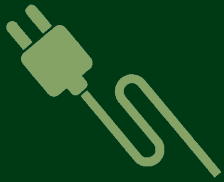
## Recycling Drop-off Locations



### Recycling Drop-off Centers



1. Kent Transfer Station  
Maple St (Rte 341 East)  
860.927.4627
2. New Milford Recycling Center  
18 Young's Field Rd  
860.355.6044
3. Bridgewater Town Garage  
324 Hut Hill Rd  
860.354.2441
4. New Fairfield Drop off Center  
41 Bigelow Rd  
203.312.5677
5. Brookfield Residential Yard Refuse  
Disposal Center  
Pocono Rd  
(between Town Hall and the Firehouse)
6. Danbury Mom & Pop Recycle Center  
307 White St.  
203.744.8260
7. Bethel Transfer Station  
1 Sympaug Park Rd  
203.778.7436
8. Newtown Transfer Station  
Ethan Allen Rd  
203.270.4307
9. Ridgefield Transfer Station  
55 South St  
203.431.4137
10. Ridgefield Recycling Center  
59 South St  
203.431.2343
11. Redding Transfer & Recycling  
84 Hopewell Woods Rd  
203.938.3026



# re•think

## EASY, CONVENIENT & FREE!

## ELECTRONICS RECYCLING

Drop off **UNWANTED DEVICES**  
at your local **COLLECTION CENTER.**



TVs



Printers



Fax Machines



Cell  
Phones



Computers



VCRs



Video Games



Digital Cameras

Help eliminate E-waste from our garbage.

**Your Local Transfer Station  
or Drop-Off Center Location:**

**Bethel:** 1 Sympaug Park Road

**Bridgewater:** 324 Hut Hill Road

**Brookfield:** 18 Young's Field Road, New Milford

**Danbury:** 307 White Street

**Kent:** 38 Maple Street

**New Fairfield:** 41 Bigelow Road

**New Milford:** 18 Young's Field Road

**Newtown:** Ethan Allen Road

**Redding:** 84 Hopewell Woods Road

**Ridgefield:** 55 South Street

**Sherman:** 18 Young's Field Road, New Milford



**H • R • R • A**  
**hrra.org**

For Residential Electronics Only





# household hazards

## Household Hazardous Waste Collections

### WHAT TO BRING

Paints  
Stains and Varnishes  
Paint Thinners & Strippers  
Wood Preservatives  
Resins, Rosins & Adhesives  
Polishes for Furniture, Floor & Metal  
Cleaners for Rug & Upholstery  
Cleaners for Oven, Toilet Bowl & Drain  
Swimming Pool Chemicals  
Fluorescent Bulbs  
Pesticides, Herbicides, Insecticides  
(including Lawn Care Products)  
Flea Powder  
Moth Balls  
Spot Removers  
Dry Cleaning Solvents  
Lighter Fluids  
Septic Tank Degreasers  
Engine Degreasers  
Waste Fuels (Kerosene, Gasoline)  
Carburetor Cleaners, Brake Fluids  
Transmission Fluids, Car Waxes  
Full or Partially Full Aerosol Cans  
Rubber Cement, Airplane Glue  
Photo Chemicals, Chemistry Sets  
Hobby Supplies  
Rechargeable (Ni-Cd) Batteries  
Camera Batteries  
Thermostats, Thermometers



### WHAT NOT TO BRING

Electronics, Computers, VCR's (see p.16)  
Empty Aerosol Cans (put in garbage)  
Household Batteries (put in garbage)  
PCB Capacitors  
Smoke Detectors (mail back to manufacturers)  
Auto Batteries & Tires  
Motor Oil & Antifreeze (Recycle at Town  
Drop Off Center)  
Ammunition, Fireworks, Explosives  
(Call the Police Department)  
Radioactive Materials  
Unknown Gases  
Controlled Substances  
Pathological Material  
Pharmaceutical or Medical Wastes (See pg. 21)

### HHW LOCATIONS & DATES

**Most Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) may be taken to one of the three collections held in the region each year. Typical dates and times can be found below but check [www.hrra.org](http://www.hrra.org) for actual dates and up to date information each year.**

**Danbury Public Works Facility**  
53A Newtown Rd., Danbury  
Last Saturday in September  
9:00am - 2:00pm

**New Milford Railroad Station**  
Railroad Street, New Milford  
a Saturday in September  
9:00am - 3:00pm

**Newtown Public Works Garage**  
4 Turkey Hill Rd., Newtown  
3rd Saturday in May  
9:00am - 2:00pm

### Where Does Household Hazardous Waste Go?

Material	Disposal Method
Paints	- Reblending, Fuel blend, Alternative fuel source, Incineration, alternate daily landfill cover
Oxidizers	- Incineration, Chemical stabilization, Reuse
Pesticides	- Incineration
Polychlorinated Biphenyl (PCB)	- Incineration
Abrasives	- Incineration, Stabilization
Corrosives	- Neutralize to waste water treatment
Flammable Liquids	- Energy recovery, Fuel blending
Flourescent Lamps	- Recycle
Mercury	- Recycle
Batteries (NiCad/Lithium)	- Recycle



# re•think

## Your home environment

### Simple Steps to Make Your Home Environment-Friendly

#### Did You Know?

Many products found in the kitchen, bath, utility and on garage shelves contain hazardous or toxic chemicals. Misuse or improper disposal of these products can pose a threat to your health. Long term or cumulative problems, such as contamination of drain fields, septic systems, and surface and groundwater can also occur. Products containing hazardous substances must include a warning and description of the hazard.

#### A Substance Is Considered Hazardous If It Is:

- \* **Toxic** - can cause injury or death if swallowed, absorbed, or inhaled. Toxic products such as rat poison, weed killers, antifreeze, mercury and insect killers are poisonous, either immediately or over a long period of time.
- \* **Flammable** - can be ignited by a flame, spark, ignition source or hot surface under almost all temperature conditions. Flammable products such as lighter fluids, turpentine, paint, paint thinner, kerosene, propane and gas cylinders, adhesives, and old gasoline are capable of burning or causing a fire.
- \* **Corrosive** - a chemical or its vapors that can burn or destroy living tissues at the site of contact, and deteriorate or wear away the surface of a material. Corrosive products such as bleach, pool chemicals, strong chemicals, acids and caustics are capable of eating away materials and destroying living tissue when contact occurs.
- \* **Explosive** - violently bursting when exposed to pressure or heat or other substances. Reactive products such as pool chlorine, cyanides and strong fertilizers can explode or release poisonous fumes when exposed to air, water or other chemicals.

### What You Can Do?

#### Read Labels

Consumer products containing hazardous substances must be labeled with a warning and description of the hazards. It is your responsibility to know what is toxic, its proper use and disposal.

#### Use Alternatives

The best way to get a "less-toxic" product is to make it yourself. For example, Consumers Union found homemade recipes for glass cleaners to be equal to or better than many commercial aerosols, sprays, and pre-moistened towels.

#### Buy Smart

In most cases, an all-purpose cleaner is designed to perform many different jobs. Always choose products that contain the least harmful ingredients. Select water-based instead of solvent-based products and products that require less toxic materials for clean-up.

#### Give It Away

Avoid purchasing more product than you can use within a reasonable period of time. Hazardous products usually have a long shelf life and work well years after purchase. Check with friends, neighbors, and community groups to see if they have a need for items like paint or fertilizers.





# re•think

## Light Bulbs and Batteries

### Compact Fluorescent Lightbulbs (CFLs)

DO NOT DISPOSE OF WITH REGULAR GARBAGE DUE TO PRESENCE OF MERCURY.

CFLs may be dropped off for safe handling at any Home Depot or Lowes in the region, at any Household Hazardous Waste collection in the region, and at many local Drop-off Recycling Centers in the region.

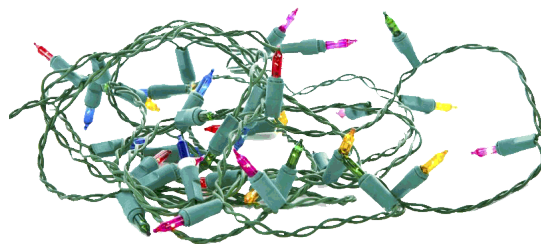
More information is available at:  
<http://www2.epa.gov/cfl>



### Holiday Lights

Recycle your holiday lights and get a coupon for a new set of LED lights by mailing your old lights to:

Send your lights via USPS, FedEx, or UPS Ground to:  
Holiday LEDs Recycling  
13400 Watertown Plank Rd. Ste 34  
Elm Grove, WI 53122  
More information is available at  
[www.HolidayLEDs.com](http://www.HolidayLEDs.com)



## Batteries

Regular household batteries, such as AA, C, D, AAA cell batteries, can be put into your regular garbage to be burned at the waste to energy facility. You can also recycle these dry cell batteries, without charge, by ordering an iRecycle kit for your home at [www.batteryrecycling.com/residential](http://www.batteryrecycling.com/residential)

NiCd, lithium and any rechargeable batteries can be dropped off for recycling at Radio Shack, Home Depot, Best Buy, Lowes, Staples and at local Drop-off Recycling Centers in the region. They are also accepted at any Household Hazardous Waste collection in the region. To find the nearest drop off location go to [www.call2recycle.org/](http://www.call2recycle.org/)







# re•think

## What to do with Paint

### Paint

•Both latex and oil-based paint can be dropped off at a participating hardware or paint store in the region. Go to <http://www.paintcare.org/drop-off-locations> and enter your zipcode to find the store nearest you. This service is for residential and paint contractor use.

•Both latex and oil-based paint can be taken to any of the Household Hazardous Waste collections offered in the region during the spring and summer months. This service is for residential use only, not for painting contractors. (see p.17)



**Buy Right.** Be a wise consumer and buy only what you need. Your local paint retailer can help you buy the correct volume of paint for your project.

**Store Properly.** When you store paint properly it will last longer. For best results, cover the opening of the paint can with plastic wrap and securely seal the lid so it won't dry out. Write the room name on the lid for future touch ups. Store cans indoors where they won't freeze or get wet. Be sure to choose a safe location out of reach of children and pets.

**Use It Up.** Leftover paint can be used for touch-ups or for smaller projects. You can also use the extra latex paint as a base coat on larger jobs. If you can't make use of the paint yourself, ask a neighbor or local community organization if they can use it.

**Recycle the Rest.** When you take your paint to a PaintCare drop-off site in Connecticut, it will be recycled when possible.

# re•think

## Rx Drugs, Sharps and Plastic Film

### Plastic Grocery Bags and Other Film Plastic

DO NOT DISPOSE OF WITH SINGLE STREAM RECYCLING. FILM CAUSES MACHINERY BREAKDOWNS AT SINGLE STREAM PROCESSING FACILITIES.

Drop off for recycling plastic grocery bags and other plastic film at the containers found in any grocery store in the region. These containers are usually located near the store's entrance. Film includes overwrap from paper towels, toilet paper, and the like, dry cleaning bags, newspaper delivery bags, baggies and other kitchen plastic bags, etc.



### Sharps:

PROTECT YOUR HAULER FROM NEEDLE STICKS. DO NOT PUT LOOSE SHARPS IN REGULAR GARBAGE.

Place used sharps in an impermeable container such as an old, plastic detergent bottle with a tight fitting lid. Put on the lid and duct tape it shut. Place container in the trash. It will go to a waste to energy facility and be burned. Mark container "DO NOT RECYCLE".

More information is available at: <http://www.epa.gov/osw/nonhaz/industrial/medical/med-home.pdf>



### Rx Pharmaceuticals (Medicine) Disposal Tip:

DO NOT PUT DOWN THE SINK OR TOILET!

Take unused, unneeded or expired prescription drugs out of their original containers and place them in an impermeable container such as an old, plastic detergent bottle with a tight fitting lid. Mix the prescription drugs with a substance such as coffee grounds, horseradish, etc. and a little water to dilute. Put on the lid and duct tape it shut. Place container in the trash. It will go to a waste to energy facility and be burned.

Where available, return unused, unneeded or expired prescription drugs to drug take back programs that allow the public to bring pharmaceuticals to the police department for safe disposal. Call your local police department for availability in your municipality.

More information is available at: <http://www.fda.gov/forconsumers/consumerupdates/ucm101653.htm>



# compost• it

## Home Composting

HRRA Waste Reduction program teaches the benefits of organic recycling and waste reduction. Through home composting, proper soil preparation and management, the use of mulching and grasscycling, and toxicity reduction, people are empowered with knowledge and inspiration to make a difference in themselves and their communities.

There are many methods to composting. The more popular is the hot batch pile. This method, when done correctly, can produce good quality compost in about 12 weeks.

The information listed here is intended as a quick start guide. For a more detailed explanation of this and other methods, visit: [www.ct.gov/deep](http://www.ct.gov/deep) and search for compost.

### MAKE YOUR OWN COMPOST

Keep these five rules to keep in mind when making compost:

**1)** There are two types of materials that make up a compost pile. Carbon or "browns". Dead leaves, shredded cardboard and newspapers, dead house and garden plants all provide this nutrient.

Nitrogen or "greens". Raw vegetable kitchen scraps, coffee grounds, blood meal, rinsed eggshells, manure from grass-fed animals, okara, and tofu fall in this category. When making a hot batch pile, alternate 2 inches of green materials with 2 inches of brown materials. Use quality materials to make quality compost.

**2)** A good active pile needs lots of quality materials. Plan on using about 15-20 bags of leaves to get your first pile started.

**3)** Keep it convenient to reach and keep it moist. Put the bin where it is convenient for loading and can be reached with a water hose. Keep the pile moist to the consistency of a damp, wrung out sponge.

**4)** Provide good air circulation. A wire bin is an inexpensive way to keep the pile neat and makes it easy to turn.

**5)** Don't buy materials for your compost pile. After all, it is about waste reduction. Once you mix all the materials together, cover the bin to keep moisture in and vermin out!

### The Right mix

Add one foot of leaves (about five bags) to the bin, then pack down with rake. Add a foot of nitrogen rich product, add water to "squeezed out sponge" consistency; repeat process until all leaves are used (about 20 bags for a full bin); mix materials well with a pitchfork.

### Maintaining Your Pile

You know your pile is working when it heats up in the middle and then cools down after about a week. Turning the pile helps aerate and break up materials and is a good time to add water, if needed. We recommend turning after one week, then every 3 weeks, for a total of 4 turns. Your compost is ready when materials are dark, crumbly and soil-like. Usually the pile shrinks to 1/2 its original size.

**NOTE:** While there are many things that can safely work in a home compost bin, there are a few items to keep out. These include dog, cat and human waste; meat, dairy products, and grease. These items smell bad, will attract animals and vermin and could carry disease pathogens!

### USING COMPOST

Now that you've made it, what can you do with it? Spread 2-3 inches of finished compost around garden plants to maintain moisture in the soil. Compost can also be screened for use in potting mixes and with houseplants.

Boost your garden soil every year by adding 2-4 inches of compost at planting time.

Apply 1-2 inches to established lawns and flower beds as a super feeding top dress.

### ACQUIRING COMPOST

High quality compost and mulch products may be available from your local transfer station. Contact them at the number found on page 15 of this pamphlet.

### INVASIVE PLANTS

Efforts to control invasive plants may generate large amounts of plant material and soil or sediment containing viable parts. This material must be appropriately managed or it could contribute to the reestablishment and spread of the species at the controlled site, the disposal site or landfill, or elsewhere. In many cases, plants may regrow in future years.

Visit the CT Invasive Plant Working Group website for detailed information on disposal. [www.cipwg.uconn.edu](http://www.cipwg.uconn.edu) or talk with your local transfer station operator.



## Leaf Collection (Bethel and Danbury)

### Prep It! and Curb It!

#### City of Danbury Leaf Collection

The City of Danbury provides leaf collection twice a year at the end of Spring and end of Fall.

##### Accepted for Collection

- Leaves - in paper bags
- Brush - bundled

##### NOT Accepted for Collection

- Dirt and rocks
- Treated lumber and wood
- Tree stumps
- Grass
- Bushes
- Garbage
- Animal Waste
- Plastic Bags
- Tape of any kind

#### How to Prep It!

1. Prepare yard waste for collection:
  - Trim limbs to no more than 5 feet in length and bundle
  - Place leaves in paper bags (tape free)
2. Place within 2 feet of the curb and at least 3 feet away from other collection items (rollout carts and bulky items) and obstacles such as mailboxes, vehicles, telephone poles, etc. Do not block the sidewalk.
3. Place at the curb no later than 6:30 am on your scheduled collection day.

#### Town of Bethel Leaf Collection

The town of Bethel provides leaf collection every fall. Check the Bethel town website for dates. Leaves are accepted in paper bags only.



#### More Information

To learn more about Danbury's leaf collection program visit [www.ci.danbury.ct.us](http://www.ci.danbury.ct.us) or call 311 (203) 797-4511.  
To learn more about Bethel's leaf collection program visit [www.bethel-ct.gov](http://www.bethel-ct.gov)



# grasscycling

## It's Good For Your Lawn

### Why Grasscycle?

When you mow regularly, clippings quickly decompose and release nutrients to fertilize the lawn. There are many benefits— both financial and ecological – to grasscycling. You can:

- Reduce yard waste by 20% - 40% or more (Connecticut legislation prohibits grass waste from being discarded in garbage).
- Save time, trouble and expense of bagging or putting yard waste in cans.
- Save gas and energy required to transport and process grass clippings.
- Reduce the need for fertilizer by one-third.
- Reduce the demand for water.
- Reduce negative impact on water quality from erosion and pesticide application.
- Provide moisture and nutrients to the soil and cushioning layers to reduce wear.

Using grass clippings as a source of fertilizer for your lawn can save time and money and help protect the environment.

Leaving grass clippings on your lawn can generate up to 25% of the lawn's yearly fertilizer needs and reduce the amount of time and money you spend fertilizing and bagging. Lawns stay greener and healthier when clippings are left on them.

### Mowing

Any mower that is in good working condition and has a sharp blade can be used to grasscycle. Mulching mowers may be better than traditional mowers for those who can not mow on a regular basis. These mowers tend to cut grass into finer pieces, allowing it to filter down among the standing plants. With either mower, best results can be expected if the lawn is dry.

### Mowing Heights

Mow at the appropriate height. Refer to table below for guidelines for mowing heights.

LAWN GRASS HEIGHT after mowing (inches)	
Bermudagrass – warm season	3/4 to 1
Centipedegrass – warm season	1
St. Augustinegrass – warm season	3 to 4
Bahiagrass – warm season	3 to 4
Zoysiagrass – warm season	3/4 to 1½
Tall Fescue – cool season	3 to 4
Kentucky Bluegrass- cool season	1 ½ to 2½
Fine Fescue – cool season	1 ½ to 2½
Perennial Ryegrass – cool season	1 ½ to 2 ½

(Warm season grasses will go dormant in the winter. Cool season grasses will go dormant in the summer if not watered.)

- Keep the blade sharp.
- Keep the deck clean. Wash the underside of the mower after each use. A clogged deck won't mulch or discharge well.
- Cut as often as necessary to insure that only 1/3 of the grass blade needs to be removed.

During times of rapid growth, you may need to mow every 5-6 days.

- Cut when the grass is dry in order to avoid a wet, sticky mess on your lawn and inside the mower deck.
- Be Safe. Wear eye and ear protection. Keep children at a safe distance.
- Mow regularly. A basic rule is not to remove more than 1/3 of the growth at one time.

### Basic Watering Tips

- Don't water fescue, bluegrass, or ryegrass lawns in the summer unless you plan to do so all season.
- Water your lawn, if needed at night.
- Give lawns grown on heavy clay soils a total of 1 inch of water per week.
- Don't water until you see the first signs of wilt.
- Don't over-water. This promotes disease and excessive growth.
- Consider installing a drip irrigation system to apply water more slowly and directly to the roots of plants and trees. It is more effective and uses less than half as much water as a sprinkler.
- Use grass clippings in the yard.
- If it's necessary to collect grass clippings, recycle them in your yard. Spread clippings over a layer of newspaper in the vegetable or flower garden. Use clippings as mulch under bushes.





# re•think

## Construction & Event Recycling

### Recycle Your Construction and Demolition Waste, Too!

Are you thinking of building a home or perhaps considering remodeling? Did you know that many construction and demolition wastes can be recycled or reused? Land clearing debris is ground into mulch and used for landscaping. Concrete and asphalt are ground and reused. Clean wood, metals and gypsum (drywall) are recyclable, too. And usable cabinets, fixtures and appliances may be donated to Restore. (see page. 28)

Recycling at construction/demolition job sites may save you and your contractor money in addition to being good for our environment, but pre-planning is needed for success.

### Bridgewater Bulky Waste Pick-up

The Town of Bridgewater offers bulky waste roadside collection to residents twice a year, in May and November. Check the town website [www.bridgewaterhall.org](http://www.bridgewaterhall.org) for annual dates and items accepted.

### Clean City Danbury

The city of Danbury offers its residents free bulky waste drop off at a half dozen sites located throughout the city every Spring known as Clean City Danbury Day. Residents also collect trash from streets and parks on that day. Additional information is available by calling 311 or visiting the City's website at [www.ci.danbury.ct.us](http://www.ci.danbury.ct.us)

### Secure Your Load!

Roadside litter isn't just unsightly; it's expensive to remove. Be sure you don't lose any of your valuable recyclables and reusables, and dispose of trash properly to help keep waste management costs and your taxes low. Require that all loads coming into and leaving your construction site be properly covered, secured and contained to prevent spillage or blowout, not just dump trucks, but pickup trucks, also.



### Event Recycling. 'Keeping it clean and taking it green!'

Street fairs, concerts, sporting events, and other special events are important occasions. One element of these events that is often overlooked is the amount of recyclables generated in the days leading up to, during, and at the close of the event. Fortunately, there are many ways event organizers can dramatically reduce the amount of recyclables that end up as trash in the landfill.

One major way is through resource recovery, or recycling. HRRA helps make it easier to collect and recover cardboard, plastic bottles, glass bottles, and aluminum cans from the waste stream during special events.

The program makes Clear Stream recycling containers and bags available to event organizers at no charge. Ideally you should provide a recycling container next to each garbage container at a special event.

For more information or to reserve a bin, call 203-775-4539 or speak with your town's local recycling coordinator.





### Shop Smart

#### CHOOSE PRODUCTS WISELY

Shop with the environment in mind and choose products that:

- make the best use of energy resources
- don't pollute air and water
- are reusable or recyclable
- are made from recycled material
- use a minimum of materials in design and packaging

#### PRACTICE THE FIVE 'R'S IN SELECTING PACKAGING

More than 30% of household waste is packaging. Most everything we buy has been wrapped in a package -- or several layers of packaging -- at some time on its way from producer to consumer. While packaging provides many essential functions, it can be excessive. As an enviroshopper, you can choose products in packages that have the least amount of negative environmental impact.

- Reduce the amount of packaging you buy and throw away.
- Reuse packaging.
- Recycle packaging whenever possible.
- Reject packaging that's unsatisfactory.
- Respond to producers and retailers to let them know their packaging is unsatisfactory.

#### REDUCE PACKAGING

Here are some strategies to help you reduce your packaging/garbage before you even produce it:

- Take your grocery bags back to the store to keep from getting new ones every time.
- Take your own shopping bag for small purchases.
- Choose packaging that uses the least amount of material.
- Buy products in the largest quantity possible in one package or buy refills and add liquid.

### Junk Mail & Phone Call Opt Out

The best place to start is the Direct Marketing Association; their members are some of the direct mailers who send out junk mail. Contact them at:

[www.dmachoice.org](http://www.dmachoice.org)  
Call 212-768-7277 ext. 1888

You can also contact the major credit bureaus to request that your personal information not be shared with others or used for promotional purposes. They are Experian, Equifax, Inc., Innovis, and Trans Union Corporation. By calling 888-567-8688 you can opt out of the companies.

Also, try:  
[www.damconsumers.org/offmailinglist.html](http://www.damconsumers.org/offmailinglist.html)  
[www.catalogchoice.org](http://www.catalogchoice.org)  
[www.ecologicalmail.org](http://www.ecologicalmail.org) or call (800/620-3975)  
[www.yellowpagesoptout.com](http://www.yellowpagesoptout.com)

To Opt Out of Junk Phone Calls Telephone:  
1-888-382-1222 or Email: [donotcall.gov](mailto:donotcall.gov)

### Buy Recycled

"Buying recycled" means purchasing products that contain recycled content materials. Today, more and more products are made from recycled materials. "Buying recycled" helps to "close the recycling loop" by putting recycled materials to good use as products in the marketplace. When we incorporate "buy recycled" into our everyday shopping habits, we communicate our desire to play an active role in the preservation of our environment.



# donate•it

## Waste Reduction Information

### Wrap Up Your Holidays By Recycling

The holidays may be the most wonderful time of the year, but a not-too-wonderful byproduct of all that celebrating and gift-giving is a mountain of wrapping paper, cardboard, and tissue paper. Here are a few tips to help you get it all under control and maybe help save a tree or two while you're at it!

- Have children make their own wrapping paper by designing and coloring on paper grocery bags or using the comics.
- Decorate your home and tree with holly, cedar, berries, fruits, and nuts. Compost these things after the holidays.
- Decorate your table by making a centerpiece of colorful fruits, vegetables, and nuts. Compost these things after the holidays.
- When inviting guests to your holiday feast, ask them to bring reusable containers to take leftovers home.
- Save gift boxes, bags, bows, and ribbon to use next year.
- Keep the fronts of old Christmas cards to use as nametags, bookmarks, or postcards.

Remember, you may recycle your holiday gift wrap (no bows and ribbons) and boxes in your curbside recycling or at your town's Recycling Drop-off Center. Christmas trees are also accepted at most Recycling Drop-off Centers.

### Clothing, Shoes, and Other Textiles

The broad definition of "textiles" includes clothing, shoes, belts, hats, undergarments, bedding, linens, towels, fabric, and curtains/drapes, regardless of condition. A large percentage, about 95%, of textiles can be recycled.

Even damaged clothing and other textiles may be repurposed—so do not be so quick to throw them away! If a textile is badly stained, missing buttons, or torn, it **can still** be used to make rags or used as fiber to stuff car seats, pillows, stuffed animals, soundproof insulation, and many other purposes.

Textiles that are wet, smelly or oily must be disposed of in your regular garbage. All other textiles can be recycled at Goodwill or another clothing donation business or charity.



### Yard Sales

Yard sales are a great way of disposing of your unwanted items, as well as getting some extra cash. Give the items you've discarded a longer life.

The only cost to you is your time and the cost of a Yard Sale permit, usually available through your local zoning or land use office.

Tips on how to have a successful yard sale are at [www.yardsalequeen.com](http://www.yardsalequeen.com)



**re•use**  
Donate or Shop

## Donate to or shop at these reuse stores

### Habitat for Humanity Restore

51 Austin Street  
Danbury, CT  
203-205-0952  
T, W, F, Sa 9am- 3pm  
Th 10am - 5pm

### Salvation Army Family Store

129 Main St  
Danbury, CT  
203-792-9799  
M,T, Th, F, Sa 10am - 6pm  
W 10am - 7pm

### Goodwill Industries Retail Store & Donation Centers

2 Beaver Brook Rd  
Danbury, CT  
203-730-1480

141 Danbury Rd  
New Milford, CT  
860-354-9182

165 Federal Rd  
Brookfield, CT  
203-333-8744

M-Sa 9am - 9pm  
Sun 10am - 7pm

### Swap Tables at Local Drop-Off Recycling Centers

New Fairfield, New Milford, and Redding

### Online Reuse Resource

[groups.freecycle.org/DanburyCTFreecycle](https://groups.freecycle.org/DanburyCTFreecycle)

### New Fairfield Community Thrift Shop

77 Route 39  
New Fairfield, CT  
203-746-9245  
W, Th, F 10am - 4pm  
Sat 11am - 3pm

### Newtown Congregational Church Cornerstone Thrift Shop

14 West St  
Newtown, CT  
203-270-9359  
T-F 11am - 4pm  
Sat 11am - 1:30pm

### First Congregational Church Danbury

Deer Hill Thrift Shop  
164 Deer Hill Ave  
Danbury, CT  
203-792-3110  
F, Sat 10am - 2pm

### Ridgefield Thrift Shop

15 Catoonah St  
Ridgefield, CT  
203-438-3328  
M-F Noon - 4pm  
Sat 10am - 1pm

### First Congregational Church of Kent Quality Thrift Shop

99A North Main St  
Kent, CT  
860-927-3287  
T-Sat 10am - 4pm



# re•think

## Prevent Litter

### Litter Prevention

Litter was once described as “one of the most neglected and obvious forms of environmental degradation.” (Anonymous)

Below are the seven major reasons for litter:

- Pedestrians or cyclists who do not use receptacles.
- Motorists who do not use car ashtrays or litter bags.
- Business dumpsters that are improperly covered.
- Loading docks and commercial or recreational marinas with inadequate waste receptacles.
- Construction and demolition sites without receptacles to contain debris and waste.
- Trucks with uncovered loads on local roads and highways.
- Household trash scattered before or during collection.

### A Top Priority

HHRA Municipalities are trying to create a cleaner safer community by embracing strategies designed to achieve a cleaner environment. The focus is on prevention, awareness, cleanup and enforcement. Success is dependent upon partnerships involving government agencies and the public/private sectors of our communities. In truth, each of us is empowered to make a difference. You start by NOT being a litterbug and volunteer to help pickup litter. Whether it's an effort spearheaded by one person or a large group effort, the impact will be significant. You CAN make a difference.

### Keep New Milford Beautiful (KNMB).

New Milford earned the honor of being a Keep America Beautiful Community in the spring of 2008. At the time, they were the 5th community in the State of Connecticut to achieve this designation.

Since then, Keep New Milford Beautiful has participated in the Great American Clean-up each Year, with 275,648 lbs. of debris (bulky) collected in 2011 and 324,852 lbs. of debris collected in 2010. Keep an eye out for spring-time announcements for the Great American Clean-up, as they are always looking for volunteers and community groups to help with participation efforts.

As part of an on-going effort to keep roadsides clean, Keep New Milford Beautiful has sponsored a local “Adopt-A-Road” program. Currently, the Catholic War Veterans have “adopted” Aldrich Road by maintaining the roadside and picking up litter periodically. Other roads have been suggested, but need community groups willing to “adopt” them.

For additional information or to participate in the Great American Clean-up, contact the Keep New Milford Beautiful Executive Director, Laurene Beattie at 860-355-6040 or [LBeattie@newmilford.org](mailto:LBeattie@newmilford.org).

### Clean City Danbury

Coordinated by the Mayor's office, Clean City Danbury is held every spring each year. Teams of volunteers, both young and old, from around the City fan out to pick

up litter from City streets, parks and neighborhoods. In addition residents can drop off bulky waste at a half dozen locations around the city. For more information or to be part of the volunteer team call 311 or 203.797.4511.

### Sherman's Community Cleanup Day

Sherman's Annual Roadside and Community Cleanup Day, sponsored by the Sherman Merchants and Tradesmen is coordinated by the First Selectman's office. It takes place on a Saturday in April, usually close to Earth Day. Residents are encouraged to keep Sherman beautiful by signing up for a road to pick up litter. Bags, gloves, and reflector vests available. On occasional years, this cleanup day is expanded to collect:

- Ewaste
- Bulky waste
- Scrap metal
- Deposit bottles and cans with monies donated to a local charity
- Free/Swap table
- Shoe Recycling

For more information, please call Ruth Byrnes at 860-355-1139 or email at [rbyrnes@townofshermanct.org](mailto:rbyrnes@townofshermanct.org)







# re•think

## Citizen Involvement



### **America Recycles Day**

America Recycles Day is November 15th every year. America Recycles Day is comprised of thousands of events designed to promote the benefits of recycling. America Recycles Day reminds people that recycling is only the first step. People should also buy products made from recycled materials. You can learn how to participate at [www.americarecyclesday.org](http://www.americarecyclesday.org).

### **Earth Day**

Earth Day is April 22nd of every year. Earth Day is intended to inspire awareness of and appreciation for the Earth's environment. Find out how you can participate in local Earth Day events and activities by visiting [www.hrra.org](http://www.hrra.org)





# re•think

## Citizen Involvement

### Need a Speaker?

HRRA makes presentations to neighborhood associations, civic organizations, churches and schools. Presentations can be customized for the group or organization. We offer a special program for 3rd grade students that covers the benefits of recycling, how to recycle, and what happens to our recycling. All HRRA programs are offered at no charge. To schedule a presentation or get more information call 203-775-4539

### Recycling Center Tours

Curious about where all of the recyclables that are picked up at the curb and schools go? The Winters Bros. Materials Recovery Facility (MRF), located in Shelton, CT, is the HRRA region's processing facility for recyclable materials. Recyclables are sorted and prepared for market at the MRF by Winters Bros., the MRF's operator.

Free tours of the MRF are available and can be tailored to any age group. To schedule a tour, call 203-775-4539.

### Live in the HRRA Region?

The Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority has useful information to share. Topics include: residential, school, business/commercial, construction/demolition recycling, litter prevention, composting and yard waste, household hazardous waste, and other topics.

In addition, HRRA offers an educational program detailing the necessity, the benefits, the laws & regulations, and how to reduce waste within your business.

Visit our website at [www.hrra.org](http://www.hrra.org) or call 203-775-4539



## A Word of Thanks

Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority would like to thank its partners for supporting our programs:

- Towns of Bethel
- Town of Bridgewater
- Town of Brookfield
- City of Danbury
- Town of Kent
- Town of New Fairfield
- Town of New Milford
- Town of Newtown
- Town of Redding
- Town of Ridgefield
- Town of Sherman
- Union Savings Bank
- All American Waste
- Winters Brothers  
Waste Systems of CT
- Wheelabrator Connecticut



H·R·R·A  
[www.hrra.org](http://www.hrra.org)

Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority  
162 Whisconier Road - Old Town Hall  
Brookfield, CT 06804