



**Regional Recycling Task Force Meeting**  
**Thursday, October 10, 2024**  
**10:30 a.m.**

**Brookfield Town Hall**  
**100 Pocono Road, Brookfield, CT 06804**  
**Room 209**

**MINUTES**

**In Attendance**

J. Baum called the meeting to order at 10:33 a.m. In attendance were A. Dinho (BW), D. Ongaro (BK), A. Miles (NE), D. Otero (NE), T. Carlson (RI), S. Stauffacher (RX), R. Byrnes (SH), J. Baum (HRA).

**Approval of Minutes**

**Motion** by A. Dinho, second by T. Carlson to approve the minutes of September 12, 2024, as presented. **Vote:** All in favor.

**Annual Recycling Billboard Contest - update**

J. Baum shared an update on the status of the annual recycling billboard contest:

- The contest templates have been distributed to the local coordinators. There are extra templates available at the HRA office.
- The deadline for students to submit entries is November 15, 2024.
- The HRA website is a great resource for educational material on how to properly dispose of batteries.

**Educational tours – survey results**

J. Baum shared the results of the educational tours survey. The facilities that were selected as first preference for an educational tour are the Material Recovery Facility (MRF), Take2 Electronics, and the Waste-to-Energy Facility.

**America Recycles Day – November 15th**

J. Baum shared a reminder that November 15<sup>th</sup> is America Recycles Day; a great opportunity to coordinate municipal activities and promote recycling right.

**Public Education**

J. Baum shared recycling reminders on the following materials:

- a. Political yard signs - Lawn signs do not go in the mixed recycling stream. The plastic sign can be repurposed or go in municipal solid waste and the metal frame can go to scrap metal at the local transfer station.

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**HOUSATONIC RESOURCES RECOVERY AUTHORITY**  
162 WHISCONIER ROAD, OLD TOWN HALL, BROOKFIELD CT 06752  
203.775.4539 | [www.hrra.org](http://www.hrra.org) | [info@hrra.org](mailto:info@hrra.org)

BRIDGEWATER | BETHEL | BROOKFIELD | DANBURY | KENT | NEW FAIRFIELD | NEW MILFORD  
NEWTOWN | REDDING | RIDGEFIELD | ROXBURY | SHERMAN | WESTON | WILTON

- b. Pumpkin recycling - Pumpkins are compostable and a food source for animals. Consider hosting community events such as a pumpkin smash or community collection for composting or encourage residents to donate their pumpkin to a farm.
- c. Holiday lights - Holiday string lights should not go in mixed recycling containers; they can go to electronic waste at local transfer stations.
- d. Wrapping paper/gift bags - Wrapping paper and gift bags do not go in mixed recycling, they go in with municipal solid waste.

HRRA staff will create social media posts on how to recycle these items properly and “tag” the municipalities (when applicable), so that municipalities can share the recycling education posts.

#### **Recycling Education in multi-family units**

J. Baum asked members to share how they are promoting recycling education in multi-family units. A discussion ensued on recycling education concepts for multi-family homes.

T. Carlson shared that in her experience, the best contact person in multi-family units is the property manager and/or the homeowners association.

#### **Municipal recycling program updates from recycling Coordinator/Representative**

No updates

#### **Items to be raised by members**

None.

#### **Adjournment**

**Motion** by Alan second by A. Miles to adjourn the meeting. **Vote:** All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 11:32 a.m.