

# Recycle-News-Haven

The NHSWRA Newsletter



Feature

## Hometown Recycling Day - October 23, 2021

*Building on the success of our major recycling event of last year, The Authority along with Southern Connecticut State University as a sponsor, is hosting another such event, but expanded in size and scope!*

**This year's Hometown Recycling Day** site was chosen with the idea of providing easy access to people in adjacent areas including Beaver Hills, Newhallville, Westville, Dixwell, Dwight, Prospect Hill and East Rock, but is of course open to *all* citizens of New Haven, including SCSU students and students of other higher learning institutions living in the City.

**As we did last year**, we are enabling citizens to drop off larger items that are not accepted curbside. (most of these items are also accepted at our New Haven Transfer Station, 260 Middletown Avenue, as well)

## NEW HAVEN RESIDENTS!

New Haven Solid Waste & Recycling Authority

presents:



**Saturday, October 23, 9am - 3pm**

**At: 114 Farnham Ave., New Haven CT (on SCSU Campus)**

### WHAT YOU CAN BRING:

- ELECTRONICS** - (TVs, cell phones, monitors, stereos, printers and wires)
- MATTRESSES and BOX SPRINGS** - (in decent condition, no bugs or mold, dry)
- TEXTILES** - (clothing, shoes, belts, hats, handbags) (dry and in plastic bags)
- RECHARGEABLE BATTERIES**
- DOCUMENTS** - (on-site document shredding - 3 file boxes max.)

### WHAT YOU WILL LEARN:

- ORGANICS and COMPOSTING** - Collection services in your area
- HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE** - Where and how to dispose of it
- CURBSIDE RECYCLING** - What's in/What's out

Our Partners:



For further information: Contact 203.691.5374 (office) or [info@nhswra.com](mailto:info@nhswra.com)

**You can also** learn about how to dispose of your household hazardous waste and about organics and composting - Though you can't deposit organics or haz-waste at this event, you can certainly gain some valuable information, and maybe even take a refresher course on curbside recycling!

Stay tuned to your in-box and visit us at [www.nhswra.com](http://www.nhswra.com) or follow us on Twitter @NewHavenRecycle for more upcoming information from the NHSWRA on this exciting event, **Hometown Recycling Day, 2021!**

## Feature **Garbage in, Energy Out**

*Where does my household garbage go?*

This is not your grandfather's garbage disposal infrastructure, nor even your father's. Household garbage solutions in CT today are a lot more environmentally friendly!

First of all, landfills, which do not have any environmental benefits, and could be harmful, have been largely discontinued in Connecticut. And for garbage (MSW) there are virtually no landfills available in the State.

So where does your garbage go? WTE's, or Waste-to-Energy burn plants. There are several burn plants in Connecticut which are considered low emission facilities, that burn your waste. Specifically, New Haven's garbage ends up at Wheelabrator in Bridgeport, or occasionally, Wheelabrator in Lisbon (CT, that is!)

There it is burned efficiently in compliance with EPA emissions requirements, and such things as sulfur and mercury emissions are greatly reduced to levels that are not deemed harmful.

The good thing about WTE's is that they do indeed produce energy – Wheelabrator produces enough energy to power 60,000 homes in the Bridgeport area, and another 15,000 homes in eastern CT. Compare that to the energy produced from landfills: None!

For organics, i.e. the food scraps from your table as well as some paper, there are options today, which may become law in the near future: Such things as aerobic systems, which serve to decompose organic waste using nitrogen and air, are available locally throughout the State, along with collection services ready to take these materials from your home to these locations. These facilities generate



Preparing MSW for incineration at Wheelabrator's Bridgeport Waste-to-Energy Plant

fertilizers and enriched soil, and in some cases, feed for livestock. Also, mostly on the commercial side (for restaurants, food distributors and the like), there is CT BioFuels, an anaerobic “digester” which converts organics directly to energy or fuel.

All this sounds very rosy, but CT is still producing too much MSW, not diverting enough away to recyclables, and so yes, energy is produced, but there still are some carbon emissions, and WTE's do not contribute to sustainability. Also, our burn plant capacity is being stretched to the limit, and will be stretched even more so, with the MIRA plant in Hartford due to go offline next year.

Already, as a consequence of this backup, waste from some communities is being shipped by the truckload to out-of-state landfills, at significant cost.

Let's just say that in our community, the New Haven Solid Waste & Recycling Authority is doing the best it can with what we've got by disposing of your garbage at an efficient Waste-to Energy plant, but we can all do better by increasing diversion from the waste stream and **Reduce, Reuse and Recycle!**

## Dep't. **Material World**

*There are many, many things you can bring to the New Haven Transfer Station. Here are some of the things you **can't** bring:*

*Household Hazardous Waste* – Those chemicals under your kitchen sink, bathroom sink, or sitting in the garage, including, but not limited to: Anything that is corrosive, flammable, toxic or explosive! Find out more, and where you can bring it: <https://www.nhswra.com/household-hazardous-waste/>

*Anything containing residual fluids* – After all, we are the SOLID Waste Authority, not the 'liquid waste Authority!' This includes no machinery with lubricant or residual fuel.

*Oil-based paint cans* – Though empty acrylic paint cans are accepted, Oil-based paint is not, and is considered Household Hazardous Waste (see above). Check out our website for info on the paint stewardship program with PaintCare for recycling leftover paint. <https://www.nhswra.com/paint/>.

*Grass clippings and dirt* – Grass clippings are actually not allowed in the waste stream or as recyclables by CT state mandate. It is suggested that you should mulch in place with your lawn mower, or collect them and use them in your composting bin. We do not have provision for dirt or 'fill' removal at the Transfer Station, so it is not allowed as well. If you need a place to bring your

spare topsoil, there are any number of organizations that will accept it. Find out how to mulch and compost here: <https://www.nhswra.com/recycling/grass-grass-clippings/>

*Shredded paper* – Shredded paper is not accepted at Materials Recovery Facilities (MRFs), so we cannot process it as recyclables. (It can, however, be put in with your household items and is considered trash)

*Concrete, cinderblock, stone and brick* – These items are not allowed, with the exception of concrete or cement that is certified by a contractor licensed to remove it. Certification must indicate that there are no harmful agents such as radon in the load.

*Propane Cylinders* – These are highly explosive when compacted, and so are considered a danger. There are scrap metal dealers and propane outlets in New Haven that will accept such items.

*More than 6 tires per year!* - Residents are allowed 6 tires per year. (No large truck tires, please). Non-residents cannot bring tires under any circumstances. There are tire recycling enterprises in the New Haven metropolitan area that will take your tires for a small fee per unit.



## Calendar:

The New Haven Transfer Station and the Administrative offices of the NHSWRA will be **closed** for all business on **Monday, September 6, 2021**, in recognition of Labor Day.

**Hometown Recycling Day 2021 -**  
Saturday, October 23 from 9am to 3pm  
114 Farnham Avenue, New Haven  
(on the SCSU campus)

**Recycle Week** (National) September 20-26  
for more info: <https://www.twinkl.com/event/recycle-week-2021>

## City of New Haven meeting schedule:

<https://newhaven-ct.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

## New Haven Public Works info:

Municipal garbage and recycling pickup will be suspended on Labor Day, September 6, 2021. Your pickup day will be offset to the next day during that week.

Street milling and paving list:

<https://www.newhavenct.gov/civicax/filebank/blobdload.aspx?blobid=40317>

### Resident Services:

**Coupons are once again available! Free coupons may be obtained with a valid ID at Public Works Residents Office, 34 Middletown Avenue Monday-Friday 7am–4pm. Remember: you *must* present a coupon (one per load) in order to drop items at Residential drop-off at the New Haven Transfer Station.**

Residents are reminded that Trash and Recycling will pick up leaf bags that are paper, compostable, contain no grass, branches, dirt or rocks and placed out at the curb on your day of your refuse collection. Yard waste will only be picked up at the curb IF branches are 4 feet in length and tied in bundles not exceeding 1 foot in diameter. Residents also have the option of delivering unbundled yard waste to the Residential Waste Center

Street sweeping rules are still in effect. For more info on parking and neighborhood routes go to:

<https://www.newhavenct.gov/streetsweeping.htm>

As always, any questions give us a call at (203) 946-7700. We have been experiencing heavy call volume but if you leave your name and phone number with a question we will get back to you. If you would like a street sweeping schedule mailed to you, just leave your address and we will send it out.”

Remember you can always report Public Works issues at **See Click Fix** found on New Haven City website (see “Links,” below).

### Links:

What’s New Page- [https://www.newhavenct.gov/gov/depts/pw/whats\\_new\\_.htm](https://www.newhavenct.gov/gov/depts/pw/whats_new_.htm)

New Haven Public Works- <https://www.newhavenct.gov/gov/depts/pw/>

See Click Fix- <https://seeclickfix.com/new-haven>

## NHSWRA contact info and link:



14 Trumbull Street, Suite 102

New Haven, CT 06511

Office: 203.691.5374

Fax: 203.691.5990

[www.nhswra.com](http://www.nhswra.com)

[info@nhswra.com](mailto:info@nhswra.com)

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