



79 Elm Street • Hartford, CT 06106-5127

www.ct.gov/deep

Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer

February 11, 2016

RE: Food Waste Recycling Law (CGS Sec. 22a-226e)

Dear Food Business Managers:

I am contacting you as a reminder that **as of January 1, 2014, the above-referenced law requires certain generators of food waste to separate and recycle those wastes.** Food waste is also sometimes referred to as "source separated organic material" (or SSOM).

Note that this law only pertains to the following types of generators: commercial food wholesalers and distributors, industrial food manufacturers and processors, grocery stores and supermarkets, and resorts or conference centers, that generate a projected annual volume of 104 (or more) tons per year of source separated organic material, **and** are located within 20 miles of a permitted recycling facility that can accept that material.

Even if the law does not presently apply to you, it is still be beneficial to implement food waste reduction and recycling strategies. **The threshold in the law lowers to 52 tons per year in 2020.**

There are currently three facilities in Connecticut permitted to accept SSOM (in New Milford, Ellington and Danbury). However, DEEP is in the process of reviewing several permit applications for new food waste recycling facilities to help expand processing capacity statewide.

If your business generates enough food waste to be subject to this law, there are cost-effective ways that you can comply, including:

- reducing food waste
- donating food
- using on-site systems to recycle food waste
- sending food waste off-site for recycling or animal feed

If you are unsure how much food waste your business generates, guidance on estimating the amount of food waste you might be generating is available using EPA's Food Waste Assessment Tool at <http://www.epa.gov/sustainable-management-food/tools-assessing-wasted-food> and through other resources on the DEEP website.

Please visit our webpages to learn more about the requirements of the law and ways in which you can comply. www.ct.gov/deep/OrganicsRecyclingLaw
www.ct.gov/deep/FoodWasteReduction

A representative from DEEP will be conducting site visits throughout the state to assist with compliance with the above referenced law, and to assess compliance with other recycling requirements as well. Should you have any questions, please contact Caren Harder at (860) 424-3277 or Caren.Harder@ct.gov

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chris Nelson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Chris Nelson
Supervising Environmental Analyst
Sustainable Materials Management Planning & Implementation