

Town of Old Lyme Recycling Grant Initiative Discussion and Questions

1. What is our ultimate goal? e.g., if it is zero waste then we need to consider composting plan.
Determine path to reaching this.
 Consider possible community poll to determine goals and interest in paying for bag program
2. Identify what is in our waste to help us determine what we need to focus on (is it all or are we deficient in certain areas). e.g. what recyclables are ending up in the garbage and visa versa?
What is the cost of that?
3. What is our rate of recycling and what has it been?
4. Identify problem areas e.g. seasonal/visitors and provide info/options for compliance e.g. landlords, building owners
5. Identify problem months and campaign ahead of this time to remind people of their requirements and options. e.g. provide landlords with the info in a card format
6. What are the costs of bulky waste for public, town
 - a. What should the costs be?
7. Decide on campaign (theme) e.g dinosaur, Lorax
Use UBC, education, media, games/rewards, use our very capable students: to inform and guide residents.
e.g., trayless or non-disposable lunch trays
8. Clarify our waste program: what we do, what we use and where things go, what do we get back (?energy), what savings?
9. Where does incinerated remains go? (ash?)
10. Clarify the regulatory requirements for the haulers
Identify regulatory goals both state and federal e.g. we know the state goal is to reach a 60% recycling rate by 2024. But what does that include?
11. How much does our current program cost?
12. Roll out an educational initiative on recyclable materials, to ensure everyone in our community knows what is available to be recycled and how to do it. Use social media, mass media and other mediums to spread the message.
13. How to show benefits of the program beyond the benefit of protecting the earth?
 - a. e.g. paying only for your waste vs. currently for an overall rate
 - b. discuss the tax implications
 - c. can the cost of any program go back to feed the program vs. town
14. How can it be improved?
 - a. Residential, transfer station, business utilization, schools
 - b. Putting bins in a central place or one side of street to reduce garbage truck emissions
 - c. Charge for pick-up of more than 1 cart of anything
 - d. Make only smaller garbage carts available
15. How can a bag program help us meet our goals?
 - a. Can bags be provided to landlords or be available to visitors who bring the trash to the transfer station receptacle on way out of town? Therefore, only recyclables left.
 - b. Similarly, can visitors also drop off recyclables at transfer station?
 - c. Can residents who miss their pick-ups bring their bags to the transfer station?

Town of Old Lyme Recycling Grant Initiative Discussion and Questions

- d. Rather than buy plastic bags for the carts, residents would purchase UBP bags for their weekly garbage.
 - e. Cost of bags should cover all the costs of garbage collection so people know what their waste costs.
 - f. Consider using the beach sticker program as a way of getting bags.
16. Consider weekly recycling pick-ups for all or problem areas
17. Consider every two week garbage pick up in the winter vs weekly.
18. Consider urging manufacturers to stop using non-recyclable materials which increases the waste stream.
19. Enforcement concerns
- a. Truck cameras
 - b. Students go ahead of the pick-ups and remind residents to not put recyclables in the trash
 - c. Stickers for violators, letters, fines
 - d. Have a means for people to call in violators