

Connecticut

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State Policy Snapshot

Connecticut's solid waste and recycling policy framework includes product bans on certain plastic bags and mercury-containing products, multiple Extended Producer Responsibility and product stewardship programs, post-consumer recycled content requirements, mandatory recycling laws for designated materials and organics, and disposal bans for specific materials including grass clippings, lead-acid batteries, and covered electronic devices.

Product Bans

Overview: Connecticut bans single-use plastic carryout bags under a minimum thickness threshold and prohibits the sale of mercury-containing products.

Product / Material	Description of Ban	Statute / Program Link
<i>Single-use plastic carryout bags</i>	Plastic bags with a thickness of less than 4 mils are banned, with limited exemptions.	Chapter 446d Sec. 22a-246a. https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap_446d.htm#sec_22a-246a
<i>Mercury-container products</i>	Ban on sale of mercury-containing products.	Chapter 446m https://cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap_446m.htm

Product Stewardship

Overview: Connecticut operates a broad range of producer-funded and consumer-fee stewardship programs, including a bottle bill deposit program, a new tire EPR law (effective March 2026), a manufacturer-funded electronics recycling program, a 2025 battery EPR law covering small and medium format batteries, and consumer-fee programs for paint (PaintCare) and mattresses.

Material Category	Producer-Funded	Consumer / Eco Fee	Both	Other	None
<i>Beverage Containers</i>				✓	
<i>Boat Wrap</i>					✓
<i>Carpet</i>					✓
<i>Cell Phones</i>					✓
<i>Electric Vehicle Batteries</i>					✓
<i>Electronics</i>	✓				
<i>Fluorescent Lighting</i>					✓
<i>Gas Cylinders</i>	✓				

Material Category	Producer-Funded	Consumer / Eco Fee	Both	Other	None
<i>Household Hazardous Waste</i>					✓
<i>Mattresses</i>		✓			
<i>Mercury Switches</i>					✓
<i>Mercury Thermostats</i>	✓				
<i>Packaging</i>					✓
<i>Paint</i>		✓			
<i>Pesticide Containers</i>					✓
<i>Pharma</i>					✓
<i>Rechargeable Batteries (including alkaline)</i>	✓				
<i>Sharps</i>					✓
<i>Solar Panels</i>					✓
<i>Textiles</i>					✓
<i>Tires</i>		✓			

Producer-Funded: Program in which manufacturers or producers are responsible for financing and/or operating collection, recycling, or disposal of the product or material. Consumer / Eco Fee: Program funded in whole or in part through fees paid by consumers at the point of sale or disposal, such as advance recycling fees, eco-fees, or deposits. Both: Program that includes a combination of producer funding and consumer or eco-fees. Other: Any other active program or regulatory approach not captured in the categories above (e.g., take-back requirements, labeling, disclosure, recyclability standards). None: No statewide producer responsibility, consumer fee, or comparable program in place for the product or material.

Program Details:

Product / Material	Description	Program	Statute / Program Link
<i>Beverage Containers</i>	Connecticut's Container Deposit (Bottle Bill) program is a deposit and redemption program. Customers pay a deposit when purchasing the covered beverage and receive the deposit amount when returning the container (\$0.10 per container).	Other: Deposit / Redemption Program	Chapter 446d https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap_446d.htm#sec_22a-243
<i>Electronics</i>	Manufacturers register with CT DEEP and pay approved recyclers to collect, transport, and process covered devices from municipalities. Municipalities collect devices from residents through transfer stations or collection events.	Producer-Funded	Chapter 446n https://cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap_446n.htm
<i>Gas cylinders</i>	Gas cylinder EPR law designed to increase reuse and recycling and shift financial responsibility from municipalities to manufacturers.	Producer-Funded	Chapter 446z https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap_446z.htm#sec_22a-905h
<i>Mattresses</i>	Mattress Recycling Council manages mattresses from participating municipalities. A fee is assessed on each mattress and box spring purchased to finance transportation and processing.	Consumer / Eco Fee	Chapter 446m https://cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap_446z.htm#sec_22a-905
<i>Mercury thermostats</i>	Wholesalers that sell thermostats must participate in an industry-sponsored collection program for mercury thermostats.	Producer-Funded	Chapter 446m https://cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap_446m.htm#sec_22a-625a

Product / Material	Description	Program	Statute / Program Link
<i>Paint</i>	Customers purchasing paint in Connecticut pay a fee remitted to the paint stewardship organization PaintCare.	Consumer / Eco Fee	Chapter 446z https://cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap_446z.htm#sec_22a-904a
<i>Rechargeable batteries (including alkaline)</i>	Battery industry operated a voluntary recycling program (Call2Recycle) since 1996. In 2025, Connecticut passed an EPR law requiring battery manufacturers to finance collection and recycling of small and medium format batteries. Producers must submit a plan by July 1, 2026.	Producer-Funded	Substitute House Bill No. 5019 Public Act No. 25-34 https://www.cga.ct.gov/2025/ACT/PA/PDF/2025PA-00034-R00HB-05019-PA.PDF
<i>Tires</i>	New program scheduled to begin in March 2026.	Consumer / Eco Fee	Chapter 446z https://www.cga.ct.gov/2024/sup/chap_446z.htm#sec_22a-905i

Minimum Post-Consumer Recycled Content

Overview: Connecticut has post-consumer recycled content requirements for certain paper products and plastic beverage containers.

Product / Material	Requirement	Statute / Program Link
<i>Newsprint and telephone directories</i>	Regulations require minimum recycled fiber content for newsprint and telephone directories.	Chapter 446d https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap_446d.htm#sec_22a-256p
<i>Plastic beverage containers</i>	Post-consumer recycled content requirement applies to plastic beverage containers.	Chapter 446d https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap_446d.htm#sec_22a-246d

Mandatory Recycling Requirements

Overview: Connecticut law establishes a list of designated recyclable materials, organics separation requirements for certain generators, and contractual and venue-based recycling provisions.

Requirement / Material	Description	Statute / Program Link
<i>Designated recyclable materials</i>	Connecticut's "Designated Recyclable" list includes boxboard, cardboard, glass food containers, HDPE containers, leaves, colored ledger paper, magazines, metal food containers, newspaper, office paper, PET or PETE containers, residential high-grade white paper, scrap metal, storage batteries, and waste oil.	Chapter 446d https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap_446d.htm#sec_22a-241b Title 22a https://eregulations.ct.gov/eRegsPortal/Browse/RCSA/Title_22aSubtitle_22a-241b/
<i>Mercuric oxide batteries</i>	Recycling provisions apply to mercuric oxide batteries.	Chapter 446d https://cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap_446d.htm#sec_22a-256c

Requirement / Material	Description	Statute / Program Link
<i>Nickel-cadmium batteries</i>	Recycling provisions apply to nickel-cadmium batteries.	Chapter 446d https://cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap_446d.htm#sec_22a-256a
<i>Recycling provisions in waste collection contracts</i>	Contracts between collectors and customers must provide for collection of designated recyclable items.	Chapter 446d https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap_446d.htm#sec_22a-241l
<i>Recycling receptacles at common gathering venues</i>	Recycling receptacles required for designated recyclable items at common gathering venues.	Chapter 446d https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap_446d.htm#sec_22a-241k
<i>Source-separated organic material</i>	Separation and recycling (or donation) of food scraps and other source-separated organic material required for certain commercial generators.	Chapter 446d https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap_446d.htm#sec_22a-226e

Disposal Bans

Overview: Connecticut prohibits the disposal of grass clippings, lead-acid motor vehicle batteries, and covered electronic devices.

Material	Disposal Restriction	Statute / Program Link
<i>Covered electronic devices (e-waste)</i>	Disposal restriction applies to covered electronic devices.	Chapter 446n https://cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap_446n.htm#sec_22a-636

Material	Disposal Restriction	Statute / Program Link
<i>Grass clippings</i>	Disposal restriction applies to grass clippings.	Chapter 446d https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/Chap_446d.htm#sec_22a-208v
<i>Lead-acid batteries (motor vehicle batteries)</i>	Disposal restriction applies to lead-acid batteries.	Chapter 446d https://cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap_446d.htm#sec_22a-256g
