



Sustainable CT Community Certification Report

This is the Sustainable CT Certification Report of Ridgefield, a Sustainable CT bronze certified applicant.

Ridgefield was certified on October 03, 2018 with 265 points. Listed below is information regarding Ridgefield's Sustainable CT efforts and materials associated with the applicant's certified actions.

Contact Information

The designated Sustainable CT contact for Ridgefield is:

Name:	BENJAMIN OKO
Title/Position:	LIASON TO SUSTAINABLE CT. / RIDGEFIELD ACTION FOR THE ENVIRONMENT
Address:	11 BARLOW MOUNTAIN ROAD RIDGEFIELD, CT 06877
Phone:	2038948652

Actions Implemented

Each approved action and supporting documentation for which Ridgefield was approved for in 2018 appears below. Note: Standards for the actions below may have changed and the documentation listed may no longer satisfy requirements for that action. Additionally, points associated with actions prior to 2013 certifications may not be accurate.

1. Thriving Local Economies

1.1 Support Redevelopment of Brownfield Sites

20 Points

Program Summary: The remediation and redevelopment of the Schlumberger property has been ongoing since the town purchased the property. The Board of Selectmen opted to set up a citizens committee to develop recommendations of what to do with the town owned site. After forming, the citizen's committee engaged a consulting group Milone and MacBroom. Soliciting public opinion from all demographic sectors was key to building consensus. Using the town website as well as popular local social media sites, input was solicited thru two online surveys and with two public workshops between August, 2015 and May, 2016. Copy of Schlumberger Citizens Committee Final Report (revised) attached. Details relating dates and demographics of participants is included in the report. The Schlumberger Citizens Committee Final Report shares the collection of additional information on site history, environmental impact assessment, identify key stakeholders, references multiple site visits and uses many illustrations and a masterplan map for graphic illustrations. A map showing the location of the site is also included. The communication about the progress of the project continues to garner press coverage both locally and regionally (Danbury News Times). Revisiting the progress of the land use is regularly on the Board of Selectmen's agenda and the public continues to provide input. The sections sold off have development 90% complete. An equity, regional theatre company has produced their first show under the lease agreement and the Maurice Sendak Museum project continues to develop.

PDF: [SCHLUMBERGER CITIZENS COMMITTEE REPORT](#)

WORD: [COVER LETTER TO RECAP DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED FOR ACTIONS 1, 3, 4 AND 5](#)

WORD: [RECAP OF KEY INTERNET LINKS ON REDEVELOPMENT OF SCHLUMBERGER PROPERTY](#)

1.3 Inventory and Promote Local Retail Options

30 Points

Program Summary: In interviewing the Executive Director of the Ridgefield Chamber of Commerce, she declared that we could list all the events organized or hosted by the chamber as dates when the shop local is interwoven into the presentations, panels or workshops. As such, the list is exhaustive and was created as a separate document. The link provided for the Chambers website - www.destinationridgefield.com - contains the list of all events.

PDF: [SHOP LOCAL - 1.3 WRITEUP.PDF](#)

PDF: [SHOP HERE PRESS RELEASE.PDF](#)

PDF: [SHOP LOCAL PLEDGE - PRESS RELEASE.PDF](#)

PDF: [WHY SHOP LOCAL?](#)

PDF: [LOCAL BUSINESS INVENTORY ON WEBSITE](#)

1.6 Participate in and Promote the C-PACE Program

10 Points

Program Summary: We are submitting the certification for CPACE. In addition we are submitting two approved projects for two town businesses.

PDF: [RIDGEFIELD CPACE MUNI AGREEMENT EXECUTED-1.PDF](#)

EXCEL: [COPY OF C-PACE PROJECTS - RIDGEFIELD, CT.XLSX](#)

PDF: [RP C-PACE APPROVAL ARTICLE.PDF](#)

PDF: [WRITE UP FOR 1.6.PDF](#)

2. Well-Stewarded Land and Natural Resources

2.4 Develop an Open Space Plan

10 Points

Program Summary: No description was provided.

EXCEL: [1. DEVELOP AN OPEN SPACE PLAN_INVENTORY](#)

PDF: [2. DEVELOP AN OPEN SPACE PLAN_MAP](#)

PDF: [3. DEVELOP AN OPEN SPACE PLAN_POCD PLAN](#)

PDF: [4. DEVELOP AN OPEN SPACE PLAN_RESOURCE OBJECTIVES](#)

2.5 Create a Natural Resource and Wildlife Inventory

10 Points

Program Summary: No description was provided.

PDF: [NATURAL RESOURCE INVENTORY](#)

PDF: [NATURAL RESOURCE INVENTORY](#)

2.9 Manage Woodlands and Forests

10 Points

Program Summary: Ridgefield's Forest Stewardship Plan was contracted by the Ridgefield's Conservation Commission. It is the town's advisory commission inclusive of the functions SCT identifies as the duties of a Forestry Advisory Committee. Ridgefield does have a Tree Warden, John Pinchbeck, who also provides input and directs the management of trees on municipal properties. Our Forestry Plan was originally identified for a 15 window extending out to 2026. Beth Peyser is our Conservation Enforcement Officer and as of the submission deadline of the SCT application the most recent meeting will have been August 13, 2018.

PDF: [FOREST STEWARDSHIP PLAN](#)

PDF: [RIDGEFIELD OPEN SPACE MAP.PDF](#)

PDF: [CONSERVATION COMMISSION.PDF](#)

IMAGE: [INFORMATION ON TREE COMMISSION, TREE WARDEN AND INTERPLAY WITH CONSERVATION COMMISSION](#)

PDF: [RIDGEFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING SCHEDULE 2018](#)

2.10 Facilitate Invasive Species Education and Management

5 Points

Program Summary: The Conservation Commission does ongoing invasive management through the work of both volunteers and RCC members. The education event was held by another Ridgefield Town committee, the Tree Committee which also participates in management efforts. This applies toward Residential Education requirements..

IMAGE: [TREE COMMITTEE, TOWN COMMITTEE SPONSORING EDUCATION EVENT ON INVASIVES PRESENTED BY DONNA ELLIS, UCONN.](#)

WORD: [INVASIVE COMMITTEE, THE RIDGEFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION](#)

IMAGE: [EDUCATION EVENT INVASIVE SPONSORED BY THE TOWN TREE COMMITTEE](#)

IMAGE: [NEW CONTACTS; ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT INVASIVES ADDED TO RIDGEFIELD CONSERVATION PAGE](#)

3. Vibrant and Creative Cultural Ecosystems

3.1 Map Tourism and Cultural Assets

15 Points

Program Summary: Physical google map has been added per the reviewer's comments. The Ridgefield Arts Council, a town committee, has joined CTVisit.com. Although they do not host events, they will assist the content providers to help get arts and cultural events listed on the site. Collaborating with our Arts Council, another municipal commission has recently revamped the Ridgefield Economic and Community Development website which appears to address your suggestion(s) for a municipal online, searchable database. An additional description of the RECDC with the link to their site has been added. Additionally, our Chamber of Commerce, operating under website title Destination Ridgefield also has a fabulous searchable database. Link included on the document titled Supporting Write Up of Arts and Culture Map. We've also reviewed our profile on CTVisit. It looks great and is a great additional database for visitors and residents alike to engage. We contacted both our Chamber of Commerce and the newly revamped RECDC about regular reminders on meeting agendas and eblasts going out to businesses, organizations, profits / non-profits and cultural assets reminding them to keep their content fresh and current. It is our understanding from Mr. Damroth, CT Office of Tourism, that a template was developed several years ago that alleviated the need for a single point person in each town to keep content current. Quote from his email of 6/21/18 "We had set up this process because it lets all properties within a town maintain their own listings and doesn't rely on one sole individual in a town to maintain all information for all tourism related properties within their town." Thank you for assisting us in learning how to showcase Ridgefield's many assets and fun offerings!

EXCEL: [CREATE CULTURAL MAP](#)

WORD: [CULTURAL MAP](#)

WORD: [2018 PLANNING CALENDAR_RIDGEFIELD EVENTS.DOCX](#)

WORD: [CTVISIT DETAILS](#)

WORD: [VIBRANT AND CREATIVE CULTURAL ECOSYSTEMS.DOCX](#)

PDF: [WRITEUP FOR ARTS AND CULTURE.PDF](#)

4. Dynamic and Resilient Planning

4.5 Inventory and Assess Historic Resources

5 Points

Program Summary: Submitted for 4.5.4, Ridgefield is a Certified Local Government.

PDF: [1. INVENTORY AND ASSESS HISTORIC RESOURCES_CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT](#)

5. Clean and Diverse Transportation Systems and Choices

5.4 Support Zero Emission Vehicle Deployment

5 Points

Program Summary: As documentation for 5.4.4, attached is a PDF of the map and spreadsheet published by the State of CT of existing EV public charging stations.. Ridgefield has 4 locations with a total of 8 charging stations. All are free of charge. Photos of each site included.

PDF: [PUBLIC EV CHARGING STATIONS IN RIDGEFIELD](#)

WORD: [PHOTOS OF EV LOCATIONS IN RIDGEFIELD, CT.DOCX](#)

6. Efficient Physical Infrastructure and Operations

6.1 Benchmark and Track Energy Use

5 Points

Program Summary: Attached is the spreadsheet result of the Data Request made thru Energy Star Portfolio Manager and copy of email confirmation of data request.

EXCEL: [RIDGEFIELD PM SUSTCT RESPONSE DATA 8.23.18.XLSX](#)

PDF: [RECEIPT FOR DATA REQUEST SUBMITTAL.PDF](#)

WORD: [SOLAR WORKSHEET](#)

6.3 Achieve High Energy Performance for Individual Buildings

5 Points

Program Summary: No description was provided.

WORD: [LEED SILVER- 6.3.2 WRITEUP.DOCX](#)

6.7 Install Efficient Street Lights

20 Points

Program Summary: No description was provided.

PDF: [EVERSOURCE LETTER.PDF](#)

PDF: [WRITE UP FOR 6.7.PDF](#)

IMAGE: [SCENIC RIDGEFIELD.PNG](#)

6.8 Implement a Community Energy Campaign

10 Points

Program Summary: No description was provided.

PDF: [SUSTAINABLECT SEC 6.8 WRITE UP.PDF](#)

IMAGE: [PIC OF RACE FOR SOLAR.JPG](#)

PDF: [RACE FOR SOLAR RECAP REPORT.PDF](#)

7. Strategic and Inclusive Public Services

7.1 Hold a Sustainability Event

10 Points

Program Summary: Thank you for the feedback! We have adjusted our submission into two parts: unique events and applied sustainability initiatives. Please note within the unique events, there are several that have multiple dates of execution. These are Drug Take Back, Green Expo, Household Hazardous Waste Day, Trash Talks (at 2 elementary schools). Although we have the requisite >10 events without counting those individually, we feel due to the time and effort involved to execute the event, they should be counted individually. Our Applied Sustainability Initiatives also are carried thru multiple events. Most notably by two very popular programs Recycling Bin Lending Program and ScoutsCAN. ScoutsCAN is managed by the local Scout troops with the Town providing the storage for the bagged up materials and allowing the collection bins to be placed in close proximity to the mixed recyclables compactor at the Ridgefield Recycling Center.

PDF: [RECAP OF UNIQUE EVENTS #1.PDF](#)

PDF: [RECAP OF UNIQUE EVENTS #2.PDF](#)

7.7 Recycle Additional Materials and Compost Organics

40 Points

Program Summary: Town of Ridgefield provides many opportunities to recycle non-mandated materials, most conveniently at the Ridgefield Recycling Center. We've made a concerted effort to educate residents about the new universal recycling list "What's IN, What's OUT" and listened to residents desire to recycle beyond what may go in their curbside bin. Town of Ridgefield does it's best to offer EPR programs as outlined by CT DEEP. Additionally, the town is collaborating with Winters Bros Waste LLC to continue to capture shredded paper for recycling. A key force in keeping environmental stewardship a priority in Ridgefield is the town's commission Ridgefield Action Committee for the Environment. It is the driving force behind our seeking a SustainableCT certification.

PDF: [E-WASTE](#)

PDF: [PLASTIC FILM AND BAGS](#)

PDF: [MATTRESSES](#)

PDF: [TEXTILES](#)

PDF: [RIDGEFIELD AMRR 2016](#)

PDF: [RIDGEFIELD AMRR 2017](#)

7.8 Develop a Food Waste Prevention and Food Scraps Recovery Campaign

10 Points

Program Summary: Page 3, of the AMRR provides the reported tonnage of food scraps collected. We've added the Outreach Reports completed by town employee, Ellen Rossini, in promoting the Ridgefield Organics program at various town events. Town of Ridgefield also has a local business Curbside Composting that provides services to both residential and commercial business. This business is collaborating with the Ridgefield Action Committee for the Environment (a town commission) to gain entry into the schools to reignite the zero cafeteria waste program. We are earnest in our belief to reach the state designated 60% diversion goal by 2024, we must grow food waste reduction efforts. We try to keep in mind the US EPA Food Recovery Hierarchy model in our brainstorming for public education actions.

IMAGE: [SIGNING UP FROM THE TOWN WEBSITE](#)

PDF: [PROMOTIONAL FLYER](#)

PDF: [RIDGEFIELD 2017 ANNUAL MUNICIPAL RECYCLING REPORT](#)

PDF: [FOOD RECOVERY HIERARCHY](#)

PDF: [MASTER COMPOSTER OUTREACH REPORT](#)

8. Healthy, Efficient and Diverse Housing

8.1 Design and Implement a Housing Needs Assessment

10 Points

Program Summary: The head of the Affordable Housing Committee was instrumental in synthesizing readily available data for this action. He commented the information "by parcel" would be a different story. He did reach out to David Fink for assistance - but those data points could not be included as 8/24/18. Additionally, we did have representation at the Housing/Equity workshop, but the preparer felt more comfortable submitting worksheets 1 and 2. Instead of the Equity Toolkit . .

WORD: [RIDGEFIELD SUST CT WORKSHEET 2.DOCX](#)

PDF: [PSC_2018HSGPROFILE_RIDGEFIELD.PDF](#)

WORD: [ADDITIONAL RESOURCES CITED - PDF.DOCX](#)

WORD: [RIDGEFIELD SUST CT HOUSING WORKSHEET 1.DOCX](#)

8.2 Grow Sustainable and Affordable Housing Options

20 Points

Program Summary: Ridgefield had 2.34% affordable units in 2012 and 2.93% units affordable in 2017, a 0.59 percentage point increase.

PDF: [2012 CT DOH AFFORDABLE HOUSING APPEALS LIST](#)

PDF: [2017 CT DOH AFFORDABLE HOUSING APPEALS LIST](#)

9. Inclusive and Equitable Community Impacts

9.1 Optimize for Equity

10 Points

Program Summary: No description was provided.

PDF: [7.1 UNIQUE SUSTAINABILITY EVENT.PDF](#)

PDF: [EQUITY TOOLKIT FOR 7.1.PDF](#)

10. Innovation Action

10.1 Implement Your Own Sustainability Action

5 Points

Program Summary: We shared this idea in a meeting with the assigned SustainableCT Fellow and a representative from Western COG. The Executive Director for HRRRA was informed that other member towns may be reaching out to request similar tip cards for their own mass mailings for public education on What's IN, What's OUT. As of 7/7/18 we are aware that Newtown (another SustainableCT town and HRRRA member town) also took the same action to inform residents of the new universal recycling list with the program titled What's IN, What's OUT.

PDF: [PSC 2018 HOUSING PROFILE](#)

WORD: [DESCRIPTION OF INNOVATIVE ACTION WITH SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS](#)