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 04, 2024 with 465 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:

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Actions Implemented

Each approved action and supporting documentation for which Ridgefield was approved for in 2024 appears below. Please enjoy this opportunity to view and learn from the information and materials provided.

Notes: Submission content was created by Ridgefield, and Sustainable CT makes no claims, promises or guarantees about the accuracy, completeness, or adequacy of the submission, beyond that an individual reviewer approved at least some elements of the action for certification. Further, standards for actions below may have changed, and the documentation listed may no longer satisfy requirements for that action. Finally, approved actions here may include some documents and descriptions in support of action elements that were not approved, in addition to elements that were approved. In preparing your own application, please rely only on the action write-ups for the current certification year to guide your submission. Please contact info@sustainablect.org with specific questions.

1. Inclusive and Equitable Community Impacts

1.1 Optimize for Equity – REQUIRED for All Certification Levels

10 Points

Approved Information: 1.1.1 (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: CERC TOWN PROFILE 2023

PDF: EQUITY TOOLKITS 1-3 SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS- 2023 SENIOR SURVEY RESULTS PRESENTATION

WORD: EQUITY TOOLKIT 1 - OPPORTUNITIES FOR DIALOGUE

Documentation Details: 2024 Equity Toolkit - answers to the toolkit questions for action 8.2 creating an effective community communications strategy. ********** The narrative document is the primary part of the submission. All other supporting documents submitted in their entirety are the work papers which resulted in the final 2020 Plan of Conservation and Development for the Town of Ridgefield. As advised, specific examples from these work papers were included in the narrative document. The work done to compile the information in the briefing documents, solicitation flyer sample, kickoff meeting materials, demographic profiles and survey results are what was distilled down to the final production of the Town of Ridgefield 2020 Plan of Conservation and Development. 1.1 New Action Credit, apply Equity Toolkit to SCT Action 5.1 Integrate Sustainability in Plan of Conservation and Development

Partners: 1.1. The Town engaged the professional services of Planimetrics, Cameoin Associates and New England Geosystems under the supervision of Town Planner, Richard Baldelli, to help develop the 2020 POCD document.

Additional Information: none

2. Thriving Local Economies

2.2 Implement Sustainable Purchasing

10 Points

Approved Information: 2.2.4: 10 points

Supporting Documentation:

EXCEL: VENDOR LIST

Documentation Details: 2.2.4 Vendors that the Town of Ridgefield use that are locally owned. The Town aims to shop local whenever possible.

Partners: none

2.4 Provide Resources and Supports to Local Businesses

10 Points

Approved Information: 2.4.3 - 10 points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 2.4.1 ECDC_MINUTES_6-8-20.PDF
PDF: 2.4.1 ECDC_OCT_2020_MINUTES_APPROVED.PDF
WORD: 2.4.1_WORKSHEET-2 ROUNDTABLES.DOCX
IMAGE: 2.4.3 JAZZ, FUNK, BLUES WEEKEND 2019 INRIDGEFIELD.PNG
IMAGE: 2.4.3 LOCAL BUSINESSES GIFT CERTIFICATE HOLIDAY CONTEST.PNG
IMAGE: TIGER SHARK TANK.PNG
IMAGE: 2.4.3 SPRING STROLL FLYER
IMAGE: 2.4.3 SIP AND SHOP FLYER
WORD: 2.4.3 HOLIDAY STROLL FLYER
PDF: 2.4.3 EVENT LIST

Documentation Details: 2.4.1 Tiger Shark Tank flyer - new action -yearly event to promote business in Ridgefield - panel of judges hears businesses pitches and provides feedback 2.4.1 ECDC Minutes June 2020, 1st page references webinar on needs to open businesses after 1st lockdown - Contact was Bob Knight, Commissioner, ecdc@ridgefieldct.org 2.4.1 ECDC Minutes October 2020, 2nd page, half way down discussion of content for upcoming webinar on selling online - Contact was Geoffry Morris, Commissioner, ecdc@ridgefieldct.org 2.4.3 - event list with participating vendors & links, promotional materials for all events. 2.4.1 Rolling Credit, business webinars 5/2020 and 10/2020 2.4.3 New Action Credit, activities happened 2023

Partners: 2.4.3 local performance and arts venues agreed to host music for the Jazz and Blues weekend which encouraged people to visit Ridgefield and stay to shop and dine.

3. Well-Stewarded Land and Natural Resources

3.4 Develop an Open Space Plan

30 Points

Approved Information: 3.4.1 (10 points) 3.4.3 (10 points) 3.4.4b (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 3.4.4B BEAR_MOUNTAIN_OPENSPACEPURCHASE.PDF

PDF: 3.4.3 POCD_RIDGEFIELD_ADOPTED_2020.PDF

WORD: 3.4.4C RANGERS PROGRAM OVERVIEW.DOCX

WORD: 3.4.3_WORKSHEET.DOCX

PDF: 3.4.4B DETAILS OPEN SPACE CONSERVATION FUND.PDF

PDF: 3.4.4C RIDGEFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION RANGER BROCHURE.PDF

PDF: 3.4.3 OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION PLAN_REVISEDDRAFT_AUG2021.PDF

PDF: 3.4.4C RANGERS_INFO_WELCOMELETTER.PDF

PDF: OPEN SPACE INVENTORY 2022

IMAGE: RIDGEFIELD OPEN SPACE MAP.PNG

EXCEL: 3.4.1 OPEN SPACE INVENTORY WORKSHEET

Documentation Details: 3.4.1 Open Space Inventory PDF & Open Space Map 3.4.3 The Open Space preservation plan can be found in Chapter 7, p48 3.4.4b Last paragraph on first page of Bear Mountain document details acquisition in 2020 3.4.4c Provided an overview document and 2 supporting materials showing communications about the program 3.4.4d Details of the fund are in the document along with the most recent annual appeal letter 3.4.1 Open Space Inventory; Open Space Map - worksheet 3.4.3 Rolling Credit - Maintain a plan that prioritizes acquisitions, enhances ecosystem, connects open space parcels, offers recreational benefits - detailed in attached worksheet 3.4.4b New action acquired land November 2020 14 acres adjacent to 3 acres of town owned - 17 acre open space 3.4.4c - Rolling Credit for maintenance program of Conservation Rangers 3.4.4.d Rolling Credit Acquisition Fund established 1963 is still functioning with $500,000 available March 2021

Partners: none

Additional Information: Links and details to information on all our conservation programs and policies can be found on Ridgefield town website https://www.ridgefieldct.org/conservation-commission/pages/open-space-managementenforcement

3.5 Create a Natural Resource and Wildlife Inventory

10 Points

Approved Information: 3.5.1 - 10 points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: NRI 2023.PDF

Documentation Details: 3.5.1 - NRI 2023 - gives an overview and inventory with descriptions of Ridgefield Natural Resources 3.5.1 2012 Inventory in full- introduction and context also found on town's website https://www.ridgefieldct.org/conservation-commission/pages/natural-resource-inventory. Includes Geology & Soils, Water Resources & Quality, Aquatic Habitats, Land Use, Terrestrial Habitats, Wildlife, Community Engagement & Partnerships. Maps are included. 3.4.1 - Open Space Inventory Add to 3.5.1 NRI 2023 - includes Geology & Soils, Water Resources & Quality, Aquatic Habitats, Land Use, Terrestrial Habitats, Wildlife, Community Engagement & Partnerships. Maps are included.

Partners: 3.5.1 Ridgefield Conservation Commission partnered with the Metropolitan Conservation Alliance, a program of the Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies,

Additional Information: none

3.9 Manage Woodlands and Urban Forests

15 Points

Approved Information: 3.9.1 (5 points) 3.9.2d (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

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

PDF: 3.9.1 TREE COMMITTEE MEMBER LIST

PDF: TREE COMMITTEE AGENDA

PDF: TREE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Additional Information: 3.9.1 Tree Committee member list with a description. Minutes and agenda from the last meeting are included. The tree committee works with the Town Tree Warden. The tree committee published a forestry plan 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, Steve Lavatori, 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.

3.11 Implement Green Grounds and Maintenance Programs

10 Points

Approved Information: 3.11.1 - 10 points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 3.11.2D NATIVE PLANT POLICY

EXCEL: 3.11.1 WORKSHEET - INVENTORY 2024

Documentation Details: - Worksheet submitted for the properties maintained by our municipality - The Native Plant Policy was implemented in Sept 2022 for municipally owned properties.

Partners: Conservation Commission, Parks & Rec Department

3.12 Enhance Pollinator Pathways

20 Points

Approved Information: 3.12.1: Provide education to residents and local businesses to improve pollinator habitat (5 points) 3.12.2: Create native pollinator gardens, upgrade existing gardens to be pollinator friendly and educate the public about the importance of pollinators to society (15 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 3.12.2 DOCUMENTATION

PDF: 3.12.3 NATIVE PLANT POLICY

PDF: 3.12.1 OUTREACH

PDF: 3.12.2 PICTURES AND BROCHURE

Documentation Details: 3.12.1 Searchable, navigable space on your municipal website and associated social media outreach; Educational events and workshops; Educational signage on municipal, residential, and business properties. 3.12.2 Native pollinator gardens, upgraded existing gardens to be pollinator friendly & education to the public about the importance of pollinators to society. 3.12.3 Native Plant Policy

Partners: Conservation Commission Pollinator Pathway

4. Vibrant and Creative Cultural Ecosystems

4.1 Inventory Tourism and Cultural Assets

20 Points

Approved Information: 4.1.1a - 10 points 4.1.1b - 5 points 4.1.2 - 5 points

Supporting Documentation:

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
WORD: 4.1.2 CTVISITSWEBSITE.DOCX
PDF: 4.1.1A COMPLETED WORKSHEET - 2024 (IDENTIFY POTENTIAL TOURISM AND CULTURAL ASSETS,)
PDF: 4.1.1A CULTURAL DISTRICT MAP & LINK TO WEBSITE
PDF: 4.1.1B PROMOTION IN NEWSLETTER

Documentation Details: 4.1.1a completed Worksheet to Identify potential tourism and cultural assets 4.1.1b promotion of updated ECDC website with cultural district map in newsletter 4.1.2 1 page description of how information is maintained 4.1.2 Rolling Credit, Ridgefield's CTVisit landing page was last updated February 2020

Partners: ECDC

Additional Information: none

4.2 Support Arts and Creative Culture

25 Points

Approved Information: 4.2.1 (10 points) 4.2.5 (5 points) 4.2.8 (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: 4.2 SUPPORT ARTS AND CREATIVE CULTURE.DOCX

PDF: APPOINTMENT OF NEW POET LAUREATTE - BOS MINUTES 6.7.23

WORD: PHOTO OF THE CURRENT POET LAUREATE PRESENTED IN NOVEMBER 2023

PDF: 4.2.1_052720_BOS_SPECIAL_MEETING_MINUTES-_APPROVED.PDF

PDF: 4.2.8 RIDGEFIELDPRESS_CULTURAL DISTRICT_2021.PDF

Documentation Details: 2023/2024 4.2.1 - 1. June 7, 2023 BOS meeting minutes has appointment of the new/current poet laureate 2. Picture of current Poet Laureate presenting at Ridgefield's Annual Festival of Lights on 11/24/23 4.2 Document has information on 4.2.3, 4.2.8 and 4.2.11d 4.2.1 - BOS special meeting minutes has appointment of the poet laureate 4.2.8 - Detailed article announcing Ridgefield's Cultural District designation- highlighted text on p 2 and 3 describe process for designation, what's included and what happens next. 4.2.1 New Action Credit. Establish a Poet Laureate 5/27/20 4.2.3 New Action Credit of $2,850 funding for this year from the town 4.2.5 Rolling Credit Established an arts council in 1997 4.2.8 New Action Credit. Create an Arts District - Ridgefield receives CT's first 'Cultural District' designation from the state May 2021. 4.2.11d Rolling credit Generator artist network hosted by the Arts Council

Partners: 4.2.1 None 4.2.3 None 4.2.5 None 4.2.8 Economic and Community Development Commission coordinated the extensive application submission with all the various arts and cultural organizations and worked with the CT State Office of the Arts for this first application of their new program. 4.2.11d the many arts organizations in town

Additional Information: For sect 4.2.8. - Ridgefield's Cultural District was created to be a walkable area of town that features myriad cultural attractions that will serve as a hub for residents to congregate and interact, as well as draw visitors from other locations. It was selected to include downtown Ridgefield and surrounding areas that stretch from Keeler Tavern in the south portion through Ballard Park and the Ridgefield Library in the north, and a half mile east to the Ridgefield Theater Barn and Guild of Artists. The district encompasses other cultural assets such as the Pride Arts Center, Conservatory of Dance, Prospector Theater, Scott House, ACT of CT and the Ridgefield Playhouse.

5. Dynamic and Resilient Planning

5.5 Inventory, Assess, and Reuse Historic Resources

25 Points

Approved Information: 5.5.2 For at least one historic asset in your municipality, perform a conditions assessment, feasibility study, or long-term maintenance plan (20 points) 5.5.4 Achieve "Certified Local Government" status (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 5.5.4 NPS CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT.PDF

PDF: RIDGEFIELD HISTORIC DISTRICTS LIST.PDF

PDF: RIDGEFIELD DEMOLITION DELAY ORDINANCE.PDF

PDF: SCENIC ROADS ORDINANCE.PDF

PDF: RIDGEFIELD SCENIC ROADS 2023.PDF

PDF: 5.5.4 CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT LETTER OF APPROVAL

WORD: WORKSHEET 5.5.2

Documentation Details: 5.5.1 - Inventory of Historic Assets; - a copy of Ridgefield's demolition delay ordinance which was updated in 2022 as part of the Town's ongoing commitment to preserving its historic assets; Scenic Road Ordinance detailing how the town protects & preserves the scenic & historic values of our rural roads; - a list of Ridgefield's scenic roads Worksheet 5.5.2 - 2 assets for 10 points each The document is from National Parks Cultural Resources website with information from 2009-2019 5.5.4 Rolling Credit - Certification is maintained and goes back at least to 2009

Partners: 5.5.4 none

Additional Information: none

6. Clean and Diverse Transportation Systems and Choices

6.1 Implement Complete Streets

30 Points

Approved Information: 6.1.6: Implement, repair and maintain specific projects that expand safe, connected, active transportation networks across all neighborhoods. (30 points)

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: 6.1.6 WORKSHEET 2 - LIGI'S WAY BOARDWALK

PDF: 6.1.6 RIDGEFIELD TOD PLAN 2017 - BRANCHVILLE STREETSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS

WORD: 6.1.6 WORKSHEET 2 - BRANCHVILLE STREETSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS

WORD: 6.1.6 WORKSHEET 2 - NEW & POUND STREET SIDEWALKS

Documentation Details: 6.1.6 - 3 Projects: Ligi's Way Boardwalk, Branchville Streetscape Improvement, New & Pound Street Sidewalks.

Partners: The Town received grants for all three projects.

6.2 Promote Effective Parking Management

20 Points

Approved Information: 6.2.2b (20 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: RIDGEFIELD PUBLIC PARKING MAP

PDF: ZONING REGULATION 7.3: PARKING

PDF: GOVERNOR STREET PARKING UPGRADES

Documentation Details: 6.2.1 map showing the parking inventory for the Town of Ridgefield. 6.2.2a: Governor Street Parking Upgrade -non-regulatory strategy to increase the capacity of parking facilities. 6.2.2b Zoning Regulation 7.3: Parking - parking regulation

Partners: The Town of Ridgefield and the Parking Authority

6.4 Support Zero Emission Vehicle Deployment

15 Points

Approved Information: 6.4.1 (5 points) 6.4.4 (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 6.4.4 EV CHARGING STATION ASSESSMENT

PDF: DWAYNE ESCOLA CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION_EVBUSTRAINING.PDF

6.4.1 RACE ZOOM SERIES -- EV CHARGING 101.PPTX

IMAGE: EV CHARGING STATION GRANT AWARD LETTER

PDF: 6.4.5 NEW EV CHARGING LOCATIONS

PDF: 6.4.5 TOWN MEETING MINUTES

Documentation Details: 6.4.1 powerpoint for training 6.4.2 Certificate for EV school bus 6 week training for a member of RACE and the Energy 6.4.4 is the Energy Task Force's analysis and recommendations for increasing Ridgefield's EV use by citizens and town operations. 6.4.5 Grant awarded to Ridgefield for the installation of EV Chargers - grant letter, notice of letter for town meeting for approval of funds and minutes showing approval of funds for installation at town meeting & list of locations. 6.4.1 New Credit EV training seminar Session on May 24, 2021 Climate Change and Energy Choices 6.4.2 New Credit EV school bus training - 6 sessions in 2020 6.4.4 New Credit Energy Task Force discussed the EV infrastructure assessment at their meeting January 14, 2021 6.4.5 New Credit - installation of 3 EV chargers

Partners: 6.4.1 seminar in partnership with Ridgefield Library 6.4.2 offered by Live Green CT 6.4.4 none

Additional Information: none

7. Renewable and Efficient Energy Infrastructure and Operations

7.1 Benchmark and Track Energy Use

5 Points

Approved Information: 7.1.1 (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

EXCEL: RIDGEFIELD PM SUSTCT RESPONSE DATA 8.23.18.XLSX
PDF: RECEIPT FOR DATA REQUEST SUBMITTAL.PDF
WORD: SOLAR WORKSHEET
EXCEL: 7.1 CT REPORT-FULL-ANNUAL-BENCHMARK RIDGEFIELD.XLSX
EXCEL: 7.1.1 RIDGEFIELD ENERGY PERFORMANCE - ENERGYSTAR 2024
EXCEL: 7.1.1 RIDGEFIELD EMISSION PERFORMANCE - ENERGYSTAR 2024

Documentation Details: We worked with Amy Thompson to update the manager. She said she would submit the report. If that is not how this works we will try and figure out how to submit. 7.1 New action credit updated the Portfolio August 2021

Partners: 7.1 various city departments and UTC Institute for Advanced Systems Engineering (UTC-IASE) of University of Connecticut to update the ENERGYSTAR manager portfolio

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

7.9 Participate in and Promote the C-PACE Program

20 Points

Approved Information: 7.9.1 (20 points)

Supporting Documentation:

EXCEL: COPY OF C-PACE PROJECTS - RIDGEFIELD, CT.XLSX
PDF: RP C-PACE APPROVAL ARTICLE.PDF
PDF: C-PACE AGREEMENT
PDF: WRITE UP FOR 1.6.PDF
IMAGE: PICTURE OF C-PACE LINK ON WEBSITE

Documentation Details: 7.9.1 - copy of C-Pace agreement & photo of link on website. here is the link - https://www.ridgefieldct.gov/economic-community-development-commission

Partners: C-Pace

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

8. Inclusive Engagement, Communication and Education

8.1 Hold a Sustainability Event

20 Points

Approved Information: 8.1.1 Support and hold a sustainability event (15 points)

Supporting Documentation:

EXCEL: 8.1 WORKSHEET - EVENTS

EXCEL: 8.1_SUSTAINABILITYEVENTS.XLSX

Documentation Details: Worksheet 8.1 lists the unique sustainability events we hosted this year. 8.1 New Action Credit, sustainability events held - 13

Partners: 8.1 Ridgefield town library and downtown business association for one of the events

Additional Information: none

8.2 Provide Effective Community Communications

15 Points

Approved Information: 8.2.1 - 15 points

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: TOWN OF RIDGEFIELD COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

WORD: 8.2.1A WORKSHEET

WORD: IMPLEMENT A COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

Documentation Details: 8.2.1a - required worksheet Town of Ridgefield Communication Strategy - this outlines the details of Town of Ridgefield communications Implement a Communications Strategy - this relays the timeline of Ridgefield's communication implementation

Partners: The Town departments, boards, committees, and commissions provide information to the communications manager to relay to the public through one and/or all of the Town communication platforms. In addition, the Parks & Rec Dept and many non-profit organizations often utilizes Town communications for a greater reach.

9. Strategic Materials Management

9.1 Report Materials Management Data and Reduce Waste

5 Points

Approved Information: 9.1.1 (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: RIDGEFIELD_AMRR_2013.PDF
PDF: RIDGEFIELD_AMRR_2014.PDF
PDF: RIDGEFIELD_AMRR_2015.PDF
PDF: RIDGEFIELD_AMRR_2016.PDF
PDF: RIDGEFIELD_AMRR_2017.PDF
EXCEL: 9.1.1 WORKSHEET
PDF: 2020 PSC POPULATION & HOUSING DATA
PDF: 2022 PSC POP & HOUSING DATA
PDF: AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY
PDF: CT AMRR 2019-2020
PDF: CT AMRR 2021-2022
PDF: CT AMRR 2022-23.PDF
IMAGE: SOLID WASTE PER CAPITA ON WEBSITE

Documentation Details: 9.1.1 worksheet; PSC Population & Housing Data for 2020 & 2022; American Community Survey; CT AMRR for 2020, 2022 & 2023; photo on solid waste per capita on the town website.

Partners: none

Additional Information: The official Recycling Coordinator for Ridgefield, as listed on CT DEEP site, is our 1st Selectman, Rudy Marconi; alternate #1 is Ellen Rossini and alternate #2 is Executive Director of HRRA, Jen Heaton-Jones. The manager that completed the AMRR reports is Ellen Rossini. Data for municipal solid waste totals and recyclables totals is published in meeting minutes from HRRA. The Town of Ridgefield website links to the HRRA website. Examinations by industry professionals of municipal waste tells us nearly 40% of the current waste stream is organic materials. Moving the needle on waste reduction per capital will require a significant behavioral shift by residents and large generators (schools, banquet facilities, hospitals) in handling food waste - choosing to compost rather than send to the waste-to-energy plant. In Ridgefield we are experiencing slow progress in this area; but not enough to reach even a 10% waste reduction per capita. We'll keep working at it. While we may not be in the ballpark on the waste reduction, we are very proud of our XX improvement in recycling per capita for the same period. We offer many programs both mandated and non-mandated to help residents recycle right.

9.3 Recycle Additional Materials

40 Points

Approved Information: 9.3.1 (40 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: MRC SEARCHABLE MAP FOR DROP OFF - RIDGEFIELD.PDF
PDF: MRC ANNUAL REPORT - PAGES 62 AND 64.PDF
WORD: NARRATIVE FOR ACTION 9.3 RECYCLE ADDITIONAL MATERIALS.DOCX
PDF: AMRR_2019 REPORT.PDF
WORD: 9.3.1 WORKSHEET 1
PDF: 9.3.1 PAINTCARE PICKUP EMAIL CONFIRMATION
PDF: 9.3.1 PAINTCARE AGREEMENT
PDF: PAINTCARE SIGNAGE - TRANSFER STATION
PDF: PAINTCARE TRIFOLD
PDF: COMPOST PROGRESS REPORT - 3RD QUARTER
PDF: SHREDDED PAPER IMAGES - WEBSITE, COLLECTION BIN, SIGN
IMAGE: PAINT INFO ON TOWN OF RIDGEFIELD HRRA WEBSITE
PDF: COMPOST PROGRESS REPORT - 4TH QUARTER
EXCEL: GLASS REPORT
PDF: COMPOST PROGRAM TRI FOLD
PDF: GLASS SIGNAGE AND COLLECTION BIN PICTURES
PDF: E-WASTE COLLECTION PICTURES
PDF: E-WASTE FLYER
PDF: GLASS TRIFOLD
PDF: COMPOST PROGRAM FLYER

Documentation Details: 9.3.1 - worksheet 1 plus documentation to support additional recycling: 1. Paint - pictures of signage, paintcare agreement & email confirmation, marketing materials, pictures of info on website. 2. Shredded paper - signage pictures of info on website, pictures of cart to collect shredded paper 3. Compost - compost marketing materials (flyer & tri fold), 3rd & 4th quarter progress reports 4. Glass - pictures of collection bin & signage, glass report 5. E-waste MRC documents are all mattress recycling. Ridgefield is listed as year round and municipal collection site on pages 62 & 64. (Note, to reduce file size of annual report Appendix D and E were deleted from uploaded copy). E-Waste files both show Ridgefield participation on first page.. PaintCare Annual report lists Ridgfield's participation on pages 42 and 43. 9.3.1 Rolling Credit, ongoing program

Partners: 9.3.1 Town of Ridgefield manages day to day of the Recycling Center; Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority - governmental authority; Take2 (non-CEDs electronics) hauls material after collection, Paintcare (paint and paint products) hauls material after collection, Oak Ridge Waste (glass, plastic film, mattresses and shredded paper)hauls material after collection and Baystate Textiles (textiles) hauls material after collection.

9.4 Compost Organic Waste

35 Points

Approved Information: 9.4.1 Implement food waste prevention education (5 points) 9.4.2 Implement a program to divert food waste (30 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: FLYER FOR TOWN COMPOSTING PROGRAM

EXCEL: FES WASTE AUDIT

EXCEL: BES WASTE AUDIT

IMAGE: 9.4.1 FOOD RECOVERY HIERARCHY

WORD: NARRATIVE FOR ACTION 9.4.2 DEVELOP A FOOD WASTE PREVENTION CAMPAIGN OR FOOD SCRAPS RECOVERY CAMPAIGN OR PROGRAM.DOCX

PDF: A COMPOSTING CONVERSATION

PDF: 9.4.2 RIDGEFIELD-ORGANICS-PROGRAM-ANNOUNCEMENT-JAN-2019.PDF

PDF: WEBSITE PROMOTION

PDF: BES PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL

PDF: FES PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL

PDF: FES FOOD SCRAP REPORT

PDF: BES FOOD SCRAP REPORT

Documentation Details: (5 points) under 9.4.1 Choosing a target sector of public school district to put in infrastructure to reduce waste in school cafeterias by collecting food scraps. The Town Recycling Coordinator assisted PTAs from two of 6 elementary schools with setting up "zero waste" programs in their cafeteria - inclusive of waste audits, sourcing transportation and processing for the material and on-site education of the students, teachers and staff. Following the successful launch of both program, the Recycling Coordinator collaborated with the Ridgefield Public Schools' Director of Finance to present to the Ridgefield Board of Education to begin planning rolling out a program for the entire district. Additionally, provided content on the subject via the district's Tiger Talk Podcast. https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/ridgefield-tiger-talk-082-talking-trash/id1509987639?i=1000610077702 (15 points) second option under 9.4.2 Referenced above, Town of Ridgefield Recycling Coordinator helped launch two cafeteria zero waste programs. The programs following the food recovery hierarchy. Connection were facilitated with Food Rescue US and approval to establish a share table under the supervision of lunch aides. The PTAs contracted with a local vendor to haul the material to a commercial composting facility within 20 miles of the school. Future plans include the material to be transported to Town of Ridgefield's municipal composite site. (15 points) third option under 9.4.2. Town of Ridgefield has collected food scraps since 2016. Previously, the material was hauled away to a commerical processing facility to be made into compost. In the Spring, we transported back the finished compost for distribution to the residents. That was until 2022, when Town of Ridgefield completed the construction on the Lee Sawyer Composting Site, a solar powered ASP composting site, right at the Transfer Station. In the 12 months since the first food scraps were taken "up the hill", Ridgefield has diverted more than 25 tons of organics from the municipal solid waste stream. This project has garnered awards from the NE Recycling Coalition, the CCM Municipal Excellence Award and CT Recyclers Coalition Award. Town of Ridgefield has hosted other CT communities on site to see (maybe use the narrative from HRRA description.) Links: https://hrra.org/organics-food-scraps-ridgefield/ and https://www.ridgefieldct.gov/ridgefield-action-committee-environment-race/pages/ridgefield-food-waste-composting-program 9.4.1 Flyer for Town Composting Program, food recovery hierarchy, A Composting conversation, website pages promoting composting. 9.4.2 FES and BES Waste Audits. Promotional materials (links, flyers, presentations) for Branchville (BES) and Farmingville (FES) elementary schools. food scrap reports for BES and FES 9.4.2 Rolling Credit 2021 - ongoing Food Scraps Recovery Program

Partners: 9.4.2 Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority - governmental authority

Additional Information: 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.

10. Optimal Health and Wellness Opportunities

10.3 Improve Air Quality in Public Spaces

20 Points

Approved Information: 10.3.1 (10 points) 10.3.2 (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: VAPING SURVEY

PDF: ANTI VAPE POSTER CONTEST INFO

IMAGE: ANTI VAPE FLYER HS

IMAGE: ANTI VAPE FLYER MS

Documentation Details: Vaping Survey - conducted in 2020 - data collection on the tobacco and vaping habits of Ridgefield's youth - 10.3.1 Anti Vape Post Contest/Anti Vape Flyers (MS & HS) - information and flyers used to promote the anti vape contest through the town newsletter and social media as a campaign against vaping/electronic smoking . - 10.3.2

Partners: Ridgefield Prevention Council - town committee

10.4 Develop and Promote Community Growing Spaces

15 Points

Approved Information: 10.4.1 Develop and promote inclusive growing spaces (15 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 10.4_MCKEON_FARM_DESCRIPTION.PDF

IMAGE: 10.4_SCREENSHOT_2021-04-05 WHAT'S NEW WEBPAGE.PNG

WORD: 10.4 COMMUNITY GROWINGS SPACES NARRATIVE.DOCX

PDF: 10.4 CORNERSTONE 2024

Documentation Details: McKeon Farm Description - pdf available on Town Open Space website references Cornerstone Gardens in 3rd paragraph of the Features section Screenshot 'What's New' shows highlight of Cornerstone Gardens on Town website 10.4 New Action, In 2018 began leasing Open Space farmland to Cornerstone Gardens for their program of working with people with Autism. In 2020 and 2021 they are donating vegetables grown to the town Food Pantry program which is managed by Social Services department.

Partners: Cornerstone Gardens coordinates the program and volunteers from Boy Scouts, Lions Heart Club, Ridgefield Public Schools in growing food.

Additional Information: none

10.6 Plan and Prepare for Extreme Heat

10 Points

Approved Information: 10.6.2a - 10 points

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: 10.6.1D WORKSHEET - EXTREME HEAT EMERGENCY PLAN

PDF: EXTREME HEAT PRESS RELEASE 2023

PDF: PRESS RELEASE - INFO ON COOLING STATIONS

WORD: 10.6.2_WORKSHEET_2.DOCX

PDF: 10.6.2A BE PREPARED SHEET

Documentation Details: 10.6.1d - worksheet for extreme heat emergency plan. Our plan lives in the LEOP which is a confidential document and cannot be shared with the public. Only the Emergency Management Director, First Selectperson, Police & Fire and select department heads have access to it. I have included extreme heat press release and info for the public on cooling stations. 10.6.2a - worksheet with cooling center information. Also uploaded is the "Be Prepared - Emergency Preparedness sheet" that can be found on the Town website listing the Rec Center as the center during emergency events. (https://www.ridgefieldct.gov/government/pages/emergency-preparation-resources)

Partners: The Town partners with the Parks and Rec Department (a Town department) for use of the Rec Center as a cooling center.

11. Healthy, Efficient and Diverse Housing

11.1 Implement an Affordable Housing Plan

5 Points

Approved Information: 11.1.1 (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: 11.1.1 RIDGFIELD AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITEE & HOUSING AUTHORITY MEMBER LIST 2023
PDF: AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE AGENDA
IMAGE: RIDGEFIELD AFFORDABLE HOUSING FACEBOOK.PNG
PDF: HOUSING AUTHORITY AGENDA
WORD: 11.1 DESIGN IMPLEMENT AFFORDABLE HOUSING PLAN.DOCX
PDF: 2022 RIDGEFIELD HOUSING DATA PROFILE
PDF: RIDGEFIELD AFFORDABLE HOUSING PLAN
PDF: 11.1.3 SUMMARY AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION
PDF: 11.1.4 NOTICES
PDF: 11.1.4 SUMMARY
PDF: 11.1.2 WORKSHEET 2

Documentation Details: 11.1 describes current status of the affordable housing commission and its members for action 11.1.1 11.1.1 Have an affordable housing commission (10 pts) 11.1.2 - worksheet 2 to be submitted in June 11.1.3 - worksheet to be submitted in June 11.1.1 Rolling Credit, unclear when the Commission was created (20+ years ago?). It meets every month. Meeting calendar, agendas and minutes are on the town website here: https://www.ridgefieldct.org/affordable-housing-committee

Partners: 11.1.1 the Housing Authority manages affordable housing units.

Additional Information: none

12. Effective, Compassionate Homelessness Prevention

12.2 Increase Public Awareness and Support for Efforts to End Homelessness

5 Points

Approved Information: 12.2.2 (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: HOMELESSNESS AND MENTAL HEALTH RESROUCES

Documentation Details: 12.2.2 screenshots of webpage and url - includes resources for homelessness, mental health, affordable housing and 211.

Partners: none

13. Innovative Strategies and Practices

13.1 Implement Your Own Sustainability Action

20 Points

Approved Information: 13.1.1 (20 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: PSC 2018 HOUSING PROFILE

WORD: DESCRIPTION OF INNOVATIVE ACTION WITH SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

WORD: 13.1 NIPS PROGRAM AND RECYCLING COORDINATOR POSITION

WORD: PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL FOR LEAF BLOWER/NOISE COMMITTEE

WORD: 13.1 RECYCLING COORDINATOR RESPONSIBILITIES OVERVIEW

Documentation Details: 13.1 New Action Credit, Nips program and Recycling Coordinator position, 2022-2023 13.1 Committee dedicated to researching gas powered leaf blowers vs electric powered leaf blowers as an initiative to find a solution to noise and environmental pollution due to the use of gas powered leaf blowers. - Promotion for Committee Members

Partners: none

Additional Information: We shared this idea in a meeting with the assigned SustainbleCT Fellow and a representative from Western COG. The Executive Director for HRRA 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 HRRA member town) also took the same action to information residents of the new universal recycling list with the program titled What's IN, What's OUT.