

13.1 Implement Your Own Sustainability Action

5 – 40 Points

Action Updates

This action was last updated in 2025. The previous version of this action is [available for comparison](#). Edits are highlighted in yellow.

Objective

Innovate and implement meaningful sustainability actions not yet listed on the Sustainable CT action list. Become a model for others!

What to Do

1. Collaborate within your community or take a regional approach to implementing a sustainability action not listed on the Sustainable CT action list. Activities that are used to earn points toward this Action may not be used to earn points toward any other Sustainable CT action. You may submit up to two innovation actions per certification cycle. Because this action is for innovative sustainability strategies, any submission(s) must have been completed or implemented by your municipality in the last three years. **(5 – 20 points per submission, depending on impact; up to 40 points for both submissions)**

Note: Points are awarded based on the following structure, applied throughout the Sustainable CT framework: one-time events and forming committees earn 5 points; long-term education campaigns, inventories, plan, reports and similar items earn 10 points; implementation projects earn 15 points; and the creation of new policies, typically, through the passage of an ordinance, earn 20 points.

Submit: Describe your innovative sustainability action, how you accomplished it, who participated, and how it will benefit your municipality(ies). Upload additional materials (documents, photos, weblinks or other information) to substantiate that you have completed the action and provide a model for other municipalities. This subaction is included in the Sustainable CT [Climate Leader Designation](#).

Note: If your proposed action fits better within an existing Sustainable CT action it will not be awarded points under the Innovative Strategies and Practices category. Be sure to look closely at the Sustainable CT list of actions to determine the most appropriate place to submit your work. Criteria used to assess whether an action will be awarded points under this category can be assessed by [clicking here](#).

Engaging Partners

Sustainable CT encourages regional collaboration and other forms of partnership. For every action, please complete the “Partners” box in your submission, indicating the name(s) of any municipalities and/or organizations you partnered with (if any) and a brief description of your municipality’s role. If you collaborate with other municipalities, each community will receive points. For additional information, please see the [“Partners Guidance Document”](#).

Potential Municipal and Community Collaborators

Municipal staff, community organizations, regional organizations.

Benefits

By being innovative you can meet the needs of your community most efficiently while helping to push the envelope of sustainability efforts across the state.

CT Success Stories

- [Mansfield - Oct 2022 Certification](#)
- [Hamden - Sep 2023 Certification](#)
- [Trumbull - Sep 2023 Certification](#)
- [New Haven - Sep 2023 Certification](#)
- [Old Saybrook - May 2024 Certification](#)