8.5 Engage in a Sustainable CT Mentorship with Other Municipalities

5 Points | 10 Points | 15 Points

Action Updates

This action was last updated in 2024. The previous version of this action is available for comparison. Edits are highlighted in yellow.

Objective

Learn from and share with other municipalities participating in Sustainable CT. Mentor or be mentored by another town to promote collaboration and sharing of best practices.

Complementary Action:

- Collaborate with Other Municipalities on Sustainability Actions

What to Do

1. Mentor to, or seek a mentorship with, other towns on implementation of specific Sustainable CT actions. To receive points, your municipality must demonstrate some meaningful role in mentoring to, or seeking advice from, another town(s) on action implementation. Mentoring towns can be outside of the region or state. A meaningful role of the mentor town might include: a presentation and interactive discussion about the action implementation to a committee or governing body of another town, or municipal staff time in assisting another town. Mentorship must be targeted and deliberate. For example, presenting at a conference or webinar attended by other municipalities, though worthy and important, is not eligible for points under this Action. A town can earn points for serving mentor/mentee partnerships resulting in implementation of up to three Sustainable CT actions per application. Mentor/mentee partnerships must have been active in the last three years. **(5 points for each action collaborated on, up to 15 points)**

   Submit: A completed worksheet 1. Support given or received for each Sustainable CT action implemented must be documented separately (up to three entries per worksheet).

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

Councils of governments, health districts, and other regional organizations; municipal staff from all departments as well as representatives from existing local commissions, committees, or community organizations; civic leaders, representatives from neighborhood organizations, seniors and youth; and community members who rely on or are impacted by public services and amenities, including transportation, built infrastructure, local municipal operations, planning, natural resources, land conservation, economic development and retention, housing, arts and culture, food systems, public health, community engagement, equity, etc. may be helpful in implementing this action.

Funding

If available, below are potential funding sources specific to this Action. For a complete listing of potential funding opportunities to assist with implementing Sustainable CT Actions, please visit the Sustainable CT Grants Portal, which is searchable by Action. Please also visit the Support for Your Town page for opportunities for technical assistance and other supports.

- Urban Act Grant Program
- Sustainable CT Community Match Fund
- State Funding Readiness Project

Resources

Organizations and Relevant Programs

- CT Regional Councils of Governments
- CT Regional Health Districts

Why this Matters

Municipal collaboration fosters regional cohesion, knowledge sharing, and project and planning partnerships that can help advance sustainability across Connecticut efficiently. Many cross-cutting issues benefit from taking a regional approach, including transportation, community development, housing, open space acquisition, and many more. Working across town lines can effectively help communities get to outcomes that are mutually beneficial to all participants, as well as the region at large.

CT Success Stories

- Coventry - May 2022 Certification
- Darien - Oct 2022 Certification
- Bristol - Oct 2024 Certification
- Guilford - Oct 2025 Certification
- Branford - May 2026 Certification