



Sustainable CT Community Certification Report

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

Andover was certified on October 01, 2025 with 255 points. Listed below is information regarding Andover's Sustainable CT efforts and materials associated with the applicant's certified actions.

Contact Information

The designated Sustainable CT contact for Andover is:

Name:	CATHERINE PALAZZI
Title:	SENIOR COORDINATOR
Phone:	860-916-6122

Actions Implemented

Each approved action and supporting documentation for which Andover was approved for in 2025 appears below. Please enjoy this opportunity to view and learn from the information and materials provided.

Notes: Submission content was created by Andover, 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:

IMAGE: [TABLE BUILT BY ANDOVER SENIOR FOR COMMUNITY & SENIOR CENTER](#)

IMAGE: [COMMUNITY & SENIOR CENTER LUNCHEON](#)

IMAGE: [PALAZZI FAMILY KITCHEN \(MIKE & CATHY WITH SELECTMAN SCOTT PERSON\)](#)

IMAGE: [FLOWERS AND SCARF](#)

IMAGE: [PREPARING FOR OPENING OF COMMUNITY & SENIOR CENTER](#)

IMAGE: [OFFICIALS AT LUNCHEON](#)

IMAGE: [SENIORS LISTENING TO SPEAKERS AFTER LUNCH 12/20/2024](#)

IMAGE: [COMMUNITY AND SENIOR CENTER 8/8/2024](#)

WORD: [1.1 ANDOVER TOOLKIT.DOCX](#)

IMAGE: [SENIORS LUNCH NEW BUILDING 12/20/2024](#)

Documentation Details: 1.1 Our Toolkit contains the building of our Community & Senior Center and opening on August 8, 2025. Photos taken on August 8, 2024 are attached as well as photos showing the beautiful scarf handmade and a table handmade by two awesome talented seniors in town. The flowers are grown at one of the farms in town. These are all represented by people who care about the beauty of our new building. Andover is extremely proud after many years to have a new Community & Senior Center. Plans are currently being made for a sign to go in front of the building letting everyone know its name. Originally we did not have enough money to outfit our kitchen but with a grant and extra funds set aside it is in the preparation stage and should be completed by the fall of 2025. A committee appointed by the Board of Selectmen (BOS) is searching for a Director to run the Community & Senior Center Building. In the meanwhile, we have an excellent temp director putting plans in place for seniors.

Partners: 1.1 Many people were responsible for the help of the new Community & Senior Center Building. Our building committee, Town of Hebron, Town of Columbia, Town of Lebanon - all three directors invited the committee to come and view their buildings and to ask questions about what was needed to build an appropriate building for seniors. All three directors were especially helpful with handicap entrances and best way to help seniors with their needs. Andover Town Administrator, Board of Selectmen, Public Works Foreman, Architect and Engineers were all strong supporters and helpers in this project.

Additional Information: Photos listed were taken on August 8, 2024 opening day of center and others on December 20, 2024 when officials came to our luncheon and greeted seniors.

2. Thriving Local Economies

2.3 Inventory and Promote Local Products and Services

25 Points

Approved Information: 2.3.1a (15 points) 2.3.1b (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

IMAGE: [2.3.1 BUSINESS DIRECTORY MAPPING](#)

IMAGE: [2.3.1 BUSINESS DIRECTORY HYPERLINKS](#)

EXCEL: [2.3.1A&B: BUSINESS DIRECTORY HIGHLIGHTING WOMEN/VETERAN OWNED BUSINESSES](#)

Documentation Details: 2.3.1 Business Directory Mapping: Screenshot of business inventory map. https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/viewer?ll=41.7304419000000045%2C-72.340788&z=13&mid=1xFfO_bdUbuNkR25hGi2CulhOOmGi7HEd 2.3.1 Business Directory Hyperlinks: Screenshot of Andover webpage that links to directory and map. <https://www.andoverconnecticut.org/economic-development-commission> 2.3.1a&b Business Directory Highlighting Women/Veteran Owned Businesses: Excel sheet listing businesses, locations, and whether women/veteran owned (on far right column). https://www.andoverconnecticut.org/sites/g/files/vyhlf5346/f/uploads/town_of_andover_edc_business_directory_updated_august_2023_0.pdf

Partners: 2.3.1b EDC works closely with the Admin Assistant to keep her updated on the business in town so that she may add these new businesses to the Business Directory on the andoverct.org website. It is the responsibility of the EDC commission to follow up on each business to make sure they are mapped and located on the andoverct.org website. Business Partners are Tolland County EDC officials.

Additional Information: The EDC is researching more business by advertising and attending meetings to learn how to bring more business into town. Currently, the Board of Selectmen (BOS) has adopted a policy to allow the selling of marijuana. The EDC is looking for the proper location and many questions must be answered before this is actually allowed in our town. This will be an ongoing project.

3. Well-Stewarded Land and Natural Resources

3.1 Provide Watershed Education

5 Points

Approved Information: 3.1.1c (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: [3.1.1C SUSTAINABLE RIVER SMART PLEDGE.DOCX](#)

WORD: [3.1.1C SUSTAINABLE MINUTES 3/24/2022.DOCX](#)

Documentation Details: 3.1.1c (5 points) Take a watershed health pledge: The River Smart Pledge was taken and adopted at the 3/24/2022 meeting of the Sustainable CT committee. The River Smart pledge was read by our Lake District President and each member agreed and selected the two items they will follow in each of the two categories. Successful meeting and pleased people were excited about this project. One of our members is the ALOPA president and he will put this in the newsletter online for the lake district to take this pledge at their annual meeting. The River Smart Pledge copies were put in the Town Clerk's office for residents on June 23, 2025.

Partners: 3.1.1c March 24, 2022 Andover Sustainable minutes are attached to this document. 3.1.1c River Smart Pledge was given to the Andover Sustainable Committee by the Lake District President on 3/22/2022. The Lake district held a meeting in June 2023 and encouraged members to take the River Smart Pledge for the good of all people in the Lake District. Not all members took this pledge but it was felt enough had taken the pledge at the annual meeting. June 2025. New people moved into the Lake District area and hopefully will take this important pledge.

3.4 Develop an Open Space Plan

25 Points

Approved Information: 3.4.4a (15 points) Open Space donated by Mr. Talbot (documents and photos attached) 3.4.4b (10 points) Andover has an active Open Space fund and is approved in past and current budgets -- 2025-2026 budget approved May 2025.

Supporting Documentation:

IMAGE: [PHOTO FROM RIVEREAST OF CONSERVATION COMMISSION RECEIVING OPEN SPACE LAND FROM MR. TALBOT](#)

EXCEL: [TOWN OWNED OPEN SPACE \(1\).XLSX](#)

PDF: [OS CORRIDOR PARCEL MAP 2022.PDF](#)

PDF: [ANDOVER 2025-2026 BUDGET FOR REFERENDUM](#)

PDF: [2025 BUDGET REFERENDUM RESULTS](#)

PDF: [MR. TALBOT OPEN SPACE WRITE UP](#)

Documentation Details: 3.4.4a (15 points) Picture of deed signing ceremony. 3.4.4b (10 points) Town of Andover Open space inventory excel spreadsheet 3.4.4b (10 points) Andover Natural Resources Inventory booklet on the Talbot and Northern CT Land Trust Properties June 2020 3.4.4a (15 points) Deed signing ceremony write-up. Mr. Talbot signed on January 19, 2022. 3.4.4b (10 points) Andover's 2025-2026 budget to be sent to referendum. Open space fund can be found on page 13. \$10,000 proposed for 2025-2026. 3.4.4b (10 points) 2025 Budget Referendum Results demonstrate that the 2025-2026 budget was approved as of May 27, 2025.

Partners: 3.4.1 The Conservation Commission (CC) has been working with the Town of Andover officials on open space . A parcel of land was donated to the Town of Andover recently that a former lifelong resident wanted to leave to the town (Mr. Talbot) and the Conservation Commission (CC) walked the entire property several times and coordinated with the Conservation Commission's Planner from the town of Bolton. Other partners were Land Use Planner , Jeanne Davies, CT Resource Conservation and Development, Hank Gruner, Herpetologist - Andover Conservation Commission, Shannon B. Kearney, Wildlife Biologist, CTDEEP Natural Diversity Database, Cathy Labadia, Archaeologist/Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer Dept. of Community and Economic Development, Edward Pawlak, Wetlands and Soil Scientist Connecticut Ecosystems LLC, Judy Rondeau, Natural Resource Specialist Eastern CT Conservation District., Randolph Steinen & Zachary Klang, Geologists, CT Geological Survey, Dept. of Energy and Environmental Protection, Andover 3.4.4b Town of Andover Open Space Excel Spreadsheet List of Open Space - the Assistant Assessor keeps this document updated. Town of Andover has an active Open Space Fund.

3.12 Enhance Pollinator Pathways

5 Points

Approved Information: 3.12.1: Training of the public on pollinators in the garden and photos (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: [3.12.1 AD FOR POLLINATORS IN OUR YARD.DOCX](#)

PDF: [3.12.1 POLLINATORS IN OUR YARDS.PDF](#)

Documentation Details: 3.12.1 (5 points) Training Ad for Pollinators in Our Yard 3.12.1 Training Pollinators in Our Yards

4. Vibrant and Creative Cultural Ecosystems

4.1 Inventory Tourism and Cultural Assets

5 Points

Approved Information: 4.1.2: CT Visit Profile (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [4.1.2 2025 TOWN OF ANDOVER _CTVISIT.PDF](#)

WORD: [4.1 ACTION WRITE-UP.DOCX](#)

PDF: [4.1.2 NORTHEASTERN CT VISITORS GUIDE 2021.PDF](#)

WORD: [4.1.2 NORTHEAST CT VISITORS GUIDE .DOCX](#)

Documentation Details: 4.1 (10 points) Action Write Up: contains a summary of 4.1.1 and 4.1.2. It includes the relevant links for 4.1.1 and the screenshot and link for 4.1.2 The 2021 edition of the Northeastern CT Visitors Guide 1. EDC Chairman has been attending Tourism meetings in different towns to see if we can become partners and have an idea of their documents and brochures they hand out to travelers. Andover is planning to have a tourism guide in discussion at meetings. 2. Northeastern CT Visitors Guide is located on the andoverct.org website under the Economical Development Commission (EDC) 4.1.2 (5 points) CT Visitors Guide, EDC Chairman encouraging CT Visitors Guide to include the Andover corridor in book. These properties have been included at this time. 4.1.2: New Action credit. Update CT Visit Page, page accessed on 8/7/2025

Partners: 4.1 (10 points) Northeast state Tourism Board. 4.1.2 (5 points) CT Visitors Board.

Additional Information: Tourism is a new concept for the Town of Andover and this should be viewed as an ongoing new project. We are looking forward to see Andover published in the state tourism brochures. The EDC Chairman is constantly working on this new concept to get Andover involved in the state tourism. Before we had our covered bridge and before our Monument Park was constructed we never felt the need to become involved in tourism as we did not feel we had anything special to offer from our town. Many people are working to reconstruct the image of our town to make it more tourism worthy. 4.1.3 Written Summary 5 points 1. Andover belongs to the Northeast Tourism Board and the CT Visitors board which is the state tourism board. Andover has representation in the Northeast Tourism guide annually and our EDC Chairman has been working to get the Agent Orange monument mentioned on CT Visit guide. The state meets quarterly and the Northeast Board meets monthly. EDC sends information to be published directly to both boards and the chairman attends meetings. 2. Since Andover has the Rail of Trails and the only covered bridge in the United States that crosses over land and not water we feel that will be published as a point of interest to visit when traveling through CT. 3. The Veterans Monument Park is a huge focal point for those driving through Andover. The Park now has lights installed on the monuments to enhance the beauty and meaning of these monuments. A brick walkway has been constructed so those visiting have easy access to walk to the Agent Orange Monument and the Missing In Action (MIA) monument. In the summer a new Battlefield Helmet Monument will be placed at the site. It is to be noted that in the entire United States there are only four (4) Veterans Memorial Parks that feature these monuments. Andover is extremely pleased to be part of this park. Two stone benches will be constructed for the site this summer. The BOS, Town Administrator and other officials sponsor this park to keep it running smoothly. Many residents come down and walk through the park and look at the stones as they each are in honor of a fallen veteran. 4. Andover Sustainable CT has created a community garden in back of the Town Hall and that will be a cultural asset to our town and residents in 2022. We would like to see this information placed in the CT visitors brochure so that people will come to Andover and see what the town residents have created.

4.2 Support Arts and Creative Culture

10 Points

Approved Information: 4.2.2 (5 points) 4.2.10 Screenshot Library Events and Library Event Promotion (5 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [4.2.10 LIBRARY OVERVIEW](#)

IMAGE: [4.2.10 LIBRARY EVENT SCREENSHOT.PNG](#)

IMAGE: [4.2.2 CONCERT EVENT SCREENSHOT.PNG](#)

IMAGE: [4.2.2 COMMUNITY CENTER EVENT SCREENSHOT.PNG](#)

Documentation Details: 4.2.2: Community Center Event and July Music Event promotion (5 points)

<https://www.facebook.com/townofandoverct/posts/pfbid02arzHUyUQIUHPdBNKf2A6W1WV3P5KvfumKENFexUXXR5odYcWTcYRYnb7SwKYAu12I>

<https://www.facebook.com/townofandoverct/posts/pfbid02wNPucEHsb8utSXNEkqF5HHeDkHFpjyf34qNfLntQ1Qrbb6xkU8fgbvzH4agoaxWml>

4.2.10: Library Event Promotion (5 points)

<https://www.facebook.com/townofandoverct/posts/pfbid0pNnoLk754CqqPBjgkNuP1SuM76syGwPKLGSHxj8HuXbtZmczzou4wnExpqvkHTrBI>

Partners: 4.2.10 Residents of Andover and Library staff

5. Dynamic and Resilient Planning

5.3 Develop Agriculture-Friendly Practices

20 Points

Approved Information: 5.3.1: Adopt land use policies and regulations that promote and support active agricultural uses (20 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [ANDOVER ZONING REGULATIONS](#)

Documentation Details: The relevant passage (Section 14.0.1.a) is highlighted and can be found on page 106 of "Andover Zoning Regulations."

Partners: None.

6. Clean and Diverse Transportation Systems and Choices

6.1 Implement Complete Streets

15 Points

Approved Information: 6.1.6 (15 points) Complete Street Implementation: Sidewalks installed on Long Hill Road to make it easier for people to access library. Crosswalks installed from library to church where Farmers Market is held. This is a safety area now and a light was also installed. A crossing walk and light were installed to make crossing RT 6 much safer for people.

Supporting Documentation:

IMAGE: [6.1.6 SIDEWALK LONG HILL ROAD FACING RT 6 4/3/2022 IMG_4410.JPG](#)

IMAGE: [6.1.6 LOOKING DOWN LONG HILL INSTALLED SIDEWALK 4/3/2022 IMG_4412.JPG](#)

IMAGE: [6.1.6 CROSSWALK AT LIGHT ON RT 6 4/3/2022 IMG_4413.JPG](#)

IMAGE: [6.1.6 CROSSING WALK LIGHT CHURCH TO LIBRARY 4/3/2022 IMG_4414.JPG](#)

WORD: [6.1.6 WORKSHEET](#)

Documentation Details: 6.1.6 (15 points) In April, 2022, cross walks and lights were installed at RT 6 and Long Hill Road for slightly over 1/4 mile. People can now walk across RT 6 to the library, church, Hop River Homes for seniors or visit the Public Works office, without worrying for their safety. Excellent project proposed by our Board of Selectmen and Town Administrator. TA received a LOCIP grant for this project.

Partners: 6.1.6 - our partners were the Department of Transportation, Board of Selectmen and Town Administrator

6.5 Promote Public Transit and Other Mobility Strategies

15 Points

Approved Information: 6.5.6: Shared mobility services (15 points)

Supporting Documentation:

IMAGE: [6.5.6: SENIOR TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM WEBSITE SCREENSHOT](#)

PDF: [6.5.6: SENIOR TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM POLICY](#)

PDF: [6.5.6: ANDOVER 2025-2026 BUDGET \(APPROVED VIA REFERENDUM\)](#)

Documentation Details: Andover 2025-2026 Budget includes a section providing for the Senior Transportation Program. That section is highlighted and can be found on page 10. This budget has been approved as of May, 2025, indicating that the program will continue into 2026.

Partners: none

7. Renewable and Efficient Energy Infrastructure and Operations

7.10 Support Battery Storage Solutions

10 Points

Approved Information: 7.10.1: Zoning regulations memo (10 points)

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: [7.10.1 MEMO](#)

PDF: [7.10.1 ZONING REGULATIONS](#)

Documentation Details: 7.10.1 Zoning Regulations: relevant section is from page 60 to 63.

Partners: none

8. Inclusive Engagement, Communication and Education

8.1 Hold a Sustainability Event

20 Points

Approved Information: 8.1.1 Hold 15+ sustainability events (20 points)

Supporting Documentation:

EXCEL: [8.1.1 WORKSHEET](#)

Documentation Details: 8.1.1 Worksheet: These events can largely be found on Andover's municipal calendar, except for the Caregiver Support Groups, which were added by Cathy Palazzi, who personally attested to their existence and value.

Partners: 8.1.1 (sustainability event): local bands, Public Library, local authors, local environmental experts

9. Strategic Materials Management

9.3 Recycle Additional Materials

20 Points

Approved Information: 9.3.1 (20 points)

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: [9.3.1 WORKSHEET](#)

IMAGE: [9.3.1 WEBSITE SCREENSHOT MATTRESS](#)

IMAGE: [9.3.1 WEBSITE SCREENSHOT PAINT](#)

PDF: [9.3.1 BYE BYE MATTRESS REPORT 2024](#)

IMAGE: [9.3.1 BYE BYE MATTRESS SCREENSHOT.PNG](#)

Documentation Details: 9.3.1 ByeBye Mattress Report: Relevant portions are highlighted and can be found on pages 52 & 54.

Partners: 9.3.1 Recycle Additional Materials: ByeBye Mattress.

10. Optimal Health and Wellness Opportunities

10.4 Develop and Promote Community Growing Spaces

15 Points

Approved Information: 10.4.1 (15 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [10.4.1 COMMUNITY GARDEN WEBPAGE.PDF](#)

PDF: [10.4 ANDOVER COMMUNITY GARDEN APPLICATION 2022.PDF](#)

PDF: [10.4 ANDOVER COMMUNITY GARDEN 2022 RULES AND REGULATIONS.PDF](#)

WORD: [10.4 ANDOVER COMMUNITY GARDEN RULES.DOCX](#)

IMAGE: [ANDOVER COMMUNITY GARDEN NEW BEDS](#)

WORD: [10.4 ANDOVER COMMUNITY GARDEN SUMMARY.DOCX](#)

IMAGE: [SEED SWAP FLYER \(1\).PNG](#)

WORD: [ANDOVER COMMUNITY GARDEN LETTER TO RIVEREAST](#)

Documentation Details: The Garden Pictures 1-11 show pictures of the creation of the community garden space which is located at the town hall. The 10.4 Andover Community Garden Summary doc, read first. The Town shares information about the Community Garden on the municipal website here: <https://www.andoverconnecticut.org/community-garden>

Partners: 10.4.1 (Community Garden): Resident who works for UConn is working with Abbie Winter, the Community Garden Director, on how to plant and manage the garden. Manchester and Lebanon shared their Rules and Regulations with Andover and did not mind if we used any of their wordage. We are pleased to have had such helpful neighboring towns assist us.

Additional Information: Ads being placed in local paper and on town website and flyers placed around town. This spring we will begin our first year of residents taking a plot and utilizing it for their own use or for the Food Pantry to share with town residents. We are in preparation for moving part of the garden to make room for a community building being constructed late summer 2022. We will be moving a shed to the area for storage of gardening items.

10.5 Support Equitable Food Access and Local Farmers

15 Points

Approved Information: 10.5.1 (15 points)

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: [10.5.1 FARMERS' MARKET WRITE-UP](#)

IMAGE: [2023 ANDOVER MARKET CALENDAR 1.JPG](#)

Documentation Details: 10.5.1 Farmers' Market Write-Up: Includes a brief explanation of municipal involvement with the market, the location of the market, and screenshots/hyperlinks of promotional materials for the market. Note: There is no 2025 calendar included, since this Farmers' Market is on hiatus, and has been since 2023. On Facebook, 2023's dates can be found clearly posted. The Sustainable CT team has agreed to count this item under 10.5.1 despite the fact that the market is not currently operational, and will review the parameters for this action in 2026.

Partners: Andover Congregational Church for providing the market location.

11. Healthy, Efficient and Diverse Housing

11.2 Grow Sustainable and Affordable Housing Options

20 Points

Approved Information: 11.2.2 (20 points)

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: [MOST RECENT \(2024\) DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AFFORDABLE APPEALS LIST](#)

PDF: [BASELINE \(2019\) DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AFFORDABLE APPEALS LIST](#)

Documentation Details: Andover's percentage of affordable housing units can be found at the bottom of page one on both documents. Because Andover's affordable housing increased by .67% between 2019 and 2024, we request 20 points.

Partners: 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:

WORD: [12.2.2 SCREENSHOT AND LINK TO MUNICIPAL 211 RESOURCE](#)

Partners: none

13. Innovative Strategies and Practices

13.1 Implement Your Own Sustainability Action

15 Points

Approved Information: 13.1.1 Community and Senior Center (15 points)

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: [13.1 COMMUNITY AND SENIOR CENTER.DOCX](#)